

**ATHENS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**April 18, 2024**  
**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 102 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. Clem led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mr. Henry moved that the board approve the agenda. Mrs. Clem seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, with all five members voting yes.
4. There was no public input.
5. Mauldin & Jenkins, CPA’s & Advisors presented the school audit report.
6. Mrs. Patton recognized the Athens Wrestling Team, AHS SCA, and ACS Art Students.
7. The following presentations were made: Mr. Garner Ezell presented information on the Athens City Schools State Report Card, Mrs. Amanda Tedord presented information about Athens Elementary Schools’ State Report Card and Mr. Nelson Brown gave a presentation on Athens Renaissance School.
8. Mr. Lee Edminson, Facilities Manager for ACS, gave an update on current projects within the system:

**Stadium - Visitor Bleachers**

Met w/ State Inspector on Substantial Completion  
Have one ramp Southside that will need adjusting and a few punch list items  
Nothing to prevent the Special Olympics from using it on the 4/23 (Tuesday)  
Completion Date: March / April 2024  
Architect - McKee & Associates  
Contractor - EMW Construction

**Athletic Facility / Under Stadium Work**

Block in-fill work at the Stadium is complete  
Block in-fill at the Athletic Facility started today  
All door frames are installed or on-site  
Metal studs completed at the stadium  
Metal studs will start in the Athletic Facility after the block  
Electrical, Mech ongoing  
Fixed most of the surprises we found during the demo at both locations  
Still working towards having a minimum concessions completed by FB  
Architect - McKee & Associates

Contractor: Premier Structures

**Athens High - Auditorium**

All steel is up and painted

Delivery Dates:

Connector strips and battens for theatrical lights arrive at the end of the month (April)

Dimming, controls, and theater lighting shipping the week of May 20th

Stage lighting May

Curtain tracks/pipes for curtains May

Motorized rigging system shipping week of July 8th

Completion Date: May 2024...deliveries will push this end to August

Architect: GMC

Contractor: Boyett Construction

**AMS - Exterior Panels**

The contractor has released all the submittals

Pre-start with State on May 13th

Start Date: April order material/work to begin on May 27

Architect - Chapman Sisson

**Julian Newman**

The weather has not been good

We have however made four (4) foundation pours

Poured the first lift of the foundation block in the storm shelter

In total we lost 2wks to rain

Completion summer of 2025

Architect - McKee & Associates

Contractor - Lee Buildings

**AIS - Addition**

Again weather has slowed down progress here as well

Classroom wing:

- Classroom Footings poured
  - Started masonry this week
  - UG plumbing was completed and tested
  - UG electrical installed
- Gym / Storm Shelter:
- All UG utilities are completed
  - Pouring the storm shelter footings Tuesday morning (Approx 150yds)

Completion Dec 24 / Jan 25

Architect - Brown Odell Architects

Contractor - Limestone Building Group

**AIS - Cooling Tower**

The tower is running and cooling the building

Still going through the passivation process keeping watch on chemicals

Engineer - Mims Engineering

Contractor - JK Johnson

**Band Tower**

The contractor has released submittals in preparation for work starting end of May

Setting up the pre-start w/ State

**AHS - Eagle**

We have the Arch and Engineer trading drawings/information

The goal is to pour the foundation and pedestal this summer

**Brookhill, James Cowart, ARS Main - Security**

Bid next week if all goes well

James Cowart - Monument Sign

Waiting on letters to arrive 8-9 weeks on a 10+ wk delivery

**ARS - Clinton Street; Auditorium HYAC**

Submit plans to DCM for approval in May 2024  
Hopefully, get approval from DCM in June 2024  
Contractor Notice to Proceed and Order Equipment July 2024  
With equipment lead times this puts us at Nov 2024 to start work  
And finishing up in April 2025

9. 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. Mr. Townsend 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 - March 21, 2024
2. Paid Payables - March 2024
3. Financial Statements - March 2024
4. Personnel
5. Field Trip Approvals for ACS
6. Field Trip Request - ARS Robotics - Overnight and Out-of-State
7. Field Trip Request - AHS Choir - Overnight and Out-of-State
8. Field Trip Request - AHS Track - Overnight and Out-of-State
9. CNP Meal Prices for 2024-2025
10. Contract Approval - DocuSign Renewal
11. Contract Approval - EPI School Supplies
12. Addendum to the Secondary 24-25 Curriculum Catalog
13. Facility Use Request - HITS LLC
14. Resolution Concerning a New Julian Newman Elementary School Building and Campus
15. Resolution Adopting a Policy Concerning part Time / Seasonal/ Temporary Employees
16. 2024-2025 Student Handbook Approvals
17. Board Policy Revision - IFAC - Library Policy

