

**OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting**

**Osceola Jr. High Building**

**August 9, 2021**

**6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Jacqueline Baker, James Baker, Ollie Collins, Kristain Dedmon, Kristi Hopper and Denise Williams

Member(s) Absent: Torian Bell

Others present: Dr. Toriano Green, Superintendent  
Dr. Renata Bryant, Assistant Superintendent  
Samantha Tippy, District Treasurer/Board Recorder  
Marvell Carr, School Resource Officer  
Veronica Gavin, LEA Supervisor  
Steve Knox  
Dettris Poole

1. Jacqueline Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. James Baker offered invocation.
3. Samantha Tippy called the roll and a quorum was declared.
4. The Board recited the District Vision and Mission statement.
5. Motion James Baker, seconded by Ollie Collins to approve the July Meeting Minutes. Motion passed 6-0.
6. Ollie Collins made a motion to adjust the Timed Agenda to 6:02 p.m. and James Baker seconded the motion. Passed 6-0.
7. Jacqueline Baker presented the Financial Report and asked for any questions or comments. Mrs. Tippy stated that the only thing to report for the time being is that the Big River Steel deposit is still pending. A motion was made to accept the Financial Report as presented by Kristain Dedmon and was seconded by James Baker. Passed 6-0
8. Jacqueline Baker presented the List of Bills. Dr. Green stated that one of the big ticket items listed was to ASBA Risk Management which is for our property insurance. He also discussed some other projects that we had done that were several thousands of dollars. Jacqueline Baker asked if any of those projects fell under Esser money and none of them qualified. James Baker made a motion to accept the list of bills and it was seconded by Ollie Collins. Passed 6-0
9. Dr. Green presented the update to our per diem. He recommended that our per diem for Staff/School Board members meal limit be increased to \$50 daily and that the student amount be increased to \$8 per meal. He also recommended that the mileage be increased to .50 a mile. Kristain Dedmon questioned the \$50 daily limit. She wanted to know if it was

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just for the day and not per meal based. Dr. Green clarified that it will be the \$50 amount for the day no matter what meals were provided or bought. Motion was made to accept the per diem recommendation by Ollie Collins and seconded Kristain Dedmon. Passed 6-0

10. Veronica Gavin recommended the SPED Paraprofessionals receive an annual stipend of \$2000 and that SPED teachers receive \$2500 annually. This stipend is intended to help with our retention in the SPED department. A motion was made by Denise Williams to accept the recommendation of Ms. Gavin. Kristain Dedmon seconded the motion. Passed 6-0

11. Kristain Dedmon spoke on what she learned from the Southern Region Leadership Conference. She stated that there was a group there that provides training for the school board members and handed out an informational document on that company. She also stressed that cyber security was a hot topic at the conference. She stated that there is actually an insurance that schools can purchase to help with the cost if a cyber attack happens. Jacqueline Baker also stated that having the IT department aware of everything that is downloaded is something that could possibly help prevent any issues that could occur. Kristain Dedmon also suggested having a PD training for all staff on cyber security and what to look for when accessing websites or emailed documents. Kristi Hopper brought up discussing the emotional health of students and staff. She stated if our staff is not mentally healthy then they cannot perform like our students need. She wanted to know how we are preparing for the mental health of our staff and students. Dr. Green stated that is something that we definitely understand and are working on. He stated that all principals have received some training on the subject. Jacqueline Baker also wanted to know if we have any policy on student's conduct outside of the school setting. Kristain Dedmon also brought up if we have a policy for teachers that are not performing. She also wanted to know if we have a vendor that can provide us with a licensed teacher if the need arises due to a teacher not performing so that our students do not fall behind. Dr. Green stated that he will present a policy for teacher accountability at a later meeting. Jacqueline Baker also brought up that her and Kristi Hopper attended a sex trafficking workshop while at the conference about how students in schools are actually being trafficked and what signs to look for. Dr. Green informed the board that our teachers go through training every year on what to look for and to report anything they are told.

12. A: Dr. Green stated that school is starting next week with 100% of students on-site. We are still recommending clear water bottles and will be adhering to social distancing guidelines. He stated that desks are still spaced out and that all staff is being asked to be out of the buildings by 6 p.m. every evening so that our building may be sanitized. He also stated that masks will be available for all students and staff that do not have them.

B: Demolition for West Elementary is now on hold due to asbestos being found. We have received one bid of \$160,000 for the abatement. We are currently looking for other bids.

**OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting  
Osceola Jr. High Building  
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C: Dr. Green presented the School Improvement Plan. He stated that one of our goals is to have 90% of our students show growth. He stated that we will have bi-weekly meetings to track this progress. Ollie Collins made a motion to accept our School Improvement Plan as presented and it was seconded by James Baker. Passed 6-0.

