

5:30 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 37 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
Shannon Hutton, Board Vice-President
Toby Harrison
Karen Clem

1. Mr. Harrison opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Mr. Townsend led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mrs. Hutton 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. Mrs. Patton presented several recognitions at the board meeting.
 - (1) Dyslexia Awareness Month - Dr. Jessica Lynn accepted the proclamation.
 - (2) National School Bus Safety Week - Melody Gilbert and Henry Hampton accepted the proclamation, and the bus drivers in attendance were recognized.
 - (3) National Principals Month - A proclamation was read, and the principals in attendance were recognized.
 - (4) Mr. Willie Moore was recognized as the District 8 Secondary Principal of the Year.
 - (5) Spark Academy at Cowart was recognized for receiving the Cognia STEM Recertification, reaffirming their dedication to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education.

6. Mr. Lee Edminson, Facilities Manager for ACS, gave an update on current projects within the system:

- Fall Break

Julian Newman

Cafeteria VCT floor removed and replaced, along with any damaged tiles

Cafeteria, ramps, and new tiles were waxed with 4 coats of wax

Epoxy floor repairs were made in the cafeteria, Single RR & large RR's

Temporary doors replaced with permanent stained doors

Frames/side lite panels painted along with other touch paint noted on the punch list

Asphalt at the kitchen was replaced with concrete

An electrician replaced 13 broken lights

Plumbing replaced mixing valves

ALS

600 Sq/ft of sidewalk on the North End drop off / P/U

AMS

Canopy installed

***Project Updates**

AIS

Sound panels installed in the gym...finished clean-up this morning

RenV Boiler

Work to begin Monday

AIS - New Roof

Underlayment material onsite

Five (5) truckloads of insulation will be delivered tomorrow

Removal of fascia/gutters has started

Putting up a safety fence and flagging off lay-down areas

Stadium Parking - re-sealing

Drawings and instructions have been sent out to contractors to bid

AHS Year Ends

Band Tower

Auditorium

ARS

We had Architects meet with staff to better understand how the school works

Original thoughts; build behind existing buildings

After meeting with the designers and staff, the new buildings can be built in front, which would be a much better design

The South building would be demo'ed and the front part of the auditorium...new building would tie-in to auditorium with new lobby, RR, etc...

Demo'ing the front of the auditorium and rebuilding to tie in to the new building would be a \$1.5 million cost, but that would allow more use of the auditorium space

Total ARS 667 students with a waiting list

Total RenV 445 students with a waiting list

7. Mrs. Hutton moved that the Board: (a) accept the CSFO's evaluation; (b) find that the CSFP performed effectively with respect to the school system's audit, overall financial health, budget, and system reserves; (c) award the CSFO a \$5,000 performance bonus in accordance with her contract; and (d) amend the CSFO's contract to add an additional 1 year to the contract term. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with all five members voting yes.
8. 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 - September 18, 2025 - Work Session
 2. Approval of Minutes - September 18, 2025 - School Board Meeting
 3. Personnel
 4. Field Trip Approvals for ACS
 5. Field Trip Request - ARS Robotics Team - Out-of-State and Overnight
 6. Field Trip Request - AHS Girls Softball Team - Overnight
 7. Field Trip Request - AHS DECA - Overnight
 8. Board Policy Revision JH
 9. Facility Use Request - Athens Park and Rec
 10. Contract Approval - Anna Underwood Consulting Services
 11. TEAMS Contract Approval
 12. 2025-2026 Social Studies Textbook and Resources Committee

B. Personnel Items Approved:

A. Resignation

1. Estephany Ruano - 1st Grade Teacher at BES - effective November 6, 2025
2. Janet Posey - Science Teacher at AMS - effective October 21, 2025

B. Retirement

1. April Hamlin - School Counselor (12 months) at AHS

C. Employment

1. Hannah Kilpatrick - Science Teacher at AMS - Start Date: November 3, 2025, replacing Janet Posey
2. Jonathan Barnett - School Counselor (12 months) at AMS - Start Date: October 27, 2025, replacing LouAnn O'Rear
3. Bryan Thornton - Bus Driver for ACS - Start Date: December 15, 2025, additional route added for the 2025-2026 SY

D. Transfers

1. Peggy Taylor Allen - SPED Instructional Aide to a K-2 Auxiliary Aide at JNES
2. Jessica Hill — SPED Instructional Aide at AMS to SPED Instructional Aide at JNES
3. James Lee Michael - SPED Instructional Aide at AIS to SPED Instructional Aide at AMS

