

# Rockcastle County Board of Education

Angela Stallsworth-Mink, Chairperson ♦ Anna Stevens-Goff, Vice-Chairperson  
Matt Chaliff ♦ Misty Lakes ♦ Angela Parsons-Woods

## SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Rockcastle Teaching & Learning Center ♦ 250 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456  
December 13, 2022 - 5:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

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#### A. Silent Prayer

Vice-Chairperson Anna Stevens-Goff called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and led the group in a moment of silent prayer.

#### B. Roll Call

All members were present, with the exception of Chairperson Angela Stallsworth-Mink.

#### C. Reading of Board Team Commitments

Matt Chaliff led the board in the reading of the Board Team Commitments.

### 2. ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION

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Motion to approve the agenda was made by Angie Parsons-Woods. Second was made by Matt Chaliff. All those present agreed.

### 3. SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE:

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#### A. Gear Up Communication

RGHS Gear Up Counselors Cayci Mahaffey, Kayla Bryant, Jerrica Brummett and Holly Bryant presented the variety of activities and events the Cohort has experienced in the past year. They informed the board that this is Year 5 of this grant and they have been with the classes of 2024 and 2025 since they were in 6th grade. During that time, they have focused their efforts on building strong relationships with those students and honing on each student's strengths and passions in planning trips and activities. All service projects and activities are tied to Gear Up's objectives of Academics, STEM, College and Career Leadership and Family Engagement. They have taken students on multiple trips to colleges and job sites, completed one-one mentoring and tutoring, provided services to parents of students in the cohort, organized community service projects, provided career counseling and exploration, and helped students access leadership opportunities and training. The group provided the board with a comprehensive update, including photographs of student trips and activities.

#### B. Brodhead Elementary School - Mr. Nick Williams

Principal Nick Williams, along with students Sydney Carpenter (5th grade), Ava Craig(5th grade) and Alivia Reppert(4th grade), shared with the board the wonderful things happening at Brodhead Elementary School. They began by sharing their new motto, Tigers ROAR and the meaning of the acronym: Responsibility, Organization, Achievement and Respect. They also discussed the Tiger Store which contains toys and other items that students can purchase with Tiger Bucks, which they earn through acts of kindness and behavior. The Tiger Store also helps to teach students financial literacy and leadership skills. Finally, the students shared information and pictures about the Book Machine, purchased by the BES PTG and YSC. Books from the machine can be purchased with tokens earned by outstanding acts of kindness observed by the students. Mr. Williams also talked about his school's efforts with PBIS, which aims to increase adults' intentional acknowledgment of positive behavior. Mr. Williams made a point to recognize the other folks who made these activities possible, including FRYSC coordinator Angie King.

#### C. Special Recognition: Mrs. Regina Hull-Brown-Kenna's Kitchen

Dr. Ballinger took a moment to recognize Mrs. Regina Hull-Brown, MVES FRYSC Coordinator and organizer of Kenna's Kitchen, a 21 year old service project which provided free Thanksgiving meals to our community. Dr. Ballinger highlighted Mrs. Regina's tireless efforts and positive attitude throughout the project every year and stated that this year, Kenna's Kitchen prepared over 1700 meals, which were distributed by churches and families to those in need in our community. She presented Mrs. Regina with a framed certificate of appreciation from the Board.

**4. OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:**

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- A. Approve Minutes of the November 7th, 2022 Special Board Meeting**
- B. Approve Bills for Payment**
- C. Approve School Trips**
- D. Approve Fundraisers**
- E. Approve Request for Family and/or Medical Leave of Absence**
- F. Approve TC-4 Emergency Certificate for Substitute Teaching**
- G. Approve Temporary Provisional Certification Application**
- H. Approve Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) for 2022-2023**
- I. Approve Shortened School Day Request**

Motion to approve Operations/Actions was made by Misty Lakes. Second was made by Matt Chaliff. All those present agreed.

**5. DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

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- A. Review/Approve Monthly Financial Reports (Mrs. Sweet)**
  - 1. Month Ending Balance Sheet**
  - 2. Revenue & Expenditures for the Month by Fund**

Matt Chaliff asked Mrs. Sweet about the 19% expended at this point in the school year. Mrs. Sweet mentioned that the three payrolls in June and ESSER funds would make a significant increase in the end of year expenditures. Anna Stevens-Goff asked about a few expenditures if they were annual renewals. Mrs. Sweet discussed software programs, insurance policies, etc. that are yearly expenses.

Motion to approve Monthly Financial Reports was made by Matt Chaliff. Second was made by Angie Woods. All those present agreed.

- B. Review/Approve Year Ending June 30, 2022 Audit presented by Shad J. Allen, CPA, PLLC**

Shad Allen shared with the board the results of the 2022 Finance Audit. He stated that it had been a pleasurable experience and that our finance department had ensured that all documents were shared in a timely manner. He discussed the fact that in many districts there are findings over Yellow Book, which encompasses Internal Fund Accounts. He stated that Rockcastle County Schools had no internal control findings or issues and that the district's financial assets are properly safeguarded. Next, Mr. Allen discussed the Single Audit portion which includes Federal funds that are expended, along with internal controls and compliance requirements. He remarked that no issues were identified. In discussing the Financial Statement Audit, Mr. Allen noted that the district had received the highest rating, which is an "unmodified opinion." In summary, Mr. Allen told the board that the results of all three audits indicate that all 3rd parties can rely on the amounts presented in the district's financial statements. There were no questions.

Motion to approve Year Ending June 30, 2022 Audit was made by Matt Chaliff. Second was made by Angie Woods. All those present agreed.

