CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, August 20, 2020

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
7:00 p.m.

The Cherokee County Board of Education called its regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, 2020 in the Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility, 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, Georgia. The meeting was conducted in person and available to the public via live Internet streaming. Present were: School Board Chair Kyla Cromer; Vice-Chair Kelly Poole; Members Mike Chapman, John Harmon, Patsy Jordan, Clark Menard and Robert Rechsteiner; Superintendent Dr. Brian V. Hightower; and, Attorney Tom Roach.

Call to Order

The call to order by Kyla Cromer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Sequoyah HS student Jordyn Hardaway.

A brief inspirational video was shared by Mike Chapman.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion Kelly Poole seconded by Clark Menard and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the Superintendent's agenda (*7-0 vote).*

Minutes for Approval

On a motion by Patsy Jordan seconded by John Harmon and carried, the Board approved the minutes from the July 16 Public Hearings on the FY2021 Budget and the July 16, 2020 School Board Meeting *(7-0 vote).*

Consent Agenda

Following identification of those agenda items, Board Members and members of the public indicated they would like considered separately, a motion was made by Clark Menard seconded by Mike Chapman and carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, for the remaining items - identified by asterisks *(7-0 vote).*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Five Members of the public signed up to address the School Board

A. RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

***A-1. School Board Recognition of 2020-21 Student Advisor to School Board and Student Delegates**

(Recognized)

***A-2. School Board Recognition of Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) Students who achieved Grand and State Recognition during Seventh Grade Year**

(Recognized)

***A-3. School Board Recognition of 2020 Young Georgia Authors Competition Winners**

(Recognized)

B. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS/STUDENT ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Member Comments:

- Shared the facts that were reviewed to make decisions when reopening schools on August 3, 2020
- Reminded all that safety and education are priorities in the decisions made regarding the reopening of schools
- Acknowledged that all parent/community emails received are read and considered carefully
- Recognized the emotion/feelings involved behind the parent/ community emails received by School Board Members
- Asked that everyone keep a positive attitude as we are in this together
- Recognized hard work that went into preparing School Improvement Plans

C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

***D-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of June 2020 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

(Approved)

***D-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of July 2020 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

(Approved)

E. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***E-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of SY2020-21 School Improvement Plans (SIPs)**

(Approved)

F. SUPPORT SERVICES

***F-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects**

(Approved)

***F-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Ratification of the ABM Industry Groups, LLC EnhancedClean Program Contract for FY2021**

(Approved)

***F-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Granting a Permanent Right of Way (ROW) to Cherokee County as part of the Bells Ferry Road Improvement Project**

(Approved)

G. HUMAN RESOURCES

***G-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations of Employment and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel**

(Approved)

H. SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY

***H-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Resolution to Supplement School Board Policy JCAC**

(Approved)

Board Attorney Comments:

- Reminder to School Board Members to complete training hours prior to the September 15, 2020 State deadline.

I. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Motion was made by Mike Chapman, seconded by Robert Rechsteiner and carried to amend the meeting agenda to include an I-1 item for Consideration of Amending the previously approved Reopening of School Plan to allow the Superintendent flexibility and authority to make any necessary adjustments and changes to provisions contained within the Plan in an attempt to maintain adequate educational services during the pandemic. This flexibility would especially apply to reopening considerations following a school's temporary closure due to COVID-19 cases; however, this motion does not include the authority to mandate masks or face coverings for students (*4-2 vote, Menard and Poole dissented; Harmon was not in attendance).*

I-1. School Board Consideration of Amending the previously approved Reopening of School Plan to allow the Superintendent flexibility and authority to make any necessary adjustments and changes to provisions contained with the Plan in an attempt to maintain adequate educational services during the pandemic. This flexibility would especially apply to reopening considerations following a school's temporary closure due to COVID-19 cases; however, this motion does not include the authority to mandate masks or face coverings for students.

Motion was made by Mike Chapman, seconded by Robert Rechsteiner and carried to Approve Amending the previously approved Reopening of School Plan *(5-1 vote, Poole dissented; Harmon was not in attendance).*

Informational Items:

- Game Changer awarded posthumously to Dr. Rouel Belleza for his work in Instructional Support
- Reopening of Schools Update shared by Senior Staff:
    - Contact tracing in conjunction with Dept of Public Health
    - Ongoing improvements to digital learning platform; additional instructional support and training being considered and added
    - A "Customer Care Center" team has been formed to assist student's technology needs

  - Training workshops will continue for substitute teachers to maintain availability
  - Staff working diligently to level classrooms and move necessary staff to reduce classroom overcrowding
  - Increased expenses for substitutes; potential wage increases being considered for daily subs for teachers and paraprofessionals
  - School Nutrition is continuing to provide free and reduced-price meals to Digital Learners
  - Revenue loss because of less participation in-person lunch program
  - Custodial staffing increasing 89.5 additional people within the supplemental cleaning contract to increase support for day/night shifts
  - Electrostatic misting program in place at all schools and district offices
  - Warehouse has 90-day supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - Notification processes for COVID-19 transparency
  - Reported weekly positive cases and quarantine counts are trending downward
- Possible hybrid option considered to reopen temporarily closed high schools
- Proud of our CCSD families
- Acknowledged digital learning plan has growth issues and additional support will be applied to make improvements

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Patsy Jordan, seconded by Kelly Poole and carried to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate Matter *(O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (4))* at 10:09 p.m. *(6-0 vote, Harmon not in attendance).*

Upon return to open session, motion was made by Patsy Jordan, seconded by Kelly Poole and carried to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a real estate contract for the potential sale of property, denoted as 20-A, at an undisclosed location and amount *(6-0 vote).*

The School Board adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

_____ _____

School Board Chair Secretary

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned members of the Cherokee County Board of Education, under oath, certify that an Executive Session of the Board of Education was duly called and approved by majority vote in open session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 on Thursday, August 20. The only matter(s) considered or discussed during the closed executive session of its meeting is/are as checked below:

_____ To review an appeal from a Student Disciplinary Tribunal [Hearing Officer, Panel]; (O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-757)

_____ To consider a matter involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's educational records; (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g.)

_____ To discuss the future acquisition of real estate; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (4))

_____ To discuss or deliberate upon appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (6))

_____ To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2).

The members of the Board Of Education present for the executive session further certify and acknowledge that all discussions and proceeding conducted in executive session shall remain strictly confidential.

This 20th day of August, 2020.

Renee Coleman

Sworn to and subscribed before
me on the above indicated date:

Notary Public
My Commission Expires: Dec 6, 2021

RENEE COLEMAN NOTARY PUBLIC MY COMMISSION EXPIRES DECEMBER 06, 2021 CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Kyla Cromer

Kelly Poole

Judy Jordan