

# Rockcastle County Board of Education

Angela Stallsworth-Mink, Chairman ♦ Anna Stevens-Goff, Vice Chairman  
Larry Hammond ♦ Misty Lakes ♦ Angela Parsons-Woods

Rockcastle Teaching & Learning Center ♦ 245 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2021 - 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - At approximately 6:00 pm, Vice-Chair Anna Stevens-Goff called the meeting to order.

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- A. Silent Prayer - At the direction of Vice-Chair Anna Stevens-Goff, the Board observed a moment of silent prayer.
- B. Roll Call – All members present with the exception of Angela Stallsworth-Mink.
- C. Reading of Board Team Commitments – Angela Parsons-Woods read the Board Team Commitments.

2. **ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION**

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Vice-Chair Anna Stevens-Goff requested the agenda be amended to include the addition of item 5F, an MOU with AppHarvest and item 5G, a Contract for Electric Service. Misty Lakes made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Angela Parsons-Woods made a second. All members present agreed.

3. **SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE:**

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- A. School Showcase – Rockcastle County High School (*Mr. Bussell*)  
RCHS Principal JD Bussell, Student Council Sponsor Debbie Coleman and members of the RCHS Student Council were present. Members of the student council presented the ways in which the group had worked to communicate RCHS information and community information during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the projects they highlighted included their social media communications, volunteer work and the Homecoming Scholarship (\$500) in which they sponsor.

Principal JD Bussell updated the board on RCHS information including ACT Prep, ACT Assessment, 2021-2022 student scheduling, small group instruction, 1 on 1 Google Meets with students, and the AppHarvest program.

4. **COMMUNICATION:**

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- A. **Dr. Fred Carter, Director of Coaching & Mentoring – KASA**  
Superintendent Ballinger introduced Dr. Fred Carter, Director of Coaching & Mentoring for the Kentucky Association of School Administrators. Dr. Carter shared briefly that his role is to mentor Superintendent Ballinger as a new Superintendent and ensure that she meets or exceeds deadlines for requirements such as the 30/60/90 Plan and her E-Portfolio. Dr. Carter commended Superintendent Ballinger for her excellent representation of Rockcastle County Schools during her first year, especially under the circumstances of the pandemic.
- B. **Fund Balance Review (*Mrs. Sweet*)**  
Finance Director Jenny Sweet provided the board with a fund balance review, including spreadsheets and graphs, from October 2018-December 2020. The review covered Fund 1 Cash, Fund 360 Construction, Fund 51 Food Service and CD Balances during that time period.

5. **OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:**

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- A. **Approve Minutes of the January 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting**
- B. **Approve Minutes of the January 26, 2021 Special Board Meeting**
- C. **Approve Bills for Payment**
- D. **Approve Shortened School Day for Special Education Student**
- E. **Approve Student Teacher Agreement with Campbellsville University**
- F. **Approve MOU with AppHarvest**
- G. **Approve Contract for Electric Service**

Misty Lakes made a motion to approve Operations/Actions. Angela Parsons-Woods made a second. All members present agreed.

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### 6. DISCUSSION/ACTION:

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#### A. Review/Approve 2021-2022 SBDM Allocations (*Mrs. Ballinger*)

Superintendent Ballinger presented the proposed 2021-2022 SBDM Allocations to the Board. Superintendent Ballinger asked Director of Student Services Marcus Reppert to share with Board members the enrollment numbers from the last 10 years. He noted that in that length of time we have lost just over 10% of our student population (314 students). This is due to a decline in population, homeschool (214 over 10 years) and other various other reasons.

Superintendent Ballinger proceeded to present the details of the 2021-2022 SBDM Allocations which includes Student/Teacher ratios of 27:1 at RCHS, 26:1 at RCMS and 23:1 at each elementary school. Superintendent Ballinger noted that while we are still under the state recommended student/teacher ratio, we have to be mindful of the whole picture including revenue, expenditures and how reducing staff would affect our students and the instructional program. Small changes were made in the allocations and we must consider every position as vacancies arise. Superintendent Ballinger also noted that we are analyzing long range retirements.

Finance Director Jenny Sweet presented the details of the 2021-2022 SBDM Allocations, including certified staffing, classified staffing, instructional supplies, travel and balances allocated to schools.

