

ATHENS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 16, 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 Meetings Law”. Present were approximately 44 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. Mr. Townsend opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Mr. Henry led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mr. Henry moved that the board approve the agenda. Mrs. Hutton 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

All demo is complete
Gym floor is 45% complete
Planning on 3wks to complete

Stadium - Visitor Bleachers

Start demo Monday

We had 5 bids in the recent month...3 of the 5 came in at our budget...2 did not

Athletic Facility / Under Stadium Work

We are working with the Arch and Engineers along with the contractor to come up with some additional cost saving solutions...goal is to bring bid/cost savings to the next Board meeting

Athens High - Auditorium

As we discussed last Board meeting...pricing came in higher than anticipated...
ALL items within the VE process will be run by the Staff at AHS
The goal is to bring bid/cost savings to the next Board meeting

AMS - Exterior Panels

We are working through the design and coordination to remove the inner panels
Meeting with a contractor next week to plan the removal process out...

Julian Newman

Project bid 11/7
Project cost within the budget
After Board approval, we'll start the contracts
Architect - McKee and Associates

AIS - Addition

Project bid 10/25
Project cost within the budget
After Board approval, we'll start the contracts

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Architect - Brown O'Dell Architects

AIS - Cooling Tower

Project bid 10/26
Project cost within the budget
After Board approval, we'll start the contracts
Engineer - Mims Engineering

Band Tower

Drawings / Specs completed
We will start advertising next week and soliciti contractors

AHS Overflow Parking

Budget numbers were high
Phase I will be the detention area +/- 200 parking spaces, and Phase II the fenced-in area +/- 50 parking spaces

AHS - Eagle

This project will consist of designing an area in the courtyard for a bronze eagle
Planning to complete over the summer
Athens High School is paying for the project

Brookhill, James Cowart, ARS Main - Security

Planning to add a secure entrance at these locations
Meeting Architects Monday morning to start concept drawings for budget analysis
At a minimum, we will install; a new vestibule, new windows / pass-through, cameras, access control

Finals

11/2 - Clinton Street Roof
12/5 - Rec Center Weight Room HVAC
12/5 - AIS Boiler

6. Mrs. Patton Recognized the following: 2023 Teacher of the Year Awards, AHS Girls Cross Country Team, and Thank Alabama Teachers Month Proclamation.
7. Upon Superintendent Patton's recommendation of the following items, Mrs. Malone 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 – October 19, 2023
2. Paid Payables – September 2023
3. Financial Statements - September 2023
4. Personnel
5. Volunteers
6. Non-Resident Student Admissions Application
7. Facility Use Request – Athens-Limestone County Chamber of Commerce
8. Field Trip Requests for ACS
9. Field Trip Request – AMS Choir – Out-of-State
10. Field Trip Request – AHS & AMS Cheer – Overnight and Out-of-State
11. Field Trip Request – ARS Robotics – Overnight and Out-of-State
12. Contract Approval – Morell Engineering for JNE
13. Board Policy Proposed Revision – JDEA
14. Resolution Awarding a Contract Relating to the Athens Intermediate School Fluid Cooling Tower Project
15. Resolution Awarding a Contract Relating to the Athens Intermediate School Addition Project
16. Resolution Requesting to Move a Position to a Different Salary Schedule
17. Resolution Awarding a Contract Relating to the Julian Newman Elementary School Alterations and Addition Project

B. Personnel Items Approved:

A. Resignation

1. Jeffery Brooks – Bus Driver for ACS
2. Janet Hardy – Bus Driver for ACS
3. Stanley Lyons – Mechanic for ACS
4. Crystal Marcus – CNP at AHS
5. Stacy Willoughby – Teacher at AHS

B. Employment

1. Kristina Jones – Elementary Teacher (Title I) at AES
2. Kayla Lochridge – History Teacher at AHS
3. Alexandra Taylor – ELA at AHS
4. Courtney Williams – System-Wide Instructional Aide
5. Mallory Kennedy Winston – Bookkeeper at AMS