D: Dr. Bryant presented our Digital Learning Plan. The plan shows how interactions between students, teachers, and parents will go. This plan also lists what platforms we will use if we have to go to virtual learning. Devices that will be used are also included in this. She also stated that we had to list what other supports we will have in place for students that may need it should we go virtual. Several waivers had to be applied for in this plan. One waiver was to increase our teacher load from 150 students daily to 175 daily due to possibly having teachers teach online classes. We also had to submit a waiver for the attendance requirement. A recess waiver was also requested due to not being able to monitor if a student is getting their required 48 minutes of physical activity. Ollie Collins made a motion to approve the Digital Learning Plan as presented. Denise Williams seconded the motion. Passed 6-0.

E: Bryant Bread was the only bread bid we received this year. This is who we have been using in the past. Kristain Dedmon made a motion to accept the Bryant Bread bid and James Baker seconded the motion. Passed 6-0.

F: Prairie Farms was our only milk bid this year. This is who we have used for the last several years. James Baker made the motion to accept the bid from Prairie Farms. Kristi Hopper seconded his motion. Passed 6-0.

G: Coke and Pepsi both submitted bids to be our vendor for the district. Coke offered no incentives. Pepsi offered \$4000 annually for student/staff use. Kristain Dedmon made the motion to accept the Pepsi bid and it was seconded by Ollie Collins. Passed 6-0.

H: Dr. Green informed the board members that he had spoken with multiple school districts and that no one is currently offering Covid Leave Days for staff. Dr. Green stated that this may change in the future but that he recommends we do the same as of right now. If things with the delta variant change or we are experiencing an abundance of absences he will revisit the issue.

I: Dr. Green presented our Statement of Assurance. He stated that this is something that we have to complete every year. Jacqueline Baker signed the Statement as needed.

J: Dr. Green stated that we are going to have to re-line our district due to the declining enrollment in the county. We have worked with our Coop and have a proposal to redraw our district lines and

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submit to the state. The proposal comes from EFS GeoTechnologies. This is who the majority of the members of our Coop are using. Kristain Dedmon made a motion to accept the proposal from EFS GeoTechnologies and it was seconded by Kristi Hopper. Passed 6-0

K: Dr. Green gave an update on our Air Quality Project. He stated that Eric Mueller stated that the 1st phase of the project will consist of North, CSE, Middle, ALE Choices campuses. It is expected to take 11 weeks and cost \$558,410.00. This will be paid for out of our ARP Esser funds to improve the air quality in all of our buildings. The first phase is expected to be completed before Christmas break. Jacqueline Baker asked if our students' learning will be affected by this construction. Dr. Green stated that they should not be affected due to the way the projects are being completed. Kristain Dedmon made a motion to accept the proposal for the Air Quality Project and it was seconded by Denise Williams. Passed 6-0.

L: Dr. Green presented a resolution to mandate masks on our campuses. This mandate would cover all students, staff, and visitors on campus. Masks would be required while in-doors and on buses. Kristain Dedmon made a motion to accept the resolution presented by Dr. Green. Denise Williams seconded. Passed 6-0.

13. Jacqueline Baker announced that the school board would now go into executive session. Executive session lasted from 7:17 p.m. to 7:27 p.m.

14. Jacqueline Baker presented the personnel report.

Certified:

Shantel Mitchell - 1st Grade

Ricky Thomas - Middle School PE & JR Basketball

BriAnna Thomas - 4th Grade

Angel Walker - HS Media Specialist

Motion was made by James Baker to hire the above listed certified staff. Kristain Dedmon seconded the motion. Passed 5-1, Denise Williams abstained.

Kristain Dedmon presented the non-certified staff.

Non-Certified:

Leticia Jacobs - Pre-K Paraprofessional

Tina Gordon - CSE Secretary

Vanessa Davis - CNA Middle School

Motion was made by Kristi Hopper to hire the above listed non-certified staff. James Baker seconded the motion. Passed 5-1 Denise Williams abstained.

**OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**6:00 p.m.**

Kristain Dedmon presented the transfer requests.

Transfers:

Cyndy Henderson - North Interventionist to 2nd Grade

Sherrie Jones - 1st Grade to 3rd Grade Science

Kristi Hopper made the motion to approve the above listed transfers. James Baker seconded the motion. Passed 5-1 Denise Williams abstained.

Kristain Dedmon presented the resignations.

Resignations:

Crystal Pendleton - ALE Paraprofessional

Ollie Collins made the motion to accept the resignation of the employee above. Denise Williams seconded the motion. Passed 6-0.

15. James Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Ollie Collins. Passed 6-0.

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(Signed) Jacqueline Baker, President

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(Signed) Torian Bell, Secretary