

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Raleigh County Schools

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

ROLL CALL – The Raleigh County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 PM in Munson Hall at the Raleigh County Schools Central Office with the following members present: President Larry D. Ford, Vice-President, Mr. Jack G. Roop, Ms. Marie Hamrick, Dr. Charlotte Hutchens, Mr. Richard V. Snuffer II and C. David Price, Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

President Ford called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADJUSTMENTS

President Ford requested approval of the agenda with an adjustment. President Ford stated that New Business will be addressed first; due to a prior commitment for Mrs. Angela Foster, Director of School Health Services. Mr. Snuffer made the motion to approve the agenda with the adjustment. Mr. Roop seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Consider approval of Mitigation Strategies update and possible action**
Mrs. Angela Foster, Director of School Health Services, was pleased to report a decrease in Covid statistics. The week of 02-03-22 to 02-10-22 had 106 student positive cases. The week of 02-10-22 to 02-17-22 had 50 positive student cases. She also distributed a draft copy of the most recent Covid-19 protocols. Based on Superintendent Price's recommendation of moving from required mask mandate to recommended mask mandate and to continue to monitor the remainder of the school year, Mr. Snuffer made a motion to approve. Dr. Charlotte Hutchens seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.
- **Consider approval of MOU with Community Access, Inc.**
Allen Sexton, Director of Special Programs, presented an overview of the MOU between Community Access, Inc., and Raleigh County Schools. Community Access, Inc, is a subsidiary of the WV Department of Rehab Services. They are offering their financial support and training assistance to enhance the school-to-work program. Ms. Hamrick made a motion to approve. Mr. Snuffer seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.
- **Approve election for the Annual Financial Statement Audit to be performed by an outside public accounting firm.**
Upon explanation by Treasurer/CSBO Darrin Butcher, Mr. Snuffer made a motion to approve. Ms. Hamrick seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.
- **Select board member to serve on committee to select auditor for the Annual Financial Audit FY22-24 and formally approve members selected to the committee for a 3-year term. Members include:**
 - Darrin Butcher, RCS Treasurer/CSBO
 - Michael Click, RCS Director of Accounting/Internal Auditor
 - Dr. Serena Starcher, RCS Assistant Superintendent
 - Jason Butcher, SESC Chief AdministratorMr. Roop made the motion to elect Mr. Snuffer to serve on the committee and approved members listed above. Ms. Hamrick seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.
- **Select board member to serve on banking committee for selection of a financial institution for banking and P-card services for FY23-25.**
Mr. Snuffer made the motion to elect Dr. Hutchens to serve on the committee. Mr. Roop seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.
- **Select board member to serve on committee to recommend workers comp agent of record for FY23-25**
Mr. Snuffer made the motion to elect President Ford to serve on the committee. Dr. Hutchens seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS:

- Assistant Superintendent Sandra Sheatsley, with assistance from Superintendent Price, recognized the Math Field Day and Science Fair winners from the Independence Attendance Area and presented each with an award.
- Superintendent Price, along with assistance from Independence High School Football Coach John Lilly, recognized Atticus Goodson for being selected as the 2021 WWSWA Kennedy Award Winner for Top Football Player, the 2021 WWSWA Warner Award Winner for Top Running Back, and the 2021 WVSSAC All State 1st Team – Offensive Captain.

DELEGATIONS:

- Agenda Items
 - Homeschool parent Theresa Dennison addressed the board, opening in prayer, and thanked the board members for voting to remove the mask mandate. She stated she is an advocate for school choice, transparency in the classroom and board meetings to be livestreamed.
 - Rhonda Dillon also opened in prayer, addressed the board stating she is for parent choice, parental rights, and read an excerpt from the book, Torture for Christ.
 - David Gallaher addressed the board and stated mask mandates take away from individual freedoms for everyone. He feels it should be the parent's choice whether the children should wear them.
- Non-Agenda Items
 - Athletic Director and Independence High School football coach, John Lilly, with the support of the other three high school athletic directors, thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. All four high schools in Raleigh County see a dire need to have full time athletic trainers at each school. Covid protocols have added another dimension for the student-athletes. The athletic directors respectfully ask the board to consider the request as was presented.
 - Brandy Stover addressed the board regarding a teacher; based on information from parents who contacted her. Superintendent Price explained the protocol and chain of command for addressing areas of concern to Ms. Stover. She also spoke on student vaping, tattooing, parent and teacher accountability.

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

- Board Reports – Board members reported their activities since the last meeting. Dr. Hutchens also wanted to thank the school bus drivers for School Bus Appreciation Day and for the wonderful job they do in keeping the students safe.
- Superintendent's Report –
 - Superintendent Price stated the WWSBA meetings were very informative. He also shared the challenges of hiring athletic trainers, the rigid certification requirements and lack of teaching endorsements. In the past, Raleigh County has contracted with Jan Care to provide EMT's for practices and games. Superintendent Price also clarified the masks requirement for students testing positive for Covid.
 - President Larry Ford clarified that an individual had called him and asked if the Board Members actually know what they will be voting on in the meetings. President Ford stated all board members are given a complete packet six days in advance before the meeting. It includes everything that will be discussed and voted on. Superintendent Price also stated it is a requirement by law to provide that information in open meeting discussions.
- Other Reports –
 - Attendance Report – Attendance Director Kim Lacy stated the current enrollment is 10,181 without PreK with an attendance rate of 92.486, Homeschool totals 1,062 at the end of the sixth month.
 - Asst. Superintendent Sandra Sheatsley and Summer SOLE Coordinator Debbie Cantley, outlined the exciting opportunities to be offered for the extended year summer programs. The programs will offer ELA, Mathematics, Arts, Music, STEAM, STEM, Athletics, and more. School sites, dates and times will be posted on the Raleigh County Schools website soon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was no unfinished business to be considered.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - There were no policies or procedures to be considered.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Snuffer made the motion to remove B from Consent Items and approve A and C. Mr. Roop seconded it. Motion passed 5-0. Consent items A and C are as follows:

- Approve minutes of Regular Meeting, February 8, 2022
- Future meetings/events: *Statutory Meeting – Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – 5:00 PM – Munson Hall*
Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 8, 2022 - 5:30 PM – Munson Hall

Phillip Jarrell, Director of Purchasing, provided a brief summary of rising costs, availability of materials and negotiations process for Consent Item B.

- Approve recommended bids

Mr. Snuffer made a motion to approve recommended bids, Consent Item B as submitted. Mr. Roop seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL

- Approve Superintendent's recommendations for personnel 2021-22
With no corrections noted and approval of Superintendent Price, Dr. Hutchens made the motion to approve. Mr. Snuffer seconded it. Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT – At 6:55 PM the meeting adjourned by consensus.

RALEIGH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Larry D. Ford, President

C. David Price, Secretary