

# CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, December 14, 2023

### 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, December 14, 2023, 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 John Harmon, Patsy Jordan, Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Kelly Poole and Erin Ragsdale. Superintendent Dr. Brian V. Hightower; and Attorney Cory DeBord.

#### **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 Sequoyah High School Student Sophia Aleck.

The meeting's inspiration was shared by Kelly Poole.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

On a motion by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison seconded by Erin Ragsdale and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the Superintendent's recommended agenda (7-0 vote).

#### **Minutes for Approval**

On a motion by Kelly Poole seconded by John Harmon and carried, the Board approved the minutes from the November 16, 2023 School Board Meeting and the December 6, 2023 Called 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 John Harmon 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 Cherokee County School Board as 2023 Georgia Leading Edge Award Winner**

*(Recognized)*

**A-2. School Board Recognition of Two Cherokee County School District Students -- Named State Academic Quiz Bowl Winners**

*(Recognized)*

**A-3 School Board Recognition of CCSD Overall Winners of 2024 Support Staff Employees of the Year Awards**

*(Recognized)*

**A-4 School Board Recognition of Mill Creek Middle School Seventh-grader Saanvi Lamba -- Named Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Essay Contest Winner**

*(Recognized)*

**A-5 School Board Recognition of E.T. Booth Middle School Seventh-grader Mikaela Charles -- Named Cherokee County Water and Sewerage Authority Countywide Essay Contest Winner**

*(Recognized)*

**A-6 School Board Recognition of River Ridge High School SkillsUSA Chapter of Excellence Award and Statesman Award Winner**

*(Recognized)*

**A-7 School Board Recognition of Etowah High School and River Ridge High School -- National Junior ROTC Raiders Champions**

*(Recognized)*

**A-8 School Board Recognition of Sequoyah HS teacher Casandra Hembree for Georgia Outstanding Achievement in Career Awareness and Exploration Award**

*(Recognized)*

**A-9 School Board Recognition of Georgia High School Association State and Regional Champions**

*(Recognized)*

**A-10 School Board Recognition of REACH Georgia Scholar Winners**

*(Recognized)*

**\*A-11 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the New Partnership Agreement with SERV International**

*(Approved)*

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

**C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES**

**D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**\*D-1 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of November 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

*(Approved)*

**\*D-2 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Staff, General Counsel, Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel to Proceed with a Public Offering of General Obligation Bonds via Competitive Sale for Voter-Approved Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for Education (Ed-SPLOST) Projects**

*(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 the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects**

*(Approved)*

**\*F-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Special Lease Agreement**

*(Approved)*

**F-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Proposals for the Woodstock HS Classroom Addition**

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried to award the contract for the Woodstock HS Classroom Addition to SmithBuilt Construction Group (7-0 vote).

*(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 Real Property Exchange with Cherokee County Government

#### Superintendent Comments:

- A member of the Superintendent's senior staff recognized the following appointments:
  - Dr. Chad Flatt, Principal, Freedom Middle School
  - Adam Holley, Cherokee High School Head Football Coach

#### Informational Items:

- The Superintendent and staff provided information on the following items:
  - Focus on the Future – CTAE Pathways by School
  - Custodial RFP
  - CEO Executive Functions End-of-Year Report
  - CCRPI Scoring

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

## ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

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School Board Chair

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Secretary