- C. Review/Approve Workers Compensation/Employers Liability Insurance FY 2023 (Mrs. Sweet)**

District Finance Director Jenny Sweet directed the board's attention to the Workers Compensation quotes provided by Travis Anderkin of Houchen's Insurance in their shared folder. She reminded the board that unlike the district's other insurance policies, this policy runs from January-December. She asked the board to scroll to page 6 in the document. The proposal contained two separate quotes for Worker's Compensation: a.) KEMI-\$54,146.93 and b.) Liberty Mutual- \$50,453.00. The district recommends that the board remain with KEMI due to our premium credits, dividends received, along with the long partnership with this group and efficiency in processing claims. She also acknowledged the efforts of district directors and building principals to provide safe working environments for staff resulting in premium discounts on our quotes. Safety focus included KEMI providing free training at our district day to our maintenance, transportation and food service staff on proper methods for preventing injury on the job.

Motion to approve the proposal by KEMI for Workers Compensation/Employers Liability Insurance FY 2023 was made by Matt Chaliff. Second was made by Misty Lakes. All those present agreed.

- D. Review/Approve RCMS JAG Classification**

Dr. Ballinger informed the board that the JAG position at the middle school had originally been classified as requiring a Bachelor's Degree AND a KY Teaching Certificate. She requested that due to the shortage of finding qualified, certified teachers, that the board re-classify the position to require only a Bachelor's degree, keeping in line with the position at the high school.

Motion to approve RCMS JAG Classification was made by Angie Woods. Second was made by Matt Chaliff. All those present agreed.

**E. Review/Approve Save the Children Community Engagement Coordinator Position**

Dr. Ballinger reminded the board that this is our first year in partnership with Save the Children. She informed the board that Save the Children would be funding for this new position, which would work within our community to promote literacy, including our hospitals, day cares, businesses, etc.

Motion to approve Save the Children Community Engagement Coordinator Position was made by Misty Lakes. Second was made by Angie Woods. All those present agreed.

**F. Review/Amend the 2022-2023 Salary Schedule**

Dr. Ballinger recommended to the board the following changes to the 2022-2023 Salary Schedule: the change in the JAG Coordinator for RCMS, the new STC Community Engagement Coordinator position and the Daily Wage Threshold for Retired Teachers. In this line, the district recommends removing the number 2 from the amount of retired employees the district could hire, due to teacher shortages for high need areas. Dr. Ballinger also mentioned that due to the difficulty in finding a certified Visual Impaired teacher, she recommended that the district offer a \$1000.00 stipend to a teacher who would be willing to obtain that certification.

Motion to approve the amended 2022-2023 Salary Schedule was made by Matt Chaliff. Second was made by Angie Woods. All those present agreed.

**G. Review/Approve 2023-2024 Board Representative to serve on District Calendar Committee**

Mr. Reppert reminded the board that it was time to convene the district Calendar Committee. He stated that the make-up of the committee was provided in statute and asked the board to nominate a representative to serve on this committee.

Motion to approve Anna Goff as the 2023-2024 Board Representative on the District Calendar Committee was made by Ange Woods. Second by Matt Chaliff. All those present agreed.

**H. Review/Approve 2023-2024 School Calendar Committee (Mr. Reppert)**

Mr. Reppert requested that the board review the list he provided of the proposed 2023-2024 School Calendar Committee, including board member Anna Goff.

Motion to approve the 2023-2024 District School Calendar Committee was made by Angie Woods. Second was made by Matt Chaliff. All those in favor agreed.

**6. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:**

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

The board reviewed the Personnel Action Report. Dr. Ballinger stated that there are several positions moving around to different grade levels and schools, in particular coaching positions. She also shared that this had become the "norm" statewide, noting that the younger generation of workers enjoys the challenge of change and that gone are the days when a school might have one teacher or coach for 20-plus years. Motion to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Action Report was made by Misty Lakes. A second was made by Angie Woods. All those in favor agreed.

**7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

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In department reports, Mr. Reppert highlighted the District's newest SRO, Dylan Hensley, who will begin in January. Mr. Reppert noted that Dylan is our 3rd SRO and that Officer Tom Atkin will be introducing him to our schools on January 3rd. Mr. Reppert also told the board about the new COPS grant awarded to the county and included the efforts that the district had made to help receive the grant funds, which will help pay for our SRO's.

**8. BOARD COMMENTS**

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- Matt Chaliff discussed the importance of the school and community partnerships that were shared tonight. He also noted the CDIP approved in Operations and Actions and wondered how the district might think "outside of the box" in terms of addressing the needs of our students in terms of Student Achievement? He asked how the district could direct funding to make those goals and activities happen? He also stated his commitment to supporting and valuing our teachers within the district.
- Anna Goff noted how the tables had turned in the past five years, when it was difficult to find a teaching position in the district and today, when it is difficult to find teachers to fill positions. She also thanked the district staff for the hard work they do all year long.

- Angie Woods stated that she was aware that Winter Diagnostics had been taking place across the district and asked Mr. Thomas Coffey if he could reveal any results? Mr. Coffey stated that the elementary schools' diagnostics were almost complete and the middle school would be completed this week. He said that preliminary results were encouraging and that he would be providing a full report to the board at the January meeting.
- Misty Lakes commended the district and school staff for looking at a student's passions and interests in helping them to determine their career pathway.

## **9. SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION**

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Dr. Ballinger commented on the Superintendent's Advisory Board meeting earlier that afternoon and her appreciation for the members of that committee and their feedback and suggestions on improving the district. She complimented the committee on their trusting relationship with one another and how much she appreciated the work of that group. She reminded everyone about the lunch that would be provided by the board on Thursday for district leadership during their December meeting later in the week.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT:**

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Angie Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10. Second by Matt Chaliff.. All those present agreed.