

**MINUTES**  
**DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**APRIL 26, 2021**

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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); and Mr. Glenn Easterwood, (District 5). Mr. D.T. Jackson (Post 2) 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 Ms. Simmons, 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

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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. 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 March 1, 2021 Work Session
- B. Minutes of March 15, 2021 Board Meeting
- C. Minutes of March 15, 2021 Executive Session
- D. Minutes of March 29, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting
- E. February 2021 Financial Report
- F. March 2021 Financial Report
- G. Vehicle Surplus
- H. Playground Equipment for Five Elementary Schools
- I. Waste Management Bid Renewal
- J. Pest Control Services Bid Renewal
- K. School Nutrition Paper Bid

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- L. Continued Membership with Georgia Education Cooperative
- M. School Nutrition Surplus Items
- N. Brighten Academy Letter of Intent to Renew Charter for 2022-2027
- O. SDP Fellowship Agreement Between Douglas County School System and President and Fellows of Harvard College
- P. Certified Personnel
- Q. Classified Personnel

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

INFORMATION ONLY

- A. Over Night Out of State Field Trips

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. North presented a timeline for moving to the new central office facility.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Trent North, Superintendent

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Tracy Rookard, Chair