

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Paducah, Kentucky
SPECIAL MEETING
July 27, 2021

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Paducah Independent School District was held at the Innovation Hub Seminar Room, 500 South 25th Street, Paducah, Kentucky on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Felix Akojie, Mary Hunter Hancock, Janice Howard, James Hudson was virtual,

Absent: Mary Hunter Hancock, Carl LeBuhn

Others Present:

Donald Shively, Superintendent

Lisa Chappell, Secretary

William Black, Instruction/Assistant Superintendent

Dale Weaver, IT

Wayne Walden, Community Relations

Angela Copeland, Finance

Other staff and community members

Media

In the absence of Dr. LeBuhn, Vice Chair Dr. Akojie called the meeting to order. After the roll call, it was established that a quorum of Board members was present.

ORDER NO. 114

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was presented. The motion was made by Mrs. Howard seconded by Dr. Hudson that the Board concur with the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the agenda as presented. The roll was called and all members present voted "yes".

Dr. Shively led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEMS OF INTEREST/ REPORTS

Will Black updated the Board on the meeting student needs in the COVI-19 Pandemic and the spending of the ESSER I and ESSER II federal funds to date. The district received \$1.2 million in ESSER I funding last year and almost \$5 million in ESSER II funding earlier this year.

We dedicated that (ESSER I) money toward safely learning during the pandemic. which means the large majority of ESSER I money went toward buying student devices to give students access to virtual instruction, and also to purchase staff devices to ensure the staff had adequate technology to provide virtual instruction.

The ESSER II funding was earmarked to overcome the learning loss brought about by spending the 2020-21 school year going through the COVID-19 pandemic. Issues like at-home learning, changing schedules and physical and mental health issues made learning much more difficult than school years without a pandemic. It was also used to help extend the school year and school days in the spring and in the summer.

Black said about \$2.15 million of the ESSER III funding must be spent addressing COVID-19 learning loss. He listed a number of areas the remaining \$8.6 million could fund, including social and emotional support and district facility needs.

COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING ARP-ESSER III SPENDING PLAN

The district has already received input from students, parents, and the community via an online survey on how best to utilize the upcoming ESSER III funds. This meeting allowed anyone to offer further input.

JW Cleary, local NAACP chapter president, asked that the district consider offering affordable housing to new teachers to help with recruiting educators to Paducah.

Mattie Morris, president of the Paducah Education Association, would like to see some funding go toward retaining current teachers.

Corbin Sardon, vice president of the local NAACP chapter and former administrator, said he would also like to see funds go to teachers to support their mental health.

Marlen Woods, parent of a PTHS student that lives in Marshall County, expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Board and district staff.

ORDER NO. 115

ACTION TO ADJOURN

The motion was made by Mrs. Howard and seconded by Dr. Hudson that the meeting be adjourned. The roll was called and all members present voted "Yes." The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

The requirements of KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820 and 61.823 were complied with relative to the foregoing meeting.