

**ATHENS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**October 19, 2023**

**6:30 P.M. Central Office Board Room**

This meeting was conducted in full compliance with § 36-25A-1, et seq. of the *Code of Alabama*, commonly referred to as the “Alabama Open Meeting Law”. Present were approximately 31 members of the public.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Beverly Malone – Board President called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL:** Members Present: Anthony Townsend  
Beth Patton, Superintendent  
Karen Clem  
Shannon Hutton, Board Vice-President  
Scott Henry

1. Mrs. Malone opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Mrs. Hutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mrs. Hutton moved that the board approve the agenda. Mr. Henry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous with all five members voting yes.
4. There was no public input.
5. Mr. Lee Edminson, Facilities Manager for ACS gave an update on current projects within the system:

Clinton Street - Gym Floor  
Waiting for the Contract approval

Athletic Facility - Weight Room HVAC  
Start up today.

Stadium - Visitor Bleachers  
Installation will begin following football season

Athletic Facility / Under Stadium Work  
Renovation to the old rec center and under stadium locker rooms and concession  
Bid 11/9/23

Brookhill Elem - Fencing  
Complete

AMS - Exterior Panels  
We have a plan to remove the panels, encapsulate, install brackets for new panels

Athens High - APAC  
-We have pricing back (2.7mil) and we have some work to do without compromising the end goal of making the APAC something we can all be proud of

Julian Newman  
Demo is complete - FINAL on 10/26  
Pushed the BID to Nov 7th to pick up additional bidders



October 19, 2023

## Board Minutes

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### AIS - Addition

BID 10/25-had to move from 10/19 due to other projects bidding the same day

### AIS - Boiler

Boilers are operational

### AIS - Cooling Tower

Bid 10/26

### Band Tower

Final drawings are at the State for approval

NOTE: this will include more than just a tower- sidewalk to mid field, handrails on steps

### AHS Overflow Parking

Working on design

6. Mrs. Patton presented 3 proclamations: School Bus Safety Week, National Principals Month, and Dyslexia Awareness Month.
7. Mrs. Patton along with Mr. Garner Ezell presented Athens Elementary School, Cowart Elementary School, Julian Newman Elementary School and Athens Middle School with the 50 Years of Cognia Accreditation Recognition Awards.
8. Upon Superintendent Patton's recommendation of the following items, Mrs. Hutton moved that the Board approve the items set forth below in the consent agenda. Mrs. Clem seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with all five members voting yes.

#### A. Consent Items Approved:

1. Approval of Minutes – September 26, 2023
2. Personnel
3. Volunteers
4. Facility Use Request – Limestone County Veterans Day Parade
5. Field Trip Requests for ACS
6. Field Trip Request – AHS Baseball Team – Overnight
7. Field Trip Request – AHS JROTC – Overnight
8. Field Trip Request – ARS Robotics Team – Out-of-State
9. Contract Approval – SAS Software License and Support Agreement (ARS)
10. Contract Approval – Anna Underwood Educational Consulting Services
11. Sick Leave Bank Committee
12. Pre-K Salary Schedule

#### B. Personnel Items Approved:

##### A. Resignation

1. Erissa Nolan – Bus Driver for ACS
2. John Alley – CTO for ACS

##### B. Employment

1. Danyelle Lyons – Registrar at ARS
2. George Galen – Bus Driver for ACS
3. Sherri Skipper – Custodian (12 months) at AHS

##### C. Retirement

1. Janet Hardy – Bus Driver for ACS



D. Contracted Services Cancellation

1. Jan Loveless – LETRS units 1-4 AES

E. Contracted Services

1. ASCD PD – CO
2. Stacey Givens – Contracted Student Support
3. Joana Coblenz – Contracted Temporary SLP
4. RN Riding the SPED Bus
5. Teacher Mentoring Program – AES
6. Teacher Mentoring Program –BES
7. Teacher Mentoring Program – CES
8. Teacher Mentoring Program –JNES
9. Teacher Mentoring Program – AIS
10. Teacher Mentoring Program – AMS
11. Teacher Mentoring Program – AHS
12. Teacher Mentoring Program – ARS
13. Mike Pepper – Contracted technology/maintenance services for ACS
14. After School Tutor – AES
15. After School Tutor – BES
16. Molly Lauderback – Permanent Substitute - JNE

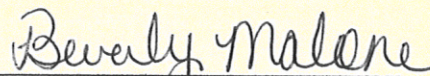
9. The Superintendent's Report is attached to the minutes.
10. Mrs. Patton recommended that the Board enter into an executive session. The reason for the executive session was to discuss the consideration that the school board is willing to offer or accept for the purchase, sale, lease, or market value of real property.
11. Mr. Henry moved that the board accept that recommendation and enter into Executive Session. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote with all five members voting yes.
12. Upon the conclusion of the executive session Mrs. Clem moved that the board return to the regular session. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote with all five members voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business; the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Henry.