C. Transfer

1. Amanda Holladay – System-Wide Instructional Aide at AES to Eagles Nest Preschool at AES

D. Long Term Sub Pay

1. Joseph Sapp – ELA at AHS

E. Contracted Services Cancellation

1. Steven Lavender – Teacher Mentoring Program – AIS
2. Peggy Taylor Allen – Permanent Substitute – BES

F. Contracted Services

1. Chancey Gregg – Homebound Instruction
2. Melissa Wilson – Permanent Substitute – BES
3. Gage Coker – Basketball Videoboard for the season
4. Gage Coker – Basketball Videoboard December Tournament
5. Drew Carter – Basketball Announcer for the season
6. Drew Carter – Basketball Announcer December Tournament
7. Shannon Coppel – Kids Baseball Camp Coach
8. Tara Jones – Special Ed Student Support
9. John Romine Jr. – Football Announcer
10. John Romine Sr. – Football Announcer
11. Teacher Mentor Program – AIS
12. After School Tutor – CES
13. After School Tutor (Substitute) - AES

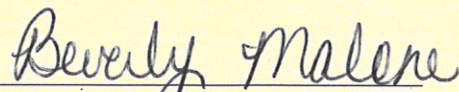
8. The Superintendent's Report is attached to the minutes.

9. An Executive Session was not needed.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business; the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Hutton.



Mrs. Beth Patton
Superintendent


Mrs. Beverly Malone, President



**Superintendent's Report
November 16, 2023
Board Meeting**

ATTENDANCE REPORT

School	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023
iAcademy @ AES	355 + 84	360 + 85	362 + 81	367 + 69	367 + 70	363 + 69	365 + 70
FAME Academy @ BES	347 + 21	347 + 21	347 + 19	328 + 18	328 + 18	330 + 18	330 + 18
SPARK Academy @ CES	311 + 20	312 + 19	309 + 20	306 + 20	309 + 18	310 + 17	309 + 17
HEART Academy @ JNES	343 + 43	341 + 43	339 + 39	337 + 33	337 + 33	344 + 35	348 + 36
Athens Intermediate	591	589	590	611	603	601	604
Athens Middle	950	952	950	901	904	908	909
Athens High	1136	1133	1131	1220	1221	1218	1224
Athens Renaissance	647	643	643	788	777	764	755
Total:	4,848	4,845	4,830	4,998	4,985	4,977	4,985

SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Jessica Lynn – Exceptional Services Coordinator

- We had 15 students participate in the Athens City- Limestone County Special Olympics bowling tournament last Thursday. Thanks to Charity Rogers for coordinating this event for our students!

iAcademy (Athens Elementary School):

- Recently the PARCA group, a non-profit group that works to improve state & local government through independent, objective, nonpartisan research, released their most recent data related to proficiency on the ACAP. It is an easy-to-use database that allows you to look at lots of disaggregated data (data for various groups of students, schools, demographics, etc). The data shows that Athens Elementary School scored the highest in our district in almost every category and subgroup even with the highest rate of poverty and highest number of English Language Learners! Plus we moved an entire school in the middle of the year! Although this data looks primarily at 3rd-grade ACAP scores - it is the culmination of lots of years of hard work poured into each and every student. We are so proud of all of our staff of difference makers at Athens Elementary and how hard they work to make a difference in the lives of our students!
- Our teachers engaged in Learning Walks during October. During these walks, teachers were able to visit each other's classrooms to observe students engaged in a variety of tasks. Teachers were working on honing their skills in developing rigorous tasks for students through participation in these learning walks.
- On November 1st, our teachers engaged in professional learning related to creating a math vision for our school. We looked at the mathematical practice standards for teachers and students and had great discussions about how to include these important standards in their math units of study.

- Many of our grade levels attended field trips during the month of October. They were able to have awesome learning experiences at Tate Farms, the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, 4-D Farms, and the Storytelling Festival at Athens State University!
- We hosted a costume parade on Halloween. Every student had a chance to participate in the parade and see each other's costumes. It was such a fun day!

Athens High School:

