

MINUTES
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

The Douglas County Board of Education met in regular session at the administrative offices located at 9030 Highway 5, Douglasville, Georgia. Board Members present were: Ms. Tracy Rookard, Chair (Post 3); Ms. Michelle Simmons, Vice Chair (Post 4); Mr. Devettrion Caldwell, (Post 1); Mr. D.T. Jackson (Post 2) and Ms. Rita Fasina-Thomas (Post 5).

Staff members present were Mr. Trent North, Superintendent; Mrs. Melanie Manley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Achievement; Mr. Greg Denney, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Michelle Ruble, Assistant Superintendent of General Administration; Ms. Pam Nail, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Mr. Kwame Carr, Assistant Superintendent of District Operations; Mrs. Nell Boggs, Executive Director of Communications; and Mrs. Melanie Nicholson, Secretary to the Superintendent.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SETTING OF AGENDA

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

BOARD RECOGNITION

Ms. Ruby Byers with the Douglas County Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with Douglas County Schools to coordinate the Youth Leadership Douglas program. She is assisted by Julia Areh from Georgia Highlands College and Taylor Pounds from HRC Engineering. Whitney Lester and Dr. Tawyna Bailey, work based learning coordinators at New Manchester and Douglas County High Schools, also assist with the program. We are happy to recognize the spring 2020 graduates of Youth Leadership Douglas tonight.

Youth Leadership Douglas is a program that was created in partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and the Douglas County School System. By participating in the leadership program, high school juniors learn about local government agencies, businesses, and civic activities and also gain experience in social and business etiquette.

The students learn not only about our community and about leadership, but also develop friendships and contacts in Douglasville. These students are exceptional in their schools, and they have immersed themselves in the community through working with their mentors and performing community service.

For social distancing reasons, we are recognizing the spring 2020 Youth Leadership Douglas

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class over two meetings. Half of the class will be recognized at the next Board of Education meeting. I am delighted tonight to recognize those participants from Alexander High School and Douglas County High School.

From Alexander High School:

Tristan Blaylock
Madelyn Broome
Christine Chabbouh
Henry Cook
Gwendolyn Douglas
Nya Herbert
Carson Hucks
Morgan Langley

From Douglas County High School:

Emma Flynn
Faith Stanley

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 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

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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.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of August 3, 2020 Work Session/Voting Session and Budget Hearing
- B. Minutes of August 3, 2020 Executive Session
- C. Minutes of August 17, 2020 Tax Millage Rate Hearing
- D. Minutes of August 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting & 2nd Tax Millage Rate Public Hearing
- E. Minutes of August 17, 2020 Executive Session
- F. Minutes of August 20, 2020 3rd Tax Millage Rate Public Hearing
- G. Minutes of August 24, 2020 4th Tax Millage Rate Public Hearing and Special Called Board Meeting
- H. PSA/AVEANNA Healthcare Contract
- I. Comprehensive Therapy Consultants Contract
- J. Purchase of PPE Equipment
- K. Surplus Items
- L. Douglas County School System – 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant External Evaluation Services
- M. Radio System User License Agreement
- N. Certified Personnel
- O. Classified Personnel

On motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, unanimous approval was given to

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approve the consent agenda as presented.

ACTION AGENDA

- A. FY20 Local School Board Governance Annual Training Report and Exemplary Board Application

On motion by Ms. Fasina-Thomas, seconded by Mr. Jackson, unanimous approval was given to approve the FY20 Local School Board Governance Annual Training Report and Exemplary Board Application as presented.

INFORMATION ONLY

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Simmons thanked all of those who came to the Board Meeting and congratulated the Youth Leadership Douglas graduates.

Ms. Rookard congratulated the students who completed Youth Leadership Douglas. These skills will take you far in life.

Mr. North updated the Board on face to face learning for students. Today is the first day that high school students returned for face to face learning. We are averaging 55% of students returning for face to face learning depending on the school. Wearing face masks and social distancing is working.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Trent North, Superintendent

Tracy Rookard, Chair