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Mrs. Beth Patton  
Superintendent



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Mrs. Beverly Malone, President





**Superintendent's Report  
October 19, 2023  
Board Meeting**

**ATTENDANCE REPORT**

School	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023
iAcademy @ AES	353 + 82	355 + 84	360 + 85	362 + 81	367 + 69	367 + 70	363 + 69
FAME Academy @ BES	348 + 20	347 + 21	347 + 21	347 + 19	328 + 18	328 + 18	330 + 18
SPARK Academy @ CES	310 + 20	311 + 20	312 + 19	309 + 20	306 + 20	309 + 18	310 + 17
HEART Academy @ JNES	343 + 43	343 + 43	341 + 43	339 + 39	337 + 33	337 + 33	344 + 35
Athens Intermediate	594	591	589	590	611	603	601
Athens Middle	954	950	952	950	901	904	908
Athens High	1142	1136	1133	1131	1220	1221	1218
Athens Renaissance	647	647	643	643	788	777	764
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,856</b>	<b>4,848</b>	<b>4,845</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>4,977</b>

**SCHOOLS REPORT**

**iAcademy (Athens Elementary School):**

- Our AES PTO is hosting a fall festival this Thursday for our school community! Families are invited to play games, enjoy a variety of concessions, and wear their Halloween costumes! We are excited to host this event in our beautiful neighborhood school!
- On September 14, AES hosted a team of school and district leaders from Lawrence County Schools. The team participated in learning walks and observed our 3rd-grade team's collaborative planning. This was a great opportunity for us to connect with another school system and engage in professional learning with them!
- On October 2nd, AES hosted a literacy night for our families. The focus of this event was to inform parents about the Literacy Act and give them resources and ways to support their students at home in their journey to becoming proficient readers! We had a great turnout!
- On October 5th, we held our first meeting of our after-school Spanish Club! This is a joint effort between Athens Elementary and Athens High School! Mrs. Sonia Young from AHS and about 20 AHS students came and spent an hour with 35 of our AES

students, teachers, and Mrs. Cherry (our EL teacher). Participants are learning to speak Spanish each month during Spanish Club!

- On October 6, we had our first “Ice Cream Parlor” during lunch. This event which takes place every 9 weeks recognizes the top readers in each grade level and rewards them with ice cream sundaes!

### **SPARK Academy (Cownt Elementary School) Events and Activities:**

- Buddy Bench Dedication and Friendship Week - In memory of former SPARK Academy student Levi Hays, SPARK faculty and staff designated a buddy bench on the playground. Family members attended the dedication ceremony. In addition, the school designated August 21-25 as Friendship Week, and students were given daily challenges that helped them to be a friend to others. #livelikelevi.
- August 29, 2023 - Spanish Speaking Family Night - Coordinated by Stacey Hart and Cindy Smith. Parents who speak Spanish gained valuable school-related information such as attendance policies and directions for logging into SeeSaw and had the opportunity to ask teachers questions in their native language. Volunteers attended the meeting and translated conversations so that parents and school personnel could understand each other. 68% of EL families attended.
- Fall Fundraiser Complete - PTO led the school in completing the 2023 SPARK Fun Run kick off was September 13. The school had a pep rally, and Mr. Alexander, dressed as Captain Underpants, encouraged students to raise some funds to help our school. The Fun Run was held on Sept. 27.

### **Athens High School**

- October has been a busy month for the students and Faculty of AHS.
- In honor of Hispanic Heritage the Spanish Honor Society hosted a Hispanic Heritage Informative “Merienda” that was held for the Senior class.
- Fall break was the second week of October and helped break up the stress of this month and gave the students a much-needed rest.
- During College Application Week, our counselors are assisting seniors in the application process with 98% of our seniors completing and submitting at least one application for admission.
- The PreAct and Workkeys testing is taking place for all 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students this month and the Administrators have been working hard to make sure the teachers and students are ready.
- The National Art Honors Society and Art Club members created/ built two scarecrows for Isom's Orchard. Both Scarecrows were art themed, Frida "Crowlo" was based off artist Frida Kahlo, and Jean Michel "BOOsquiat" was based on the art created by Jean Michel Basquiat. Both scarecrows will be on display at Isom's Orchard through October.
- On October 17th, AHS hosted a free event for students and parents. This was a presentation put on by Kevin Harrington with Edward Jones' Investments covering



questions to consider as you establish a college savings goal, savings strategies to help you reach your goal, and the features and benefits of various education savings plans.

- SCA had its leadership conference this month at Chaplin High in Chaplin, South Carolina.
- Wrestling is holding its annual Father/Daughter Dance on October 21st.
- National Honor Society is set to have its Induction Ceremony on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Red Ribbon Week will kick off in the last week of October.
- Congratulations to this month's Eagle Elites.

Freshman: Ryley Johnson

Sophomore: Parker Miller

Junior: Ajunae Rogers

Senior: Ricco Hippolito

## **SPORTS REPORT**

Fall Sports are in full swing!

### **FOOTBALL**

This has been a great season of football. Numerous awards have been handed out to individual players. Players have worked hard and because of that, a playoff berth is secured.

The 1<sup>st</sup> round of the playoffs is Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. There are 3 more regular season games: @ home vs. Columbia(10/20), @ Ft. Payne(10/27), @ home vs. Russellville(11/3).

### **VOLLEYBALL**

Volleyball is now in the playoff season. The Class 6A Area 15 Tournament begins on Wednesday, October 18 in Muscle Shoals. With an area championship or runner-up spot, the team will move on to Super Regionals on Wednesday, October 25 at the Von Braun Center.

### **SWIM**

Even with a young team this year, the athletes are competing well and are working towards making cut times for Sectionals and State Meets. The remaining meets for October are @ Boaz for the NAHSSL(10/21), and @ Huntsville Aquatic Center for the Grissom Invitational(10/28)

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

It has been a stellar season for cross country. There has been at least one runner to place in each of the races thus far. The team has placed within the top 5 for several races as well. With a few more races left before the post-season, the team is looking to continue its placement streak. The next regular season races are Under The Lights @ James Clemens(10/21) and the NW Championships (10/26).

Winter sports are now in official practice season. Basketball, Wrestling, and Indoor Track are looking toward a successful season. Games/Matches begin in a few weeks. STAY TUNED!