Decatur County Board of Education
September 21, 2017

NO WORK SESSION

J. Sydney Cochran, Chairman

Tim Cochran, Secretary
Decatur County Board of Education  
September 21, 2017  
Regular Minutes

The Decatur County Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting on September 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Schools Support Center. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., and Mr. Winston Rollins. Mr. Keith Lyle and Mr. Bobby Barber were absent.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order. Mr. Jacky Grubbs gave the invocation. The monthly inspiration was presented by JWE 4th Grade Students.

Jacky Grubbs made a motion to accept the agenda. Winston Rollins gave a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Winston Rollins made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Kelvin Bouie made the second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
None

SPECIAL RECOGNITION and PRESENTATIONS:

- Teacher of the Year presented by Mr. Cochran and school principals. The Decatur County Teacher of the Year is JoAnn Moore.

SUPERINTENDENT COCHRAN’S REPORT

- Enrollment Update – Currently 4888 (excluding PK). October FTE 2016-17 was 4947. Enrollment down by 59 students.
- Rivers Apartment Community Meeting- September 28th at 5:00 p.m. All invited to attend.
- Meal Schedule for Board Members was provided. Purpose of scheduled breakfasts/lunches was to establish stronger professional relationships and fellowship. Superintendent and two different board members will meet periodically.

Miscellaneous items:

- Interest rate on bonds and schedule provided. The interest rate is 3% average.
- Proposal from Dr. Mulkey was presented indicating areas around BHS that contain pine trees that need thinned to improve the appearance and to remove diseased trees. No action needed but all were in agreement that this be done.
- Fall Break- 11th-15th for students and 12th-15th for staff.
- Next Board Meeting – Thursday, October 19, 2017.
INFORMATION ITEMS:

I. Administrative Services Report:

A. Financial: Mr. Matthews noted that SPLOST receipts for the previous two months were up $20,000 from the prior year. At 17% of the year, 16% of the budget has been expended.

B. School Food Service: Mrs. Debbie Purcell, SFS Director - July and August reports were given showing currently at 9% of budget for 17% of the year.

C. Catherine Gossett, Director of Exceptional Children, reported 551 students currently served. 30 new enrollees this year. CAFÉ held September 7 where an action plan was developed to include community education of language development, partner with Title 1 to form a book drive and train volunteers to read with students, and mentors for BHS students. October 2-6 is PK week and the 25th year anniversary of Georgia PK will be celebrated. Board members were encouraged to visit PK classrooms.

D. Jerry Mills, Director of Maintenance, reported the beginning of the year is a busy time. 687 maintenance requests have be submitted with 596 completed.

E. Steve Caulder, Transportation Director, reported they are currently monitoring routes for efficiency and making adjustments if needed. Sports and other activities have required transportation. No damage due to the storm.

F. Dr. Cycynthia Gardner, Principal of HMS, gave a very thorough overview of the goals and strategic operation plans being implemented at HMS for 2017-18. The primary focuses were on providing 3 steps of learning based on student need with classes which begin at 7:30 am. Double dosing in academics is provided for at risk students. Technology is being utilized. School culture and climate are being improved with clubs, student voice, and mentoring. Grounds and facilities have been improved. Brochure developed to inform parents and community partners of terms and curriculum descriptions.

G. Mr. Jamie Ard, Principal at WBE, provided a thorough overview of the initiatives and goals at WBE. He shared how WBE puts action to the District non-negotiables. Teacher and students gave examples of ways that WBE puts students first, remains positive and respectful, strives for consistency, builds trustful and relevant relationships, and provides stakeholders a voice.

ACTION ITEMS:
1. Recommended Approval of Overnight Field Trips – Motion was made by Winston Rollins. Kelvin Bouie made a second to the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

2. Personnel – Motion was made by Kelvin Bouie to accept the personnel recommendations. Jacky Grubbs provided a second to the motion. Motion was unanimously carried.

Kelvin Bouie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jacky Grubbs gave a second to the motion. Motion was unanimous. Meeting was adjourned.

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J. Sydney Cochran, Chairman

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Tim Cochran, Secretary