The Decatur County Board of Education met for the Work Session Meeting on October 15, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Board of Education Support Center, 507 Martin Street. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Bobby Barber, Jr., Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., Mr. Keith Lyle and Mr. Winston Rollins.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order.

Superintendent Rayfield provided the Board with information on the following items:

- Financial Update - information provided by Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rayfield and Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tim Matthews.
- Employee Incentive Proposal - information provided by Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rayfield and Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tim Matthews.
- Accountability/Flexibility Model Discussion and Update - information provided by Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rayfield.

**Superintendent Notes:**

**REMINDERS:**

2). Board Training Session – November 5, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Support Center. Topic: Board’s Role in School Facilities.
3). Retired Educators Program – November 10, 2015, 9:00 a.m., Hutto Middle School.
4). November Board Meeting – November 12, 2015.

Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kelvin Bouie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.
Decatur County Board of Education  
October 15, 2015  
Regular Minutes

The Decatur County Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting on October 15, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Schools Support Center. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Bobby Barber, Jr., Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., Mr. Keith Lyle and Mr. Winston Rollins.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order. Mr. Jacky Grubbs gave the invocation. The inspirational message was provided by Jones Wheat Elementary School Principal, Dr. Larry Clark. Dr. Clark showed a video highlighting active learning at Jones Wheat Elementary School. Dr. Clark extended an invitation to all Board Members to visit Jones Wheat Elementary School.

Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to add an agenda item, Employee (one time) Salary Increase Proposal. Mr. Kelvin Bouie gave a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a motion to accept the agenda. Mr. Winston Rollins gave a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Bobby Barber made the second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

• None

SPECIAL RECOGNITION and PRESENTATIONS:

Superintendent Rayfield presented:

• DOE Student Advisory Council - Superintendent Rayfield and BMS Assistant Principal, Dr. Lanier recognized Austin Aldridge as the Decatur County Schools Student Representative serving on the Department of Education Student Advisory Council.

• REACH Scholarship Recipients - Superintendent Rayfield and BMS Assistant Principal, Dr. Lanier recognized REACH Scholarship Recipients Leigh Sapp and Yugi Cotton.

• Farm to School - Golden Radish Award – Superintendent Rayfield and School Nutrition Director, Mrs. Debbie Purcell recognized the School Nutrition Program for winning the Golden Radish Silver Award. The award acknowledges leadership of school representatives in
building farm-to-school programs whereby six of Decatur County Schools were involved in maintaining edible gardens and incorporated farm to school into standards based lesson plans.

Superintendent Rayfield reported:

- GOSA Innovation Grant - $10,000 targeted towards Personalized and Blended Learning.
- PLTW – opportunity for Middle and High School STEM Training.
- C.A.F.E. Program - Stakeholder engagement focus on at risk and high poverty.
- Community Conversations – have begun. Our system will present at the Winter GAEL Stakeholder Workshop.
- Comprehensive Board Training – resulted in achieving Quality Board Re-certification.
- Flu Vaccinations at all school sites.
- Employee Health Fair partnership with Memorial Hospital.
- Report from State School Superintendents meeting in Athens:
  - Governor K-5 Mandate – no child will move past 5th grade without learning to read.
  - Funding Commission – working on new state funding formula – published preliminary plans; don’t plan to approve anything that is not full QBE funding without austerity cuts; submit final recommendation to the Governor’s Office by December, 2015.
- Encouraged attendance of the BHS Bearcats Football Game on Friday night, October 16, 2015.
INFORMATION ITEMS:

I. Administrative Services Report:

A. Financial: Tim Matthews, Chief Financial Officer, reported that with 25% of the school year completed, we are 1% under budget. ESPLOST receipts for September were $375,000.00 which is down from the prior month and up by 16% more than last year. Mr. Matthews noted that he is cautiously optimistic about the increase in ESPLOST receipts.

B. School Food Service: Mrs. Debbie Purcell, SFS Director, reported that with 25% of the year complete, SFS had expended 20% of their budget. This week is National School Lunch Week.

C. Maintenance: Jerry Mills, Maintenance Director – reported that the Maintenance Department has been busy this past month cutting at least 259 acres of grass, replacement of New Spire at BHS which was hit by lightning, refinished basketball courts and BMS and BHS and completed 696 maintenance requests to date.

D. Transportation: Steve Caulder, Transportation Director – reported on the monthly inspection of school buses, analysis of bus routes to evaluate the efficiency of time and cost. Mr. Caulder also noted that work is being done to make the bus shop more efficient and effective such as removing unneeded items and scrap material.

E. Kathy Varner, Federal Programs Director - reported that Short Term Action Plans (STAPs) are being scheduled for review. Ms. Varner also noted that she will be attending the Cross-Functional Monitoring Training Session next week. Ms. Varner further noted that the Early Learning Dr. Seuss events will be held at John Johnson Elementary School.

F. Dr. April Aldridge, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning reported on the upcoming FTE count, STEM, Formative and Common Assessment, Instructional Technology, and Small Group Professional Learning. Dr. Aldridge also gave a presentation on the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

G. Dr. Suzi Bonifay, Assistant Superintendent for Evaluation reported on TKES and LKES observations and inter-rater reliability. Dr. Bonifay also commented on SACS surveys for parents, students and staff.

H. Catherine Gossett, Exceptional Education Director - reported that the Exceptional Education Department will participate in a program called High School High Tech as one of the action steps for the required improvement plan that will be submitted to the Georgia Department of Education in January. The program offers opportunities for potential graduates to visit technical and community colleges and participate in specific training programs as well as provides self advocacy training. The program will encourage Exceptional students to stay in school and earn a diploma so they can pursue post-secondary options. Mrs. Sylena Wiggins, Assistant Special Education Director, will serve as the High School High Tech contact person.
I. Steve Dunn, Technology Director – reported on the completion of ERATE projects at BHS and BMS. Mr. Dunn also noted that an ERATE project will begin at JJE in the next few weeks.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. First Reading of Policy Revisions:
   - IFCB – Field Trips and Excursions,
   - IHE – Promotion and Retention,
   - IHF (6) – Graduation Requirements – entering Fall 2008 – 2009 and Thereafter,
   - JBC (4) – Awarding Units and Transferring Credit

2. Recommendation of Personnel - Superintendent Rayfield presented the Board with the October, 2015 personnel recommendations and resignations. Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a motion to accept the personnel recommendations and resignations. Mr. Winston Rollins made a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Recommendation of One Time Salary Increase - Superintendent Rayfield presented the Board with options for an increase in pay (one time additional compensation) for the rest of the 2015-16 school year of $500 per full time employee to be paid in a lump sum and included in December employee paychecks. Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to increase in pay (one time additional compensation) $500 per full time employee. Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a second to the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned.

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J. Sydney Cochran                   Fred H. Rayfield, Jr.
Chair or Presiding Officer         Secretary