

LIBERTY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Liberty County Board of Education met for a Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, at 5:30 PM with the following members in attendance:

Lily H. Baker, Chair
Marcia Anderson
Marcus Scott IV
Carolyn Smith Carter

Carol Guyett
Verdell Jones
Dr. Valya S. Lee, Superintendent
Dr. Yvette F. Keel

Call to Order.

Mrs. Baker called the meeting to order.

Pledge to Flag and Moment of Silence.

The Board and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and paused for a brief moment of silence.

Inspiration.

Inspiration was provided by Liberty Elementary GATE students.

Certificate of Compliance.

Dr. Valya S. Lee certified that we complied with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Agenda.

On recommendation by Dr. Lee and on motion by Mrs. Carol Guyett, seconded by Mrs. Verdell Jones, the Board approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes.

On recommendation by Dr. Lee and on motion by Mrs. Carol Guyett, seconded by Mrs. Marcia Anderson, the Board approved the minutes of the Board Work Session Meeting held on August 25, 2015.

Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Lee began her Superintendent's report with a brief update and to highlight some schooling in Liberty County as it relates to our five goals.

- Increase student's learning, achievement, and college and career readiness
- Provide safe and supportive learning environments
- Recruit and retain highly qualified and effective staff
- Increase stakeholders' involvement
- Improve effectiveness and efficiency of district operations and administrative services

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Dr. Lee ended her report with a transportation update provide by Mr. Chad McCaskill. Background information is as follows: Mr. McCaskill talked about the following to the Board:

- Transportation Department Mission
- Transportation Department Goals
- Transportation Employee Expectations
- Bus Maintenance
- Transportation Department Daily Operations
- Bus Stops / Route Information
- Personnel Professionalism
- Bus Safety
- Driver Impact
- Student Behavior
- No Idling Rule
- Six-Inch Rule
- Public Relations

Recognitions.

The following recognitions for outstanding accomplishments by staff and students were presented by Dr. Patti Crane:

Liberty Elementary

Liberty Elementary has done an outstanding job with the implementation of both the Day One initiative and activities for their STEAM school certification. Their theme for the 2015-2016 school year, Young Minds under Construction, was embodied throughout the building and school grounds on Day One. Parents and students were met with a large tractor as they entered campus on the first day of school, and the exciting theme continued as students saw Mr. Anderson, Dr. Faircloth, and teachers dressed as construction workers. It was certainly apparent that Liberty Elementary minds were “under construction” for the new school year!

Liberty Elementary has also implemented many STEAM themed student and family activities. They held two weeks of Georgia Tech Steam Camps over the summer. They have begun a fully comprehensive STEAM Academy within LES encompassing STEAM instruction in all content areas in grades 2nd-5th, and they will be implementing a Lego Robotics Lab and a 3-D Learning Lab this year. Their Teachers are busy updating their STEM skills in Professional Learning Academies across the State. Students will begin their STEAM/Science Club and Science Olympiad Club in October. Liberty Elementary hosts their 4th annual STEAM Science Night on September 17, 2015. Great job Liberty Elementary for taking instruction to the next level!

EXTRA MILE AWARD-

The Liberty County School System would like to recognize one of our staff who has worked in the system for 23 years. Originally from Pennsylvania, he began his tenure here as a maintenance & supply clerk in July 1993 and was promoted to Plant Operations Manager in July, of 2010. Mr. Sean Begg is very active in his church and enjoys golf, outdoors, and traveling with his wife Marbi, who is a retired teacher from Button Gwinnett Elementary. We can always count on Mr. Begg to help unload a truck, bring you a key to a building, turn off an alarm, or even mow the grass around a building when the need arises. He always helps with a smile, no matter what he is asked to do!

On behalf of Dr. Valya S. Lee, Superintendent of Schools, we present the Extra Mile Award to Mr. Sean Begg.

Audience Participation.

Mr. Allen Brown spoke to the Board in reference to action item number three requesting the naming of Olvey Field's Stadium.

THE BUSINESS AGENDA

Action Items

2nd Reading Policy IHE Promotion and Retention.

