

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

245 RICHMOND STREET

MT. VERNON, KY 40456

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Rockcastle Board of Education Members

Angela Stallsworth-Mink - Chair, Susan Jordison - Vice Chair,

Anna Stevens-Goff, Misty Lakes, Jeff Vanhook

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** At approximately 6:00 pm, Chairman Angela Mink called the meeting to order.
 - A. Silent Prayer:** At the direction of Chairman Angela Mink, the Board observed a moment of silent prayer.
 - B. Roll Call:** All members present.
 - C. Reading of Board Team Commitments:** Misty Lakes read the board commitments.

- 2. ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION**

Board Chair Angela Stallsworth-Mink requested that the agenda be amended to add item 6B – Strategic Planning Discussion. Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of item 6B. Jeff Vanhook made a second. All members present agreed.

- 3. SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE:**
 - A. School Showcase – Mt. Vernon Elementary School:** Principal Thomas Coffey introduced Mrs. Jamie Cornelius’ students. Using the book *The Neighborwood Party*, written and illustrated by local doctor Callie Shaffer, Mrs. Jamie’s class set the story to music and performed for those in attendance for the meeting. Attendees were able to join in on the music as Mrs. Jamie provided everyone with their own instrument to play along.

 - B. Berea College GEAR-UP Presentation** (*Kayla Bryant, Caitlin Callahan, Eric Bullock, Cayci Mahaffey & Rebecca Isaacs*)

GEAR-UP staff shared this year’s progress for their program. Staff members shared data as to how many students had received services such as mentoring, counseling, advising, tutoring, STEM and family engagement activities. The group also shared ways they have been engaged in the community with activities and events such as Leadership Club meetings, Read Across Rockcastle, “Do Your Part” video in regards to COVID-19 and created the “Corona Can’t” video.

 - C. Signing of Proclamation as November 16-20 as Family Engagement Week 2020**

Superintendent Carrie Ballinger signed a proclamation establishing November 16-20, 2020 as Family Engagement Week in Rockcastle County Schools.

- 4. OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:**
 - A. Approve Minutes of the October 13, 2020 Regular Board Meeting**
 - B. Approve Minutes of the October 13, 2020 Special Board Meeting**
 - C. Approve Minutes of the October 21, 2020 Special Board Meeting**
 - D. Approve Bills for Payment**
 - E. Approve Non-Resident Contracts with Somerset Independent Schools, Jackson County Public Schools and Berea Independent Schools for the 2020-2021 School Year**
 - F. Approve MOU with the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation**
 - G. Approve Agreement for Municipal Advisory Services with Compass Municipal Advisors, LLC**
 - H. Approve MOU for School Resource Officer Services with the City of Mount Vernon**

Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to approve Operations/Actions. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

- 5. DISCUSSION/ACTION:**
 - A. Review/Approve Acceptance of School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) Offer of Assistance** (*Mr. Clark*)

Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to approve the Acceptance of School Facilities Construction Commission Offer of Assistance. Susan Jordison made a second. All members present agreed.

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B. Review/Approve Monthly Financial Reports (*Mrs. Sweet*)

1. Month Ending Balance Sheet

2. Revenue & Expenditures for the Month by Fund

Misty Lakes made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports. Susan Jordison made a second. All members present agreed.

C. Review/Approve Rocket Relaunch Plan for Schools (*Mrs. Ballinger*)

Superintendent Ballinger presented minor changes to the plan that would allow the district to make the decision about having in-person school be more reliant on several data sources and not completely dependent on being in a certain COVID color zone. In some instances, the word “will” was changed to “may”. A few board members expressed their concerns that most students needed in-person instruction to be successful and that most parents wanted their children in school. Superintendent Ballinger noted that we all want students to be able to attend school in-person, but it is our responsibility to look at all the data, the health of staff and students and be wise in our decision making. Jeff Vanhook made a motion to approve the revised Rocket Relaunch Plan for Schools. Anna Stevens-Goff made a second. All members present agreed.

D. Review/Approve Rocket Relaunch Plan for Families (*Mrs. Ballinger*)

Superintendent Ballinger noted that the changes to the Rocket Relaunch Plan for Families were the same as those for the Rocket Relaunch Plan for Schools. Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to approve the revised Rocket Relaunch Plan for Families. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

6. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:

A. Review Superintendent’s Personnel Action Report (*Mrs. Ballinger*) (*Appendix A*)

Mrs. Ballinger shared current personnel actions in the district with the board.

B. Strategic Planning Discussion

Superintendent Ballinger noted that Jim Evans with KEDC would like to move forward with the Strategic Planning process for Rockcastle County Schools. She added that board members can be as involved as they would like to be and that we would have an orientation in December. Misty Lakes, Anna Stevens-Goff and Angela Stallsworth Mink all expressed interested in being involved.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Jason Coguer – Instruction

- Developing a Digital Learning Team to work with other teachers and provide virtual learning resources/tools.
- New Teacher Academy has had one meeting and the next meeting is Thursday, November 19th. There are four new teachers in the group and they attend with their mentor (another teacher from their building).

