

Springfield, Georgia

May 17, 2018

The Effingham County Board of Education met in regular session on May 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Robert Grant, F. Lamar Allen, Troy K. Alford, and Vickie Decker. Beth Helmly joined the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m. during the review of the FY 2019 budget.

Troy K. Alford opened the meeting with an invocation.

In a motion by Troy K. Alford and a second by Vickie Decker, the agenda was adopted and unanimously approved.

The board voted unanimously to approve the attached items on the Consent Agenda with a motion by Robert Grant and a second by Troy K. Alford. The Consent Agenda included: Board Minutes from the May 2, 2018 board meeting.

Mrs. Carlett Fulcher, District Literary Coach, recognized the following Literacy Coach graduates and presented each with a certificate of program completion: Melissa Osteen (RES), Tina Birthisel (SES), Kelley Martin (GES), and Regina Fox (SHES). Mr. Lamar Allen thanked Mrs. Fulcher and each of the program participants for their dedication to the improvement of reading levels for struggling students.

Susan Hartzog, Director of Human Resources, recognized each of the following Inspire program participants and presented each with a certificate of program completion: Lyn Long (ECMS), Jennifer Rahn (SES), Deidre Ford (MES), Dana Wright (EES), Tony Sikes (SES), Melissa Long (MES), Jessica Stephenson (ECHS), Kirby Ratner, (RES), April Harvey (SEHS), Tammy Jacobs (SEHS), Tony Murray (SHES), Michelle Corless (SHES), and three out-of-district administrators from Screven County.

Dr. Randy Shearouse presented the attached high school exchange student application for Edoardo Bufalini. There was discussion regarding the recommendation to approve this student for attendance at Effingham County High school for the 2018-2019 school term. The board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation with a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Robert Grant.

Dr. Randy Shearouse presented the attached FY 2019 Budget and Millage Rate information for tentative approval. He first reviewed 2019 revenues based on the roll-back millage rate of 17.077 and then went on to review revenues based on the current millage rate of 17.5. Dr. Shearouse then presented information for 2019 expenses and highlighted the primary reasons for recommended budget increases.

Board Chairman, F. Lamar Allen, called for public comments. There were no comments offered.

There was some discussion regarding whether to roll back the millage rate or allow it to remain at 17.5. F. Lamar Allen stated that maintaining the current rate would allow for future growth. Beth Helmly discussed reasons she supports the roll-back of the millage rate and stated that the increase would not negatively impact the current budget. Troy K. Alford made a motion to tentatively maintain the millage rate at 17.5, and F. Lamar Allen seconded the motion. Discussion followed the motion, and the vote question was then called. The motion was defeated with Vickie Decker, Robert Grant, and Beth Helmly voting Nay. Robert Grant made a motion to accept the roll back of 17.077 with a second by Beth Helmly. Robert Grant, Beth Helmly, and Vickie Decker voted to accept the roll back with F. Lamar Allen and Troy K. Alford voting against it.

Vickie Decker made a motion to tentatively approve the attached FY 2019 budget with a second by Robert Grant. The budget was approved with a vote of 4 Yea and 1 Nay. F. Lamar Allen voted Nay.

The board voted unanimously to enter into executive session with a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Beth Helmly.

In a motion by Vickie Decker and a second by Beth Helmly, the board voted to end executive session.

In a motion by Troy K. Alford and a second by Vickie Decker, the board voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendations as noted on the attached personnel action list with the exception of Jason Johnson. In a motion by Troy K. Alford and a second by Robert Grant, the board voted to approve Jason Johnson as the baseball coach at ECHS with a vote of 3 Yea and 2 Nay. Vickie Decker and Beth Helmly voted Nay.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 p.m. with a motion by Vickie Decker and second by Troy K. Alford.

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F. Lamar Allen, Board Chair

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Dr. Randy Shearouse, Superintendent