On recommendation by Dr. Lee and on motion by Ms. Carolyn Smith Carter, seconded by Mrs. Carol Guyett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2nd reading policy IHE promotion and retention. Background information is as follows: Currently the District's Promotion and Retention Policy allows for appeals up to a school-level committee. The revisions establish a district-level committee with the final decision resting with the Superintendent of Schools.

Recommendation:

Approve the revised policy as presented.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

N/A

School Level RTI Facilitator Supplements.

On recommendation by Dr. Lee and on motion by Mrs. Carol Guyett, seconded by Ms. Carolyn Smith Carter, the Board voted to approve school RTI facilitator supplements with six votes. There was one opposed vote from Mr. Marcus Scott IV. Background information is as follows: The Response to Intervention (RTI) process requires that individuals at each school schedule and facilitate RTI meetings, maintain students' RTI records, assist with the identification of interventions, and monitor intervention strategies. School level RTI Facilitators spend a significant amount of time outside the school day to complete these duties. A supplement for school level RTI Facilitators will compensate them for their time outside of their contract. Each RTI Facilitator will receive a supplement of \$1000.00.

Each elementary school will have a K-2 and 3-5 RTI Facilitator for a total of two RTI Facilitators at each school. Because many students struggle with the transition to middle school and overall performance often declines in middle school, each middle school will have one RTI Facilitator per grade level for a total of three RTI Facilitators at each school. The number of RTI Facilitators at each high school will be based on the population of the school. Liberty County High School will have up to three RTI Facilitators to serve its population of 1088 students. Bradwell Institute will have up to four RTI Facilitators to serve its population of 1653 students.

Recommendation:

Approval as submitted

Fiscal Impact:

\$30,000

Funding Source:

General Fund

Naming of Olvey Field's Stadium.

On recommendation by Dr. Lee, and on motion by Mrs. Marcia Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Verdell Jones, the Board voted to approve the naming of Olvey Field's stadium with six votes. Mr. Marcus Scott IV opposed the vote. Background information is as follows: A committee came before the Board on September 9, 2014, desiring to name the stadium at Olvey Field, Hokey Jackson Stadium, in honor of former head coach Harold "Hokey" Jackson. The committee then researched the costs involved in placing, "Hokey Jackson Stadium" under Olvey Field on the brick wall, along with a plaque that has information about Coach Jackson on the opposite brick column from the existing plaque referencing the BOE, Architect, etc. located at the double gate home entry. The committee asking to name the stadium after Mr. Jackson has agreed to pay all costs associated with this project with absolutely no cost to the district.

Funding Source:

All costs associated with the lettering to be placed on the brick wall and the plaque, including installation, will be paid for by a special fund.

Information Items

Google Email.

This was presented to the Board by Dr. Patti Crane. Background information is as follows: The Liberty County School System will be making a switch from the current email system (Microsoft Exchange) to the Google Gmail program. Gmail is part of *the Google Apps for Education* product suite. The Gmail system will be used by staff for managing email, calendars, and contacts. Student email (8-12) will also be moved to Gmail. Over the next month or so, a group of LCSS staff members will participate in a test group which will begin using the Google Gmail application for accessing their LCSS email. This test group is being put in place to test the features on a smaller scale and also provide valuable feedback.

We are confident the change will be positive, while providing increased functionality to LCSS staff/students and cost savings to the district.

By making this change each user will benefit from:

Google Apps for Education is provided to K-12 institutions at no cost. This translates into several thousands of dollars in savings for our district by eliminating the need to purchase and maintain our own email system hardware and software.

In addition to the switch to Gmail, each staff member will also have access to a variety of other software tools within the Google Apps for Education.

Gmail is securely powered by the web, so staff can be productive at home, on the road, or on their mobile devices.

Calendar – Easily schedule appointments and meetings. Overlay multiple calendars to see when people are available, send invitations and manage RSVPs. Share calendars and easily change sharing permissions to maintain privacy. Google Calendar is integrated into Gmail.

Google's Spam Filter does an outstanding job of identifying unwanted messages and placing them in a Spam folder that you can manage, as you desire.