Trent Clark – Technology/Facilities

- Working through first ever energy audit this week and will be meeting next week to discuss the results and identify ways to save money.
- More security cameras have been added.
- Maintenance crew has been making repairs across the district while students haven’t been on campus.

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Ken Hopkins – Transportation

- Working on request to purchase two new school buses
- Recently receive a grant to get back half the costs of one bus. In return we must scrap a bus with bad emissions.
- Food deliveries continue across the district during NTI.

Jennifer Mattingly – Instruction

- Professional Learning Communities are working with 3 coaches from KDE for continuous improvement. They are attending virtual meetings to look at student data and how to get students to the next level.
- Reading and math diagnostic in i-Ready shows that most students ready for grade level work, but does show some students are behind at least one grade level.
- KY Writing Project Cadre is working on effective writing strategies. They are attending 18 hours of virtual meetings to prepare to be effective teachers in the virtual world.

Jenny Sweet – Finance

- Working on budget for next school year
- White & Associates will be at the December meeting to share audit information.

Marcus Reppert – Student Services

- School Based Mental Health Coordinator position has been filled by Mrs. Angie Payne.
- Establishing Trauma Teams to proactively work with students who may have been in traumatic situations
- New Infinite Campus formula available to help identify students that are struggling.
- PBIS – Training to help staff looks at student behavior in a different way.
- Several MyRock Online students have transferred back to traditional school.

Wendy King – Special Education

- We have been bringing in small groups of our special education students to work with their regular teacher and their special education teacher.
- Working on special education documentation improvements.
- Working on 504 caseloads district-wide.

Jamie Saylor – Food Service

- Rocket Refuel school meal sites continue during each day of NTI. For the month of October, we served 49,777 breakfasts and 51,492 lunches (includes in-person school days). On average, about 1,600 children participate in daily meal pick-ups.
- Thanksgiving Meal will be served based on November 18th.
- An advantage of operating under the Summer Food Service Program, we can offer meals for days we couldn't normally claim. For example, we were able to provide a bonus food bag for students, covering our November PD day and Election Day. We plan to do the same for Thanksgiving break and give a 5-day bag to all students that pick-up meals on Friday, November 20th.

Brandon Reynolds – Technology

- Technology Help Line will remain active through January.
- 20 Hot Spots delivered, 100 more were ordered for primarily free and reduced students.

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8. SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

- Superintendent Ballinger noted that as part of the Superintendent Onboarding process that board members will receive a 5-10 minute questionnaire to complete.
- We will start live streaming our board meetings in effort to be more transparent with our community. This will begin with our December meeting.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

- Jeff Vanhook submitted a letter of resignation from the board. He noted that his family recently moved and that he no longer resides in his district. At his request, Superintendent Ballinger read this letter of resignation aloud. She thanked him for his service and noted that he would be truly missed. Board Chair Angela Stallsworth Mink added that it had been a privilege to work with him and that she was confident he will continue to serve our schools in his other role.
- Misty Lakes reference a book she recently read, "Lights Out" and how it reminded her of how school personnel can change lives. "You guys are making a difference."
- Superintendent Ballinger invited all board members to the RCMS Veteran's Day Parade.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

Angela Stallsworth-Mink, Board Chair

Carrie Ballinger, Secretary

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Appendix A

SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

October 13, 2020 – November 10, 2020

Appointments are subject to valid certification and other State requirements. All salaries/wages are in compliance with the current Board-approved salary schedule. Upon receipt of all required documentation, including SBDM approval and Principal recommendation, the Superintendent will send an official letter of employment to each individual. Employee assignments listed below are based on current projections and are subject to alteration as permitted by law.

Full Time Certified Employees

Name	Effective Date	Position

Full Time Classified Employees

Name	Effective Date	Position
Charity Johnson	10/22/2020	Assistant Academic Team Coach - RCMS
Scott Adams	10/22/2020	Academic Team Coach - RCMS
Matthew Brown	11/2/2020	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach – RCHS
Lisa Durham	10/7/2020	Food Service Manager - BES
Angie Payne	11/2/2020	School Based Mental Health Coordinator - RCMS

Resignation

Name	Effective Date	Position
Scott Adams	10/6/2020	Assistant Academic Team Coach – RCMS
Jason Vanzant	10/19/2020	Custodian - RCHS
Angela Hendrickson	7/24/2020	Academic Team Coach - RCMS

Retirement

Name	Effective Date	Position
Marian Cable	12/1/2020	Teacher - MVES