CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, April 15, 2021

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, April 15, 2021 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 Robert Rechsteiner; Members Mike Chapman, John Harmon, Patsy Jordan, Clark Menard and Kelly Poole; 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 School Board Member Kelly Poole.

The meeting's inspiration was shared by Patsy Jordan, who recognized the 2021 Cherokee County Virtual Art Exhibit.

School Board Chair, Kyla Cromer recognized several special guests in attendance that included: KSU American Government students, Janet Read Welch, former School Board Chair and current representative of CHOA, and Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, retired CCSD administrator.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Mike Chapman seconded by Robert Rechsteiner and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the Superintendent's recommended agenda (*7-0 vote).*

Minutes for Approval

On a motion by Clark Menard seconded by John Harmon and carried, the Board approved the minutes from the March 18, 2021 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 Kelly Poole seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried,

to approve the Consent Agenda, for the remaining items - identified by asterisks *(7-0 vote).*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public signed up to address the School Board.

A. RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

A-1. School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2021 Counselor of the Year and Innovation Zone Counselors of the Year

(Recognized)

A-2. School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2021 Partner of the Year and Volunteer of the Year

(Recognized)

A-3. School Board Recognition of 2021 Spelling Bee Winners

(Recognized)

A-4. School Board Recognition of CCSD Student Achievement at Tome Student Literacy Society State Conference/Competition

(Recognized)

A-5. School Board Recognition of CCSD Students Selected for All-State Band and Orchestra

(Recognized)

***A-6. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve New Partnership Agreements with Cherokee Thanksgiving, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Georgia Power**

(Approved)

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

School Board Member Comments:

- Commented about the recent School Board luncheon at Hickory Flat ES and the school spirit that was demonstrated by staff and students.

- Expressed gratitude for the Superintendent for utilizing the restored austerity reductions to locally match the bonus that the Governor and State Board of Education have authorized;
    - In addition to, outlining a bonus structure to provide bonuses to part-time employees and substitutes who have been instrumental in keeping our school district moving forward.
- School Board acknowledged hard work and dedication of Teachers, Staff and the Superintendent and his Cabinet with a standing ovation.

C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

***D-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of March 2021 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

(Approved)

D-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Employee Bonus Pay

Motion was made by Mike Chapman, seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried to Approve the Superintendent's recommended Employee Bonus Pay (7-0 vote).

***D-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Bond Underwriter**

(Approved)

E. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***E-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips**

(Approved)

F. SUPPORT SERVICES

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

(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

I. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

***I-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Proposed 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 School Year Calendars**

(Approved)

***I-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation of Name Selection for CCSD's Academies Campus and the New Virtual School**

(Approved)

***I-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Name Selection/ Dedication of Sequoyah HS Band Room**

(Approved)

- **Executive Session**
  -- **Student Discipline Matter**

Superintendent Comments:

- Recognized the late Dr. David E. Harrison and his impact on music programs across Cherokee County.
- Recognized the SY2021-22 appointment of Creekview High School Principal Michael Santoro and Tia Bryller as the next Woodstock Middle School Principal.
- Recognized the SY2021-22 appointments of two new Assistant Principals Beth Watkins who will serve E.T. Booth Middle School and Kari Barbour who will serve Teasley Middle School.

Informational Items:

- CCSD School Nutrition Summer Feeding Program 2021:
    - Due to USDA school meal waiver expansion, CCSD will be able to partner with MUST Ministries to meet the needs in our County;
    - The Summer Feeding Program will begin on June 7 and end on July 26;
    - Donations to help support this program can be made at the on-line School Payment Link.
- Budget Timeline Reminders:
    - CCSD is in the final phases of the annual budget development and approval process;
    - A recommended tentative FY2021-22 Budget and Millage Rate will be presented at May's School Board Work Session;
    - Budget Meetings will be held in June and recommended for approval at the June 17 School Board Meeting.
    - Bond Underwriter bid was competitive, and the selected vendor is providing a reasonable fee for the bonds that will be sold.
- Course Blueprinting Update:
    - SY2021-22 Digital Learning Priorities outlined;
    - Working toward an equitable learning experience for all students;
    - Improve the experience that students, parents and staff have in our Canvas learning management system;
    - Provides a consistent framework for all CCSD Stakeholders;
    - A more streamlined, consistent Canvas experience should be expected next year.
- Legislative Updates for 2021:
    - The Governor has until May 10 to sign or veto any bills that have been approved;
    - Education bills that may require modification of School Board Policies are the following, HB146, H286 and SB42;
    - Approved SB47 may have a minor impact on FTE funding.
- Provided a COVID-19 Update, including the following:

  - Current case and quarantines totals for the county and the school district;
  - Decreased spread in the community;
  - Community is currently experiencing a decline in cases and positive test rates;
  - Vaccinations have reduced the required number of close contact quarantines;
  - GA Department of Public Health will continue to mandate close contact quarantines.
- Capital Outlay Project Update:
  - A copy of current and proposed projects has been provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Clark Menard and carried to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a Student Discipline Matter (O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-757) at 8:13 p.m. (*7-0 vote).*

Upon return to open session, motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by John Harmon and carried to Uphold the findings and Disposition of the Discipline Tribunal Panel for Tribunal #20-151750 *(7-0 vote).*

The School Board adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

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School Board Chair Secretary