Unlimited email storage- This is a much greater amount of email storage than the district would be able to provide to each user.

Timeline for Google Email Implementation

Mid-September 2015 - Begin working with small group of LCSS users to migrate over to Google E-mail

October 2015 – December 2015 – Migrate all LCSS users over to Google E-mail

Recommendation:

For Information Only

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

None

Milestones Forecast.

This report was presented to the Board by Dr. Jennifer Walts. Background information is as follows: This is a brief information session to provide updates to information being released about the 2016 Georgia Milestones Assessment System. The information is based on a recent *Lunch & Learn* session conducted by Melissa Fincher, State Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability.

Information included in this update will include:

- Release of Test Scores
- Expected drop in scores from 2014 CRCT/EOCT
- Impact on CCRPI
- New testing company
- Changes to the format
- New achievement levels
- 2015 Waiver and 2016 Consequences

Recommendation:

Information Only

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Funding Source:

N/A

Capital Projects.

This report was presented to the Board by Jason Rogers, COO. Background information is as follows: Administration has been planning for proposed capital projects for the 2015-2016 school year. Attached was an estimated schedule of possible projects. This listing is a “living document” and may change from time-to-time depending on facility needs, available funding, etc...The blue shaded areas indicate the estimated timeline for each project. This schedule is for information purposes only. If the District chooses to proceed with any of the applicable projects listed, the initiation of the project would be based on the Superintendent of Schools recommendation and subsequent Board approval. A few notes about the schedule:

- A) The extent of the old CTAE area and gym renovations at Bradwell has not been finalized. The scope of the project will have a direct bearing on the budget figure.
- B) There is a gap in work for the major renovations at LCHS. This is because some work may begin while school is in session (security enhancements) while the major work will need to take place over the summer.
- C) As you know, when the football field was built at LCHS, the field was constructed such that some of the drainage, etc... would support the construction of a track around the field. Listed are options to consider for construction of the new track or resurfacing/restriping the existing track.

Recommendation:

Information purposes only.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

N/A

MISA Update.

This report was presented to the Board by Jason Rogers, COO, along with Mr. Kyle Fairburn. Background information is as follows: The district is a member of the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA). Kyle Fairburn, Executive Director for MISA, provided the Board with an update on the organization's activities. Mr. Fairburn thanked Board members for their involvement as they come to Washington, DC, to rally on behalf of the military children.

Recommendation:

Information purposes only.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

N/A

ESPLOST.

This report was presented to the Board by Jason Rogers, COO. Background information is as follows: As we continue work in the area of ESPLOST, Board Member suggestions of potential projects are a crucial and important element. Over the next week, please provide the Board Chair with any potential projects you may want to be considered in the resolution. We will review the projects that have come about through discussions with Cabinet, Internal and External Committees, Principals and your suggestions, at the September 22, 2015, work session.

Recommendation:

Information purposes only.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

N/A

Human Resources Reorganization and Duty Alignment .

This report was presented to the Board by Mary Alexander, CHRO. Background information is as follows: In order to better support our schools, the Human Resource Department has developed a new outline of duties and responsibilities. Under this new organizational chart, schools and departments have been assigned to one of our Human Resource Specialist , allowing them a one stop shop for their human resource needs. Mrs. Alexander showed Board members the new organizational chart, duties, and division of schools.

Recommendation:

Information Only

Fiscal Impact:

None

Funding Source:

N/A

Executive Session - Personnel

On motion by Mrs. Carol Guyett, seconded by Mrs. Marcia Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session, and on motion by Mrs. Marcia Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Verdell Jones, the Board voted to come out of Executive Session.

Personnel Recommendations.

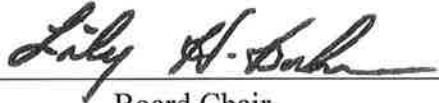
On recommendation by Dr. Lee and on motion by Mrs. Carol Guyett, seconded by Ms. Carolyn Smith Carter, the Board voted unanimously to approve personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion to Adjournment Open Session.

There was no further business, and on motion by Mrs. Marcia Anderson, seconded by Mr. Marcus Scott IV, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 P.M.



Secretary



Board Chair