

Rockcastle County Board of Education

Angela Stallworth-Mink, Chairman ♦ Anna Stevens-Goff, Vice Chairman
Matt Chaliff ♦ Misty Lakes ♦ Angela Parsons-Woods

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Rockcastle Teaching & Learning Center ♦ 250 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

January 11, 2022 - 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A. Silent Prayer

Chairperson Mink called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM. At her direction, those in attendance observed a moment of silent prayer.

B. Roll Call

All members were present. Mrs. Mink welcomed newly appointed Division 5 Board Member Matt Chaliff.

C. Reading of Board Team Commitments

Mr. Chaliff read the Board Team Commitments.

D. Election of Officers

Ms. Goff nominated Mrs. Mink to remain the Board Chairperson. Mrs. Lakes nominated Ms. Goff to remain the Vice-Chairperson. Mrs. Mink and Ms. Goff accepted their nominations. Mrs. Woods made a motion to accept the nominations. Mrs. Lakes seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

E. Develop and Approve the 2022 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

Mrs. Mink requested input from Board members on the 2022 regular board meeting schedule. All board members were in agreement with keeping the current schedule of meeting the second Tuesday of each month at Rockcastle Teaching & Learning Center at 6:00 PM. Mrs. Lakes made a motion to approve the 2022 regular board meeting schedule. Mr. Chaliff seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

2. ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION

Mr. Chaliff made a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Goff seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

3. SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE:

A. Roundstone Elementary School (Mr. Bishop)

Principal Chris Bishop introduced Mrs. Sandy Allen, RES Music Teacher. Mrs. Allen shared videos of the Roundstone Elementary School 3rd, 4th and 5th graders performing the song Pat a Pan from their 2021 Christmas program. She noted that students in grades K-2nd would be performing in a spring concert.

Mr. Bishop shared RES iReady results and the growth they have had since last fall. He noted that success can look different for each student. He added that sometimes student success is getting a good grade on a test and for another student success may be getting to school on time. Mr. Bishop praised his entire school staff for working to ensure the success of all students and thanked the Board for their approval in adding an Academic Interventionist and full time Special Education teacher position.

Mrs. Mink inquired as to what role the Academic Interventionist plays in his school. Mr. Bishop asserted that this position provides extra support for students that are struggling in any subject. He then introduced Academic Interventionist Stephanie Hurst who was in attendance for the meeting. Mrs. Hurst explained that, using iReady data, she identifies students that need extra support, establishes their needs and creates an instructional program to address their gaps.

B. Recognize National Board Certified Teacher Renewals

- Serenity Hopkins, Stephanie Hurst, Renee Parker

Superintendent Ballinger recognized the district's three National Board Certified Teacher Renewals Serenity Hopkins, Stephanie Hurst and Renee Parker. She asserted this certification is the highest level of certification a teacher can obtain and noted her appreciation for their hard work and dedication. Mrs. Mink presented each teacher with a certificate of achievement.

C. Recognize Employees for Western Kentucky Relief Efforts

Superintendent Ballinger recognized transportation and facilities staff that assisted in the coordination and delivery of the state's Stuff the Bus Campaign for Western Kentucky tornado victims. Those recognized were Ken Hopkins, Brett Noble, Jason Cash, Cody Durham, David Bryant, Ronnie McKinney, James Poynter, Trent Clark, Dennis Rigsby, Gary Prewitt, and Adam Poynter. Mrs. Mink presented each staff member with a certificate of appreciation.

4. OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:

A. Approve Employee Request for FMLA (*Closed Session*)

Mrs. Goff made a motion to go into closed session. Mr. Chaliff seconded the motion. All members present agreed. After exiting the closed session, Ms. Goff made a motion to come out of closed session. Mrs. Lake seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

Board members agreed to waive board policy and allow a certified staff member up to 8 weeks of unpaid FMLA because the employee is within 18 months of retirement.

- B. Approve Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting**
- C. Approve Minutes of the December 21, 2021 Special Board Meeting**
- D. Approve Bills for Payment**
- E. Approve School Trips**
- F. Approve MOA Addendum with EKU**

Mrs. Mink noted that with the approval of Operations/Actions, the approval will include the request for FMLA details noted in 4A. Ms. Goff made a motion to approve Operations/Actions. Mrs. Lakes seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION:

A. Review/Approve Year Ending June 30, 2021 Audit presented by Shad J. Allen, CPA, PLLC

Mr. Allen shared that there were three types of audits conducted for the district. He noted that the first audit was a financial audit that reviews all financial statements. He asserted that the district received the highest opinion for a clean audit.