Angela Parsons-Woods made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 SBDM Allocations. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

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

1. Month Ending Balance Sheet
2. Revenue & Expenditures for the Month by Fund

Finance Director Jenny Sweet presented the January 2021 Financial Reports. Larry Hammond made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

#### C. Review/Approve First Reading of the 2021-2022 School Calendar (*Mr. Reppert*)

Director of Students Services Marcus Reppert presented the first reading of the 2021-2022 School Calendar. The committee met on January 20<sup>th</sup> and February 2<sup>nd</sup> to make considerations for the calendar. Mr. Reppert noted that the group considered both the regular and variable school calendars, but that the variable calendar was preferred by the majority. The variable calendar includes later start and end dates and is based upon 1062 hours. This calendar also includes a week of fall break and a spring break. Angela Parsons-Woods made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2021-2022 School Calendar. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

### 7. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:

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#### A. Review Superintendent's Personnel Action Report (*Mrs. Ballinger*)

Superintendent Ballinger shared current personnel actions in the district with the Board. (*Appendix A*)

### 8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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Department reports were provided to Board members via Google Drive.

Superintendent Ballinger specifically noted in Facilities there is an intent to pursue an energy savings contract that has been submitted to KDE. Once we have a response from KDE, we will issue an RFP. Once proposals are received, those will be presented to the Board.

### 9. SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

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Superintendent Ballinger provided a COVID update noting 1 staff member and 2 students are COVID-19 positive. 2 staff members and 32 students are quarantined.

Superintendent Ballinger added further comments regarding the AppHarvest investment at RCHS. She noted this will be a huge asset to our agriculture program, being able to grow hydroponic vegetables that can be used in our school food service programs or used in our local restaurants, churches, etc.

### 10. BOARD COMMENTS

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Angela Parsons-Woods expressed concerned about communication from teachers to parents in regards to grades. She asked at what point teachers call parents to notify them of a student's declining grades. Superintendent Ballinger noted that teachers communicate with families in various ways including Google Classroom, Emails, phone calls, etc. Superintendent Ballinger noted that she would take the concerns back to principals and work on improving in this communication area.

Larry Hammond noted that since the revised salary schedule was posted on the website, there have been some inquiries about the update to extended days for some employees. Mr. Hammond asked what brought the salary schedule issue to Superintendent Ballinger's attention. Superintendent Ballinger noted that there had been an OEA investigation and she was advised to do a self-audit. In this process, the issue was found and after consulting with the board attorney she reported it to KDE. Larry Hammond requested a copy of the OEA audit. Larry Hammond also suggested that the Board consider using E-Meeting, a service offered by KSBA, noting that it is used to organize board meeting documents and can be used to record minutes. Superintendent Ballinger added that board members could explore the E-Meeting program during a future meeting.

Larry Hammond inquired about who serves as the Board Attorney. Superintendent Ballinger noted that Teresa Combs is the Board Attorney.

Misty Lakes expressed her appreciation to the staff. She added that the RCHS Student Council is a great representation of our community. She shared her excitement in serving on the Strategic Planning Committee and the work that will be completed through that process.

Superintendent Ballinger proposed that the next Strategic Planning Meeting be held on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30 at Rockcastle County Middle School. All board members agreed to the meeting date, time and location. Superintendent Ballinger noted that the meeting may be virtual as well. This meeting would be a special board meeting since all board members are planning to participate.

Larry Hammond inquired as to why KEDC was chosen to lead the Strategic Planning Process and the cost. Superintendent Ballinger noted that this is part of the services KEDC provides as part of our membership and that there are no additional costs for the strategic planning services. Larry Hammond asked if additional participants could be added. Mrs. Ballinger noted that anyone can still participate.

### 11. ADJOURNMENT

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Angela Parsons-Wood made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 PM. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

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*Angela Stallsworth-Mink, Board Chair*

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*Carrie Ballinger, Secretary*

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### Appendix A

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

January 12, 2021 – February 9, 2021

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
Joseph Ramsey	1/13/2021	Volunteer Archery Coach - RCHS
Chrissy Cash	1/13/2021	Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach – RCHS
Adam Hensley	1/27/2021	Head Softball Coach - RCMS
Jeffrey Todd	1/27/2021	Assistant Softball Coach - RCMS

##### Resignation

Name	Effective Date	Position
Logan Chasteen	1/21/2021	Vehicle Mechanic I

##### Retirement

Name	Effective Date	Position

##### Certified Substitutes

Names	Effective Date	Position
Jonah Shaffer	1/5/2021	Substitute Teacher
Sydney Draper	1/8/2021	Substitute Teacher

##### Classified Substitutes

Names	Effective Date	Position
Joseph Cowan	1/6/2021	Substitute Instructional Assistant
Savannah Suffridge	1/11/2021	Substitute Bus Monitor