CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, November 17, 2022

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, November 17, 2022, 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 Hasty Elementary School Student Lincoln Masak.

The meeting's inspiration was shared by Patsy Jordan.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Kelly Poole seconded by Mike Chapman 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 October 20, 2022, School Board Meeting *(7-0 vote).*

Consent Agenda

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

A. RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

A-1. School Board Recognition of Georgia High School Association State and Regional Champions

(Recognized)

A-2. School Board Recognition of Etowah High School Students Named as National Champions in the Raider National Championships

(Recognized)

A-3. School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District VILLA Program Class of 2022-23 Participants

(Recognized)

***A-4. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the Renewal of Partnership Agreement with the Atlanta Area Council Boy Scouts of America**

(Approved)

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

- School Board Member, Mike Chapman was recognized by the School Board and Superintendent for his commitment and many years of service to Cherokee County School District.
- School Board Members requested that concerns be further expressed to Legislators regarding Mountain Educational Charter High School.
- School Board Members commented about the positive impact that the salary/compensation study and review will have on compensation scales next year.
    - The Superintendent responded that the recommendations that were proposed from the salary and compensation study support the School District's goal to remain competitive in the current market.
- A School Board Member recognized School Board Members-elect as determined by the November election, as well as a couple of CCSD staff members honored with recent awards.

C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

***D-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of October 2022 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

(Approved)

D-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Commit $32,500,000 of the Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance for Future Capital Outlay Purposes

Motion was made by Clark Menard, seconded by Kelly Poole, and carried to commit $32,500,00 of the Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance for Future Capital Outlay Purposes *(Vote 7-0)*.

(Approved)

D-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Supplemental Pay for Eligible Employees

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Mike Chapman, and carried to approve Supplemental Pay for Eligible Employees *(Vote 7-0)*.

(Approved)

E. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***E-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel**

(Approved)

***E-2. 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 Withdrawal of the State-Required FY2024 Capital Outlay Funding Application**

(Approved)

F-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Proposals for the Creekland MS Classroom Addition and Creekview HS Classroom Addition ~Auxiliary Gym

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Mike Chapman, and carried to reject construction proposals for Creekland MS Classroom Addition and Creekview HS Classroom Addition ~ Auxiliary Gym *(Vote 7-0).*

(Rejected)

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 2023 Legislative Partnership Priorities

Motion was made by Clark Menard, seconded by Patsy Jordan, and carried to approve 2023 Legislative Partnership Priorities *(Vote 7-0).*

(Approved)

Informational Items:

- As part of the D-2 agenda item, discussion was led by Superintendent relative to the monies available in the operating budget reserve account to be utilized for capital improvements, thus potentially enabling CCSD to avoid long-term debt while retaining strong reserves consistent with School Board Policy guidelines.
- As part of the D-3 agenda item, discussion was led by the Superintendent relative to findings from a recent CCSD employee compensation study that would significantly improve next year's employee compensation and salary schedules. This study's findings will become a major part of staff's construction of the upcoming, proposed FY2024 annual budget.
- As part of the F-1 agenda item, discussion was led by the Superintendent as to next steps for this construction project, as it will remain a priority within the current Five-Year Facility Plan.
- Announced that CCSD earned a Georgia Power Grant for CTAE Energy Pathway which will be offered at Cherokee High School.
- Focus on Future initiative giving diploma choices for high school students was highlighted.
- REACH Scholarships reception prior to December School Board Meeting was discussed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public signed up to address the School Board.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Patsy Jordan, 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), a Personnel Matter (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (6)), and Potential Litigation Matter (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2) at 8:24 p.m. *(7-0 vote)*.

Motion was made by Clark Menard, seconded by Robert Rechsteiner and carried to return to Open Session at 8:50 p.m. *(7-0 vote)*.

Motion was made by Clark Menard, seconded by John Harmon and carried to Uphold the Findings and Disposition of the Discipline Tribunal panel for Tribunal #22-151634, *(7-0 vote*).

The School Board adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

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School Board Chair Secretary