**B. Personnel Items Approved:**

**A. Resignation**

1. Blaire Baxter - Elementary Teacher at ARS
2. Tony Luttrell - Custodian at AES

**B. Retirement**

1. Debra James - Bus Driver for ACS

**C. Employment**

1. Kathryn "Kennedy" Leopard - Elementary Teacher at RenV
2. Alex Aybar - PE Teacher at AES
3. Maggie Besh - 3rd Grade Teacher at JNE
4. Suzanne Turner - 2nd Grade Teacher at AES
5. Deborah Isbell - Custodian (12 months) at AES
6. Sarah Powell - 3rd Grade Teacher at JNE
7. Darby Blalock - Kindergarten Teacher at BES

**D. Transfer**

1. Lori Carter - Teacher at AES to Title I Teacher at AES for 24-25 SY
2. Katie Harbin - 3rd Grade Teacher at JNE to Media Specialist at JNE for 24-25 SY
3. Angela Sullivan - Teacher at AES to Title I Teacher at AES for 24-25 SY
4. Jessica Veysey - Teacher at AMS to 3rd Grade Teacher at AES for 24-25 SY
5. Jennifer Leake - ELA Teacher at ARS to ELA Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
6. Lori Jones - CTE Teacher at ARS to CTE Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
7. Chloe Johnson - SPED Teacher at ARS to SPED Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
8. Joseph Illg - Social Science Teacher at ARS to Social Science Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY

9. Lorri Haynes - Guidance Counselor at ARS to Guidance Counselor at Ren V for 24-25 SY
10. Colette Moultry - Science Teacher at ARS to Science Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
11. Summer Neely - Science Teacher at ARS to Science Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
12. Emilee Daws - Math Teacher at ARS to Math Teacher at Ren V for 24-25 SY
13. Teresa Edwards - AMS/AHS Choir Teacher to AHS Choir Teacher for 24-25 SY
14. Nelson Brown - Principal at ARS to Principal at Ren V for 24-25 SY
15. Catherine Preston - AP at ARS to Principal at ARS, effective May 1, 2024

E. Leave of Absence

1. Amy Green - CES

F. Contracted Services

1. Emi Dutton - Homebound Instructions
2. Robin Holland Summer Learning Camp Counselor
3. Bobby Norman - Storm Shelter Attendant
4. Sarah Powell - Permanent Substitute JNE
5. Charity Rogers - Extended School Year Teacher AES
6. Lori Vaughn - Summer Learning Camp Nurse
7. AHS Basketball Camp Instructors
8. Extended School Year Aides
9. After School Tutor (Subs) - BES
10. Summer Learning Camp - Teachers
11. Summer Learning Camp Teachers (Part-Time)
12. Summer Learning Camp Aides
13. Jana Brand - Bookkeeper Training at BES

10. The Superintendent's Report was presented, and a copy is attached to the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Clem.



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Mrs. Beth Patton  
Superintendent



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Mrs. Beverly Malone, President



**Superintendent's Report**  
**April 18, 2024**  
**Board Meeting**

**ATTENDANCE REPORT**

School	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
iAcademy @ AES	363 + 69	365 + 70	364 + 72	363 + 75	363 + 72	363 + 71
FAME Academy @ BES	330 + 18	330 + 18	330 + 18	331 + 18	333 + 18	342 + 18
SPARK Academy @ CES	310 + 17	309 + 17	311 + 17	314 + 18	315 + 18	315 + 18
HEART Academy @ JNES	344 + 35	348 + 36	353 + 36	355 + 35	354 + 35	354 + 35
Athens Intermediate	601	604	608	610	607	603
Athens Middle	908	909	907	910	912	921
Athens High	1218	1224	1219	1219	1215	1213
Athens Renaissance	764	755	750	756	753	753
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,977</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>5,004</b>	<b>4,995</b>	<b>5,006</b>

**SCHOOLS REPORT**

**iAcademy – Athens Elementary**

- We celebrated our amazing media specialist, Leisha Russell, and our awesome assistant principal, Nick Looney, during National Assistant principal's week and Media Specialist Recognition Day! These two educators are invaluable to us at Athens Elementary and we are so thankful for them and all they do for our students and teachers!
- Our 2nd and 3rd graders took the ACAP test in math and ELA this month. Students have worked so hard all year long and we are so proud of their effort during testing. We will reward the students with a special ice cream treat at the end of the month for their attendance and hard work on testing!
- Our teachers engaged in an embedded professional learning season on April 10 focused on powerful task design. Teachers participated in a learning walk and then collaboratively analyzed a task to see what they could do to increase the rigor of the task. They then learned about how to reflect on their weekly planning sessions using the Su Henry framework for instructional conversations.
- We have 3 athletes who will be competing in the Special Olympics on Tuesday! Ona Mays, Cooper Kuske, and Simon Mitchell. We are so excited to see them compete!

**Heart Academy – Julian Newman Elementary**

- We started April off with testing all 2nd and 3rd graders on the ACAP assessment. We tested 100% of all students.
- We are beginning one on one assessments with k-3rd grade students this week using iReady. This is a benchmark assessment that is given 3 times a year. With this data we are able to determine grade level proficiency and determine reading/math deficiencies.

