The Decatur County Board of Education met for the Work Session on March 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Board of Education Support Center, 507 Martin Street. Members present were the following: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Bobby Barber, Jr., Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., Mr. Keith Lyle, and Mr. Winston Rollins (absent).

Dr. Cochran called the public hearing meeting to order and Mr. Jacky Grubbs gave the invocation.

Superintendent Tim Cochran provided the Board and the public with a general overview of the state of the Decatur County Public Schools, expected budget deficits, trends relating to student enrollment, aging buildings and the cost of renovating facilities, and an overview of the process of consolidating EKE with the other four elementary schools. Superintendent Cochran provided specific details concerning new zoning options for students.

Public Comments related to the following:
- Will class sizes increase? What will be an expected teacher/student ratio?
- What will be the timeline for the consolidation process?
- How will cost savings from closing EKE be utilized?
- Will the building be demolished or utilized for other purposes?
- Will DCBOE continue to operate Pre-K Programs since we receive no funding for those students?

Superintendent Cochran and Board Member Bobby Barber responded to each of the questions assuring the public the cost savings will assist with renovation of other buildings. EKE would possibly be demolished and utilized as a parking lot to accommodate our needs and to ensure safety for our attendees at sports events. The goal is not to increase class sizes, but in some cases lessen class sizes because you will have more teachers per grade level. Superintendent Cochran explained the consolidation could take place as early as August 2018 or the next school term. The direction for next steps would have to come from DCBOE. The next public hearing will be March 26 at 6 PM at the Decatur Student Support Center.

Dr. Sydney Cochran asked the public for other questions or concerns. Dr. Cochran requested a motion to amend the agenda to enter into an executive board session to discuss personnel and real estate. Motion was made by Mr. Bouie and a second was given by Mr. Barber. Motion was unanimous.

Motion made by Mr. Grubbs to exit executive session and Mr. Barber made the second. The motion was unanimous.
A motion to exit the public hearing was made by Mr. Bouie and Mr. Barber gave the second. The motion was unanimous.

Reminders:
- Next Public Hearing – Monday, March 26, 2018 @ 6 PM
- Next Board Meeting – Thursday, April 26, 2018 @ 7 PM
Decatur County Board of Education  
March 15, 2018  
Regular Minutes

The Decatur County Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting March 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Schools Support Center. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Keith Lyle, Mr. Bobby Barber, Mr. Winston Rollins (absent), and Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order. Mr. Jacky Grubbs gave the invocation. Mrs. Letitia Austin and Mrs. Nicole Glass shared the inspiration from Bainbridge Middle School. The GLOW (Girls Learning to be Outstanding Women) and the Gentlemen’s Clubs shared how these groups were impacting their lives as students at BMS.

Mr. Grubbs made a motion to accept the agenda. Mr. Bouie gave a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
None

SPECIAL RECOGNITION and PRESENTATIONS:
- STAR Student (Yazmin Guzman) and STAR Teacher (Pamela Bland) - presented by Mr. Roy Mathews.
- BHS Georgia Jr. National State Champions (Lexie Delbrey and Taylor Barber) - presented by Mr. Roy Mathews.
- BMS Georgia Jr. National State Championship (Halle Cannon) - presented by Mrs. Letitia Austin.
- Recognition of Good Citizen (Recarlos Williams) - presented by Superintendent Cochran

SUPERINTENDENT COCHRAN’S REPORT

- Presented first draft of budget for FY19. Expected deficit of state funding of $300,000-400,000+.
- Superintendent Cochran thanked Dr. Sydney Cochran and Mr. Jacky Grubbs for their 20 years of services on the board of education.
- Addressed Pataula Academy Meeting at Kirbo Center on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 6 PM.
- Weekly Board Members/ Superintendent’s Breakfast schedule was discussed.

INFORMATION ITEMS:
I. Administrative Services Report:
A. Financial: Mr. Matthews reported that SPLOST receipts were at $361,000 and up by 6.3% over the previous year. At 66% of year operating at 64% of budget.

B. School Food Service: SFS Director, Mrs. Debbie Purcell, reported SFS operating at 61% of budget with 67% of year complete. Friday, March 23, 2018 is Georgia Agricultural Week (Make a plate from Georgia Grown Products)

C. Special Education Director, Mrs. Catherine Gossett, reported Special Olympic Event for March 30 at 9 AM at BHS. The department is also developing ISIP. Seeking information from all stakeholders.

D. Maintenance Director, Jerry Mills, reported the department has removed a large amount of timber at BHS. Summer Needs and Projects have been reviewed. Priority lists are being established.

E. Transportation Director, Steve Caulder, reported state bus inspections have been completed. The department is preparing for summer transportation needs.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Out of Town/Overnight Field Trips – A motion was made by Mr. Barber and the second given by Mr. Bouie. Motion was unanimous.

2. Recommendation for Approval of Personnel – Superintendent Cochran asked the board to disregard personnel #23 –Terrance Quarterman (CoS- BMS to PLC). No action was taken on him. The board acted upon personnel #1-22. Motion made by Mr. Barber and second given by Mr. Bouie. Motion was unanimous.

Motion was made by Mr. Grubbs to pledge allegiance to the flag. The second was given by Mr. Barber. Motion was unanimous. Meeting was adjourned.

J. Sydney Cochran, Board Chairman            Tim Cochran, School Superintendent