

Elbert County Schools—Board Brief

Summary of the October 7th & 21st, 2019 Meetings

Highlights of Presentation and Discussion Items

The following items were presented to the Board:

- **Finance Report** - The General Fund Revenue to date as of September 30, 2019 was \$3,199,946. The General Fund Expenditures to date as of September 30, 2019 was \$6,059,946. Excess Revenue over Expenditures was (\$2,859,999.) The Cash Balance as of September 30, 2019 was \$3,873,328. The Fund Balance as of September 30, 2019 was \$3,765,916. SPLOST for September was \$188,001. Energy use for the month of September was \$189,439.
- **GSBA Policy Manual Revision** - The GSBA Policy Manual Revision process is fully underway. The review includes recommendations for adoption of new policies, adoption of revised policies, and recension of outdated or policies deemed unnecessary will be presented to the Board in batches. The planned adoption schedule is: Batch 1: Section B-F on table Oct. 21, adopt Nov. 18; Batch 2: Section G on table Nov. 18th, adopt Dec. 16th; Batch 3: Section I on table Dec. 16th, adopt Jan. 2020; Batch 4: Section J on table Jan. 2020, adopt Feb. 2020; Batch 5: Section K and L on table Feb. 2020 and adopt March 2020.
- **REACH Scholarship** - The District is entering Year 4 of participation in the REACH (Realizing Educational Attainment Can Happen) Georgia Scholarship Program. Scholars are identified in the fall of their 8th grade year and receive academic and social support from 8th grade through graduation. They receive a \$10,000 scholarship funded in part by the state legislature and in part by Elbert County's supporters. The REACH Scholarship signing ceremony took place October 23, 2019 in the ECMS Auditorium.
- **ECCHS & ECMS 2019-2020 School Improvement Plan** - ECCHS and ECMS 2019-2020 School Improvement Plans were presented to the Board along with goals, strategies, and actions steps.
- **Graduation Rate** - Superintendent Bell congratulated the students and staff of ECCHS for achieving a 4-year Graduation Rate of 90.5% during the 2018-2019 school year, its highest ever.
- **School Nutrition** - Congratulations were in order to School Nutrition Director Bridgette Matthews, School Nutrition Coordinator, Tina Hudson and all cafeteria managers and staff for receiving the Outstanding School District Award at the 2019 Golden Radish Award Ceremony on September 17th.
- **Teaching and Learning** - Tanya Long updated the Board on Teaching and Learning at all schools and the programs, supports and assessments being used. The Gifted fall referral window was from October 16-25, 2019. "MyVoice" is a platform where teachers provide input and have a voice in creating a healthy school culture. Using the real-time school culture data from "MyVoice" schools will be positioned to have focused conversations about culture and continuous improvement. "Instructional Coach - Everybody Needs a Coach" teachers will receive professional learning with a consultant, and classroom observations.
- **Technology** - Fifty new Chromebooks have arrived. Six interactive display have been ordered from Sharp and will be used at each school. The District hosted a Google Admin. Training Bootcamp with people attending from Georgia and South Carolina. Work is being done on the servers to make them stronger for disaster recovery and rebuilding internal servers with offsite backup.
- **Classified Employee of the Month** - The Classified Employee of the month was Christy Shaw, an Administrative Assistant at ECMS. She was presented a plaque of recognition and awarded \$50 incentive pay for her exemplary work going above and beyond.
- **Teacher of the Year** - Teachers of the Year from each school was announced at the Regular Meeting October 21, 2019: PJBLC—Stephanie Almond, ECPS—Sarah Rice, ECES—Melanie Berryman, ECMS—Crystal Whitmire, and ECCHS—Kachina Rucker. The process for the District TOY was very thorough with paperwork and interviews for the final selection. The District Teacher of the Year was announced as Kachina Rucker.
- **National School Bus Safety Week** - October 21, 2019 was Georgia Bus Driver Appreciation Day which kicks off National School Bus Safety Week. Superintendent Bell thanked the bus transportation team of Mark Cartledge, Jennifer Bufford, Clint Webb, Daniel Sides, and all regular and substitute bus drivers and monitors who ensure the safety of our students to and from school.

The following items were approved:

- **Personnel Resignations & Retirements** - The Board approved four Personnel Resignations and two Personnel Retirements.
- **Personnel Recommendations** - The Board approved four Personnel Recommendations.