- April 22-26 is Every Kid Healthy Week This week is an annual celebration of school health and wellness achievements. Each day we focus on nutrition, physical activity, mental health and learning. We have set aside Wednesday, April 24th and invited Parents to PE.

### **Fame Academy - Brookhill Elementary**

- This month at FAME Academy we are busy preparing for our school play to be held on Friday, May 3 @ 6:00 pm and Saturday, May 4th @ 2:00 pm.
- Students participated in the Alabama Comprehensive Testing Program.
- Both third grade and first grade enjoyed science classes and touring Cook's Museum. We are grateful for the grant from Steelcase that paid for third grade students to attend.
- Violin class sponsored by the ACS Foundation started today and our recital is the last day of school.

### **SPARK Academy - Cowart Elementary School**

- **April 4** - Lorian Charles participated in the North Alabama STEM Education Summit at HudsonAlpha. The goal of the summit was to network and generate ideas about how the STEM community can support each other from elementary education to the workforce and research.
- **April 8** - Solar Eclipse viewing experience was shared by the student body and community members. Approximately 110 visitors, including our superintendent, board member Mr. Townsend and students from Athens State University's science methods course, joined the students and staff of SPARK Academy to view the solar eclipse.
- **April 18** - Students will celebrate kite day by flying individually designed kites created during SPARK lab time. Students will test their designs as they fly their kites during PE times.
- **April 22** - Parents are invited to celebrate Earth Day with Reading on the Lawn. This event encourages students to appreciate our plan while fostering a love of reading and strengthening family relationships.
- **April 23** - First grade will take a field trip to Early Works

### **Athens Renaissance School:**

**ARS Showcase  
Clinton Street Campus  
May 2nd at 9:00am and 12:00pm**

**Come out and see how the arts enhance our community**

ARS students began by determining what areas in their community could be improved. Next, they worked on projects that would bring various artistic creativity to their surroundings.

Elementary students wrote and published a book that features writing centered around our school's Botanical Experiences Area. Middle schoolers created projects that would support our community in various ways through their "Be the Change" efforts. They made many connections within the industries that they desired to impact such as Keep Athens and Limestone Beautiful, local assisted living homes, and with local community leaders. Our high school students focused on integrating the arts into their coursework. They created campaign posters/brochures, microscope art, space history cards, and history/math surveys on the Cold War.

### **Athens High School:**

- The AHS Drama club, under the direction of Mr. Ryan Rorick will present "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" for their spring production on April 18, 19, & 20. This week the SCA will host their semi annual blood drive with LifeSouth. Eighty-eight units of blood were donated at SCA's last blood drive and we hope to beat that this time around. Each donation can save up to three lives—that's 264 lives.

- Mr. Ty Parker coordinated The Make-A-Way Foundation Easter Egg Hunt for students within the community with exceptional needs. Approximately 75 students hunted Easter Eggs and met with the Easter Bunny in the AHS Courtyard.
- ITEEA Recognizes Outstanding Educators at 86th Annual Conference RESTON, VA., MARCH 12, 2024 – Outstanding technology and engineering educators, including Michael May of Athens High School, were honored by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) at its 84th Annual Conference held March 6-9, 2024, in Memphis, TN. Classroom educators from across the nation at the elementary, middle, and high school levels received ITEEA's Teacher Excellence Award. Sponsored by ITEEA and Goodheart-Willcox, the Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to technology and engineering education classroom teachers and is presented in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students.
- Congratulations to AHS Visual Art Students Zoey Powers and Cecelia McFadden who placed in the Limestone County Conservation District Poster Contest. Zoey was awarded first prize and Cece was awarded 2nd. AHS Visual Arts Program will have their annual art show on April 19th in the Visual Art Gallery at Athens High School. Everyone is invited to attend.
- Congratulations to our AHS Student Council for receiving the 2024 National Gold Council of Excellence Award! Winning the National Gold Council of Excellence Award is testament to the highest standards of quality, leadership, innovation, and community engagement that your council consistently demonstrates in its operation, and its projects and activities

#### • SPORTS REPORT

The regular season for Spring Sports is almost at an end. Each team is continuing to work hard with the hopes of making the playoffs.

Spring Sports Playoffs already set are....

#### Tennis

- Sectionals
  - o April 15
  - o Point Mallard in Decatur

#### Baseball

- 1<sup>st</sup> Rd – April 18 & 19
  - o AHS will host
  - o Game times
    - April 18 – 4:30 & 6:30
    - April 19 – 5:00, if necessary

Our spring AHS head coaches are:

Soccer – Chelsea Hurst and Gil Dobbs

Baseball – Chuck Smith

Outdoor Track – Chris Massaro

Softball – Travis Barnes

Golf – Andrew Campbell and Nicholas Ridgeway

Tennis – James Crowder

Thank you in advance for your support of ACS athletics. LET'S GO GOLDEN EAGLES!!!