

MINUTES
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2021

The Douglas County Board of Education met in a regular session in the board room of the administrative office building at 9030 Highway 5. Ms. Tracy Rookard, Chair, (Post 3), called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Rookard asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, or other matters as allowed under the Georgia Open Meetings Act. Board Members present were: Ms. Michelle Simmons, Vice Chair (Post 4); Mr. Devettrion Caldwell, (Post 1); Mr. D.T. Jackson, (Post 2) and Mr. Glenn Easterwood, (District 5).

Ms. Rookard reconvened the Board in open session at 7:00 p.m.

Staff members present were Mr. Trent North, Superintendent; Mrs. Melanie Manley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Achievement; Mr. Greg Denney, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Kwame Carr, Assistant Superintendent of District Operations; Dr. Michelle Ruble, Assistant Superintendent of General Administration; Mrs. Pam Nail, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Mrs. Nell Boggs, Executive Director of Communications; and Mrs. Melanie Nicholson, Secretary to the Superintendent.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by Ms. Rookard.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SETTING OF AGENDA: On motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, unanimous approval was given to approve the agenda as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Douglas County Board of Education Public Participation at Board Meetings **Policy: BCBI**

In accord with its policy confirming the right and desirability of the public's expressing its point of view to the Board, delegations or individuals are welcome at all meetings, subject to the following regulations:

1. Matters relating to personnel, members of the Board, and other items which the law deems inappropriate for discussion must be submitted in writing and will be reviewed by the Board in Executive Session.
2. Matters concerning an individual school shall be discussed first with the principal of that school. If the problem cannot be resolved at the school, it shall then be brought to the Superintendent of Schools. If the problem cannot be resolved with the Superintendent of Schools, it may then be brought to the Board.

Citizens of the community have the expressed right and are encouraged to attend meetings of the Board to listen to and observe the deliberations of its members. The following regulations are adopted to preserve the orderly pursuit of business of the Board and to provide proper opportunities for legitimate and objective discussion and analysis of the issues presented.

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Board meetings are public meetings and not meetings of the public; however, any citizen may request the opportunity to communicate with the Board and be recognized to speak regarding appropriate issues. **Persons desiring to communicate with the Board shall submit a written request to the Superintendent stating their name, home address, the topic about which they wish to speak and the group they represent, if applicable, no later than 4 o'clock on the Friday prior to the scheduled Board meeting. Please use the form provided for this purpose.**

The Board vests in its chairperson or other presiding officer authority to determine whether it is in the interest of the Board to allow any individual or group to make an oral presentation before the Board. Persons who are granted the opportunity to speak will be recognized by the chairperson at the appropriate time during the meeting. Speakers will be limited to three minutes. If there are numerous requests to address the Board the chairperson may select representatives to speak on each side of the issue. The Board also vests in its chairperson or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual who does not adhere to the guidelines established by the Board.

Personal complaints of school employees should follow the Complaints and Grievances procedures established by the Board.

Individuals and/or groups who addressed the Board previously may be denied the opportunity to address the Board again on the same topic.

The Board will usually not respond to comments or questions posed by citizens during the Board meeting, but will take those comments and questions under advisement. When appropriate, the comments and questions shall be referred to the Superintendent for consideration and a later response. None.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board receives the agenda approximately three to five days before their regular board meeting. The Board discusses items placed on the "Consent Agenda" at a previous meeting or in Executive Session as allowed under the Georgia Open Meetings Act. Before the Board voting session the Board may ask or answer any questions about items to be placed on the "Consent Agenda".

- A. Minutes of January 19, 2021 Executive Session
- B. Minutes of January 19, 2021 Board Meeting
- C. Minutes of January 11, 2021 Work Session
- D. Surplus of Various Items
- E. Walk-In Freezer Bid Tabulation
- F. Certified Personnel
- G. Classified Personnel

On motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, unanimous approval was given to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. North said that in the vote tonight, it included the approval of the new head football coach for Alexander High School, Olten Downs.

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BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Easterwood said that this is his fourth board meeting and he appreciates everyone being hospitable and gracious. It is an honor to be on the Board. He has heard a lot of positive feedback after giving the money to our staff.

Mr. Jackson thanked the administration for all of their hard work all of the time.

Ms. Rookard thanked everyone for their hard work and appreciates the budget work of Mr. North and that he ensures that we are fiscally sound and that we were able to give the extra money to our employees. We are so grateful to our teachers. We have received so many notes of thanks. We appreciate their hard work and our Board wants to be able to do what we can for our employees.

Mr. North said that our staff is very appreciative of the money they received last week. On behalf of the staff, thank you board members. Staff members will be receiving another gift on Thursday.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Trent North, Superintendent

Tracy Rookard, Chair