

Springfield, Georgia

May 19, 2022

The Effingham County Board of Education met in regular session on May 19, 2022 at 7:00PM with the following members present: F. Lamar Allen, Vickie Decker, Lynn Anderson, Ben Johnson, and Jan Landing.

Vickie Decker opened the meeting with an invocation.

F. Lamar Allen led meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members voted unanimously to adopt the meeting agenda with no additions or deletions in a motion by Jan Landing and a second by Lynn Anderson.

In a motion by Ben Johnson and a second by Vickie Decker, Board members voted unanimously to approve the attached items on the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda included: Board minutes from the May 4, 2022 Board meeting.

There were no Public Participation requests submitted for today's meeting. Requests to address the Board must be made at least 24 hours in advance of any given meeting. Individuals interested in presenting at Board meetings must submit their requests to the Superintendent's office.

Natalie Ramsey (Program Manager) and Gina Campbell (Transition Specialist) presented information for the Project SEARCH program. Mrs. Campbell stated that Project SEARCH is a year-long school-to-work transition program for students with disabilities. These students are supported by Project SEARCH team members while they learn job skills as interns at Ebenezer Middle School. Team members include family members, school staff members, Ebenezer Middle, and partnering agencies such as B&B Services and Vocational Rehab.

Jennifer Spitko (Project SEARCH Instructor) and Caitlyn Bryant (Skills Trainer) recognized each of the 2022 Project SEARCH graduates and shared information about each participant's internship. Dr. Ford presented certificates of recognition for interns present at this Board meeting: James Goldwire, Perry Hollingsworth, and Nicholas Jolley.

Travis Nesmith (Assistant Superintendent) and Carla Dean (Testing Coordinator) presented an update on the survey results for the proposed 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic calendars. One draft of the academic calendar for each calendar year was posted along with the opportunity for comments to help drive any revisions. The feedback was reviewed, and one common thread regarding the 2023-24 draft was that Parent Teacher Conferences were scheduled to take place on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2024. The conference date was moved to February 15. In addition, the Board Level Planning day originally proposed to take place on February 20, 2024 was moved back to March 28, 2024 to allow employees a longer winter break. Carla Dean explained that the Draft 3 calendar versions for both 23-24 and 24-25 were based on feedback from families who preferred a full week for Christmas holidays. Draft 3 also allowed for a soft start to both academic years. Mr. Nesmith discussed the 2024-25 Draft 3 calendar and stated there were no calendar adjustments required based on feedback. Both he and Mrs. Dean explained

that the GMAS testing schedule was one of the determining factors for the proposed 2024-25 Spring Break dates. Both the 2023-24 and 2024-25 calendars will be presented at the next Board meeting for approval.

Travis Nesmith presented an update to the ECSD Strategic Plan- ENGAGE 2025. He reviewed the three strategic areas as well as progress towards the goals within each area. In January 2023, a presentation will be made to the Board regarding whether the district is meeting the outlined goals and discuss any adjustments that may need to be made to the Strategic Plan. Board members had no questions or concerns.

Tammy Jacobs, Ebenezer Middle School Principal, provided an update on the EMS School Improvement Plan. Mrs. Jacobs reviewed each of the school's goals as well as the strategic actions identified to support each goal. She discussed the SIP quarterly monitoring process as well as professional learning for EMS teachers.

Dr. Yancy Ford, Superintendent, provided an overview of the FY23 budget. He focused on where the district stands with respect to growth and in relation to the tax digest. As we grow, our district will focus on maintaining smaller class sizes. Dr. Ford reviewed each of the budget's line items. He recommended to not rollback the millage rate for FY23 so that it will remain at 15.810. Dr. Ford shared three packets with the Board pertaining to the budget: All Expenses, Other Expenses, and Personnel & Benefits.

Dr. Yancy Ford presented the recommendation to approve the tentative FY23 budget. Board members voted unanimously to approve the recommendation in a motion by Jan Landing and a second by Ben Johnson.

Board members voted unanimously to enter into executive session in a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Jan Landing.

Board members voted unanimously to end executive session in a motion by Lynn Anderson and a second by Jan Landing.

Board members voted unanimously to accept the recommendations as listed on the attached Board Action list in a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Ben Johnson.

Board members voted unanimously to accept the recommendations as listed on the attached Additional Duties and Supplements list in a motion by Lynn Anderson and a second by Jan Landing.

Board members voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to approve a three-tiered pay scale for the Odds/Ends list of personnel in a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Jan Landing.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:58 p.m.

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F. Lamar Allen, Board Chair

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Dr. Yancy Ford, Superintendent