E. Canceled Contracted Services and Stipends

1. Janet Posey - TEAMS Contract — effective October 21, 2025
2. Julie LaRue - SAFE/CARE/FLEX at AHS — effective September 22, 2025
3. Jordan Doucet - SAFE/CARE/FLEX at AHS — effective September 22, 2025

F. Temporary, Part-Time Employment

1. Marla Dean - AL Teacher Mentor at AMS

G. Contracted Services and Stipends

1. K-3 After School Tutoring — Sub - BES
 - a. Jennifer Tunstill
2. K-3 After School Tutoring - AES
 - a. Renee Kennedy
 - b. Lisa Gill
 - c. Madison Wells
 - d. Leslee Gaston
3. K-3 After School Tutoring - BES
 - a. Savannah Boyd
 - b. Emma Holland
 - c. Deborah Popour
 - d. Tammy Strahl
 - e. Julianna Woolard
4. K-3 After School Tutoring - CES
 - a. Allynda Davis
5. K-3 After School Tutoring — JNES
 - a. Chelsea Payne
6. LETRS Training Units 5-8 - AES
 - a. Olivia McCurry
 - b. Chloe Neal
 - c. Jessica Veysey
7. LETRS Training Units 5-8 - BES
 - a. Darby Blalock
 - b. Savannah Boyd
 - c. Emma Holland
 - d. Tammy Strahl

- e. Madison Brown
- 8. LETRS Training Units 5-8 - CES
 - a. Allynda Davis
 - b. Rachael Knox
- 9. LETRS Training Units 5-8 - JNES
 - a. Sydney Ballew
 - b. Brook White
 - c. Sarah Powell
 - d. Maggie Kisakye
- 10. LETRS Training Units 5-8 - ARS
 - a. Olivia Batchelor
- 11. AL Teacher Mentor — AES
 - a. Renee Kennedy
 - b. Sue Noah
 - c. Brittany Wisehart
- 12. AL Teacher Mentor — BES
 - a. Liz Anderson
 - b. Rebecca Davis
 - c. Melissa Penia
- 13. AL Teacher Mentor - CES
 - a. Ashley Boutwell
 - b. Heather Patterson
- 14. AL Teacher Mentor — JNES
 - a. Katie Harbin
 - b. Anna Wysock
 - c. Synthia Howell
 - d. Lauren McCormick
 - e. Katie Deen
 - f. Ashley Steward
- 15. AL Teacher Mentor — JNES (2)
 - a. Margaret Pope
- 16. AL Teacher Mentor - AIS
 - a. Bridget Clevenger
 - b. Leslie Brown
 - c. Megan Hobbs
 - d. Emily Baucum
- 17. AL Teacher Mentor — AMS
 - a. Jessica Byrd
 - b. Allison Barnes
 - c. Melissa Moore
 - d. Darci Hays
 - e. Carla Lawrence
 - f. Tanya Hill
 - g. Chase Crowson
 - h. Benjamin Tucker
- 18. AL Teacher Mentor (additional teacher) — AMS
 - a. Darci Hays
 - b. Benjamin Tucker
- 19. AL Teacher Mentor — AHS
 - a. Lindsey Ramsden
 - b. Austen Dorning
 - c. Tyler Parker
 - d. Michael May
 - e. Nicole Taylor
 - f. Erin Chambless
 - g. Canna Ricketts

- h. Erica Thompson
- i. Justin Smith
- j. Dorothy Hamlett
- k. Hannah Smith
- l. Patricia Owens
- m. Jared Laxson
- 20. AL Teacher Mentor — RenV
 - a. Pat Umphrey
- 21. Bus Driver - Craft Academy
 - a. Harold Rogers
 - b. Roger Belcher
- 22. Jim Parsons - Bus Driver for Calhoun Tech

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

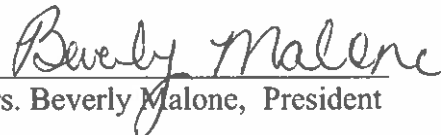
10. Mrs. Beth Patton made a recommendation to enter an executive session. The Alabama Open Meetings law allows the school board to go into executive session to (i) conduct a student disciplinary hearing, (ii) discuss the general reputation and character of individuals, and (iii) to discuss and deliberate evidence and testimony presented during a contested hearing. Mrs. Patton asked the board members to move that the school board convene in executive session for all of those reasons. Mrs. Malone moved that the board enter into an executive session. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with all five members voting yes.