- Here at AHS, we can hardly believe that November is already halfway over! Our Faculty and staff are working hard to finish this semester off strong.
- First off, we would like to congratulate our Executive Principal Mr. Willie Moore on being voted the new 2024 CLAS Vice President. We are all so proud of his accomplishments and how hard he works for our school and community each and every day.
- AHS Miss Merry Christmas was announced this month and the title of Miss Merry Christmas 2023 goes to Miss Caroline Russell!
- Athens High School Spanish Club has been involved in various activities. Beginning in October, the Athens High School Spanish Club partnered with the Athens Elementary Spanish Club. There are currently 55 Spanish club members at the high school and 35 at Athens Elementary School. Many teachers at the elementary school have committed to help as well. So far in October and November, Spanish club members have worked hard to come up with fun and efficient ways the students at the elementary school can learn Spanish. They have learned the colors, animals, numbers, days of the week and months, and basic greetings. The Spanish club positively engages with the little ones and continues to teach and inspire them to learn about the Spanish language and culture. Both groups are actively learning and supporting each other. During this time, the Spanish club continued working hard to prepare for the National Spanish Honor Society induction ceremony. There were 11 new members inducted this year. There were over 50 attendees at the charcuterie luncheon to honor these students. The inductees have maintained a 3.4 GPA overall and a 3.7 GPA in Spanish and are active members of the Spanish Club. New and current members help to support the language and culture throughout the community. Athens High School Spanish club will continue working with Athens Elementary and the community on various projects.
- Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society recently took a field trip to Nashville, TN. 20 members toured the Hermitage, where they learned about Andrew Jackson, and the Parthenon, where they learned about the Greek goddess Athena, for whom Athens is named. Rho Kappa also welcomed 66 new members during their induction ceremony.
- AHS SCA hosted their annual Veterans Day Program to honor our Athens-Limestone Veterans. Band, choir, and JROTC participated in honoring our veteran guests. Students were able to attend and did a wonderful job remaining respectful during the program. Overall it was a beautiful event honoring Veterans and thanking them for their service and sacrifice.
- The AHS Retired Teachers Luncheon to help honor our retired teachers is scheduled for November 17th. This Lunch will be provided by Ramona J's and we look forward to a great turnout.
- SCA also hosted the annual Blood Drive this month and collected enough blood to save 180 lives!
- November 13th kicks off American Education Week and SCA started the week off with Chick-fil-A biscuits for all the teachers and staff. They have several other treats planned for teachers throughout the week.
- The Junior class participated in the ASVAB this month and did a wonderful job staying focused throughout testing.
- Our Pride of Athens Golden Eagle Marching Band ended their competition season with superior ratings in all categories, best-in-class color guard, and the People's Choice Award! Our color guard also won the Gold Cup for our division. Last but not least, the "Best Soloist" in class 4A went to our baritone player, Maverick Tynes!
- Congratulations to this month's Eagle Elites.
 Freshman: Brylee Hill
 Sophomore: Anaya Brown
 Junior: Adrian Villa
 Senior: James Jerkins
- And congratulations to our teacher Eagle Elite Mrs. Nicole Taylor!

SPORTS REPORT

FOOTBALL

This has been a great season of football. The varsity football team finished the regular season 8-2. This is only the 3rd time since 2000 that we have won 8 regular season games (2000, 2018, 2023).

SWIM

Even with a young team this year, the athletes are competing well and working hard. They will have their North Swim Sectional Meet in Huntsville on November 17th and hope to move forward from that to the State Meet.

CROSS COUNTRY

It has been a stellar season for cross country. Boys: 5th place (the highest placed 6A team) at James Clemens' home meet, "Under the Lights," beating out for the second time our rivals Decatur High School (we also beat them at their home meet). Unfortunately, we could not repeat that accomplishment at Sectionals.

Girls: At Under the Lights, we were just 14 points from placing in the top 3 among 7A schools. We didn't have our complete Top 7 in attendance, though. At the 6A Section 6 meet, Catherine Johnstone finished first overall and led our girls to 1st place as a team, as well. We managed this by placing 4 of our runners in the Top 10, including seniors Hannah Stevens and Caroline Mallette, and freshman Kate Sanders. It is my understanding that it is the first time an individual from AHS has won the sectionals meet, and the first time an AHS team has won the sectionals meet (at least since we've been a 6A school). The State Championship Meet was held this past weekend and our girls did not disappoint. Catherine Johnstone took home 2nd place and the AHS Cross Country girls team finished 4th overall.

BASKETBALL

Basketball season has begun. The players and coaches are expecting a great season. The next home game is Friday, November 17 vs. East Limestone. Wrestling officially begins its season at the Gulf Shores Tournament on Friday, November 17 - Saturday, November 18.

AHS CHEER

Our Athens High School Cheerleaders recently participated in the UCA Magic City Regionals where they took home 1st place in the traditional program and 2nd place in the Game Day program. They have also taken 1st place in the Rocket City Regionals Tradition competition and are gearing up for the Super Regionals that will be held November 14th. If they win this one then they will qualify to move on to the UCA State Competition held in December. On top of competing the AHS Cheerleaders also hosted a Mini Cheer camp for local youth and had 125 girls participate and perform at the last Football game of the regular season. The event was sponsored by Gibson Orthodontics.

IT'S GREAT TO BE A GOLDEN EAGLE!