

MINUTES
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 17, 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, (District 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: Mr. Devetrion Caldwell, (District 1); Mr. D.T. Jackson (District 2) and Mr. Glenn Easterwood, (District 5). Ms. Michelle Simmons, Vice Chair (District 4) was absent.

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

MINUTES
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 17, 2021

the Board and to provide proper opportunities for legitimate and objective discussion and analysis of the issues presented. 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.

Ms. Gemeia Rice, Sweetwater Elementary Parent, addressed the Board regarding COVID Extension services for next school year. Ms. Rice provided a handout for the Board. Ms. Rice requests teacher and student engagement along with extra-curricular activities. Ms. Rice stated that Sweetwater Elementary School got it right for her family this school year.

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 April 19, 2021 Work Session
- B. Minutes of April 24, 2021 Budget Work Session
- C. Minutes of April 26, 2021 Board Meeting
- D. Minutes of April 26, 2021 Executive Session
- E. The Science of Reading Professional Learning with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- F. Surplus of Various Items

MINUTES
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 17, 2021

- G. Douglas County High School HVAC Renovations
- H. School Nutrition Produce Bid
- I. School Nutrition Food Distribution Bid
- J. School Nutrition Surplus Items
- K. Board Policy GBIA – Teacher Evaluation Appeals
- L. Certified Personnel
- M. Classified Personnel

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

ACTION AGENDA

- A. First Public Hearing on Proposed FY21-22 Budget

Mr. Denney presented the proposed FY21-22 Budget to the Board.

Ms. Rookard asked if there was anyone present that would like to address the Board regarding the budget. No one came forward.

On motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, unanimous approval was given to approve the proposed FY21-22 Budget as presented.

- B. April 2021 Financial Report

On motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, unanimous approval was given to approve the April 2021 Financial Report as presented.

INFORMATION ONLY

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Jackson said that he had the pleasure of touring the new central office today. It is a wonderful addition to the Douglas County School System.

Ms. Rookard thanked everyone for their hard work. Ms. Rookard thanked Mr. Carr and his team on the move to the new central office. We are grateful to you.

Mr. North thanked the Board for the new central office. The staff is enjoying the new facility.

MINUTES
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REGULAR MEETING
MAY 17, 2021

We have an amazing team. We are very appreciative to the Board Members.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Trent North, Superintendent

Tracy Rookard, Chair