He noted that the second type of audit conducted evaluates the internal controls and compliance with finance laws. Again, he asserted that the district received the highest opinion, a clean audit.

Mr. Allen explained that the third type of audit conducted evaluates federal money, such as compliance with federal grants and internal controls. He added that the major federal program audited this year was the ESSER funds, totalling just over \$2 million dollars. Again, Mr. Allen asserted that there were no findings.

Misty Lakes made a motion to approve the year ending June 30, 2021 audit. Mrs. Woods seconded the motion. 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 monthly financial reports. Ms. Goff made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports. Mr. Chaliff seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

C. Review/Approve 2022-2023 Draft Budget (Mrs. Sweet)

Finance Director Jenny Sweet presented the 2022-2023 draft budget. She noted the draft budget begins a year-long process of planning for the 2022-2023 school year, with the school board reviewing our base revenues and expenditures for the general fund of \$28.7M. The remaining budgets will be presented as part of the tentative budget scheduled to be reviewed by the board members in May, followed by the Working Budget in September. Sweet provided additional planning timelines of tentative staffing allocations and salary schedule being reviewed by the board members by April. General Fund considerations and preliminary legislative discussions were shared. Mr. Chaliff made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 draft budget. Mrs. Lakes seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

D. Review/Approve the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) Offer of Assistance (Mrs. Sweet)

Finance Director Jenny Sweet presented the SFCC Offer of Assistance. She explained that pursuant to KRS 157.622, the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) is hereby making an official Offer of Assistance to the Rockcastle County Schools Board of Education. Acceptance of this Offer of Assistance commits the school district to adhere to the statutes and regulations governing this program. This Offer of Assistance is in the annual debt service amount of \$22,660 to be used towards proposed construction or major renovation of facilities outlined in your most current approved facility plan. House Bill 192 of the 2021 Session of the General Assembly states:

“Notwithstanding KRS 157.611 to 157.665, the School Facilities Construction Commission is authorized to make an additional \$58,000,000 in offers of assistance during the 2020-2022 biennium in anticipation of debt service availability during the 2022-2024 biennium. No bonded indebtedness based on the above amount is to be incurred during the 2020-2022 biennium.”

Mr. Chaliff made a motion to approve the SFCC Offer of Assistance. Mrs. Woods seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

E. Review/Approve First Reading of the 2022-2023 School Calendar Committee Recommendation (Mr. Reppert)

Director of Student Service Marcus Reppert presented the first reading of the 2022-2023 school calendar. He explained that this calendar provides 170 instructional days, 1 full week of fall break and a week of spring break. Mrs. Lakes made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2022-2023 school calendar. Mrs. Woods seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

F. Review/Approve Rockcastle County Schools Strategic Plan (Mrs. Ballinger)

Superintendent Ballinger presented the Rockcastle County Schools Strategic Plan developed with various stakeholders such as Central Office department heads, board members, principals, parents and teachers during the 2020-2021 school year. The document outlines the district’s vision, mission, values, beliefs, parameters and pillars. Ms. Goff made a motion to approve the Rockcastle County Schools Strategic Plan. Mrs. Lakes seconded the motion. All members present agreed.

6. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:

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

Superintendent Ballinger shared the Personnel Action Report for the month of December 2021.

B. Review 2020-2021 Nutrition & Physical Activity Report (Mrs. Saylor)

Food Service Director Jamie Saylor presented the 2020-2021 Nutrition & Physical Activity Report. Mrs. Saylor noted that the program had been in constant transition since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March of 2020. She shared the various methods used to serve meals throughout the pandemic, such as the 40 community sites, direct mail food box deliveries and on-site pick-ups. Mrs. Saylor shared the number of meals served in comparison to years prior, along with reimbursement amounts and commodities received. Her presentation also outlined physical activity programs offered throughout the district.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Department reports were shared via Google Drive with all Board members.

8. SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

Superintendent Ballinger shared that the KSBA Winter Conference would be held February 25-27 in Louisville.

She also shared that January is School Board Recognition month and shared her appreciation for their service to the students, staff and community. Each board member was presented with a gift of appreciation.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Woods asserted that she is honored to serve as a board member.

Mr. Chaliff shared his excitement in serving as the newest member of the board.

Mrs. Mink requested a work session to discuss finances before board members begin discussion about the salary schedule.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:25 PM, Ms. Goff made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Chaliff seconded the motion. All members present agreed.