11. After the student disciplinary hearing was completed, Mrs. Malone moved that the board come out of executive session. Mrs. Clem seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with all five members voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Harrison



Mrs. Beth Patton
Superintendent



Mrs. Beverly Malone, President



Superintendent's Report October 21, 2025 Board Meeting

ATTENDANCE REPORT

School	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025
Athens Elementary	380 + 72	377 + 72	376 + 74
FAME Academy @ BES	362 + 18	362 + 18	366 + 17
SPARK Academy @ CES	304 + 18	303 + 18	302 + 18
Julian Newman Elementary	417 + 51	417 + 51	418 + 49
Athens Intermediate	685	683	687
Athens Middle	926	925	928
Athens High	1296	1287	1291
Athens Renaissance	678	675	671
Renaissance Virtual	425	446	449
Total:	5,632	5,634	5,646

Athens High School

Congratulations to **The Pride of Athens Golden Eagle Marching Band** for their competition success this year! At their first competition, the POA earned superior ratings in ALL categories and received Best in Class honors for Majorettes, Color Guard, and Percussion. All three of these groups also earned the top performance score for the entire competition! At their second competition, the POA once again earned superior ratings in ALL categories, along with Best in Class Majorettes, Color Guard, and Band. Best in Class Band is the TOP HONOR of any competition, representing the highest overall achievement among all participating bands within the class!!

Athens will host a band competition on the 25th, and conclude their competition and exhibition schedule at the annual Limestone County Night of Bands on Tuesday, October 28th, at East Limestone High School.

AHS Thespians, led by Miss Chandler Greer, will be presenting *The Diviners*, November 13th through 15th in the APAC. *The Diviners* is the story of an unlikely friendship between a troubled preacher and a young boy with a gift for finding water, exploring themes of faith, community, and human connection. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

T-Mobile awarded AHS a total of \$6,000 prize money in their Friday Night 5G Lights contest. Through Social Media engagement on Instagram and X, AHS proved that there is a lot of heart in a very small town! In Ms. Tasia Farmer's **Foundations of Health Science** class, students are currently studying medical terminology and the body's planes and directions. Learning medical terms and abbreviations helps them build a stronger understanding of medical language and its meanings, allowing them to communicate more effectively in healthcare settings. In addition, understanding body planes is essential, as it provides a framework for describing locations, movements, and relationships within the body, which is critical for accurate medical observation, diagnosis, and treatment.

In celebration of **National Hispanic Heritage Month**, the Spanish Club and Spanish classes at Athens High School have collaborated to create interactive, educational displays highlighting all 21 Spanish-speaking countries. Each day, a new country is featured, allowing students to learn about its unique culture, traditions, and history. To make the experience engaging, students are provided with personalized passports and invited to “travel” through the displays. At each stop, they collect a stamp and share one fact they learned to “pass through customs,” encouraging meaningful participation and exploration of all 21 countries.

To prepare for this schoolwide celebration, students researched each country, exploring geography, history, culture, food, careers, healthcare, art, and music. They showcased their learning through bilingual projects in Spanish and English, interactive activities, papel picado decorations, and paper replicas of traditional Spanish tiles. Students also designed a globe display where their peers could mark where they or their families are from, visually highlighting the rich diversity within the school community and the important role of the United States in Hispanic heritage. These efforts reflect Athens High School’s commitment to the district’s Portrait of a Graduate vision by fostering cultural awareness, global citizenship, and strong communication skills while celebrating the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

FCCLA, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, has been busy with several service projects. FCCLA promotes leadership skills that make a difference in the classroom, family, and community. Here are some of the projects they have been focusing on:

- September-FCCLA planned an event called, Healthy Families, 'Bag It.' They collected Hygiene products for the Family Resource Center to benefit those who are less fortunate.
- October: We will create and implement various activities in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- November-“Thankful Thanksgiving.” The goal is to collect canned goods and non-perishable food items to donate to the Family Resource Center for families to utilize during the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- December-FCCLA will collaborate with Event Planning and Management and the Hospitality and Tourism Class to create goody bags for the Family Resource Center Christmas party.

Dates to Remember

Julian Newman Elementary’s Ribbon Cutting Ceremony- Sunday, October 26, at 2:00 PM
Teacher of the Year Appreciation Banquet- Tuesday, November 18