

MCMINN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session Meeting
February 11, 2021

The Policy Committee of the McMinn County Board of Education met at 5:00 p.m. immediately prior to the regular session meeting.

The McMinn County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the McMinn County Center for Educational Excellence.

Chairman Sharon Brown called the meeting to order with the following statement:

Under the provisions of Executive Order No. 71 signed by Governor Bill Lee, the McMinn County Board of Education will be conducting this meeting by electronic means necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Chairman Brown informed the Board of the requirement to vote to conduct this meeting through the process stated above, and the response to this roll-call vote would also serve for the roll call for attendance. She asked for a motion to accept the meeting with the above format. Quinten Howard made the motion and Rob Shamblin seconded. Attendance and votes were as follows:

Denise Cunningham –	Present – Yes
Jonathan Pierce –	Present – Yes
Donna Casteel –	Present – Yes
Tony Allman –	Present – Yes
Mike Cochran –	Absent
Sharon Brown –	Present – Yes
Mike Lowry –	Present – Yes
Quinten Howard –	Present – Yes
Rob Shamblin –	Present – Yes
Bill Irvin –	Present – Yes

There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

Welcome

Chairman Brown welcomed those who were attending the meeting electronically and noted that the Agenda could be found on the McMinn County Schools website and on our social media page.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Quinten Howard.

Chairman Brown asked if any requests had been made to approach the Board at this meeting. There were none.

AGENDA

1. GUESTS

- a. 2021 System-Level Teacher-of-the-Year Winners
- b. Leah Sauceman

2. REGULAR CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

- a. Bids and Purchases
- b. Budget Amendments
- c. Salary Supplements
- d. Surplus Equipment
- e. EPP/LEA Partnership Agreement – Western Governors University
- f. Fundraiser Requests

2.A. UPDATED CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

MOU – McMinn County Schools and Clemmer College of ETSU

3. PERSONNEL

No Actions

4. COMMUNICATION

- a. 2021 School-Level Teacher-of-the-Year Winners
- b. Heart of our Program Luncheon – February 17, 2021, MCHS Cafeteria - 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

5. REPORTS

- a. Committee Reports
- b. Second Reading of Policies
 - 1.400 – School Board Meetings
 - 1.901 – Charter School Applications
 - 4.400 – Textbooks and Instructional Materials
 - 4.401 – Textbooks – (Delete/Omit)
 - 4.700 – Testing Programs
 - 5.202 – Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees
 - 5.302 – Sick Leave
 - 5.304 – Long-Term Leaves of Absence for Professional Personnel
- c. Review Policy Section 5

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

7. PRAISES AND COMPLIMENTS

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Regular Session Board Meeting: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was made by Tony Allman and seconded by Mike Lowry. There was no discussion. A unanimous roll-call vote was recorded, and the order of the meeting was set.

AGENDA

1. GUESTS

a. 2021 System-Level Teacher-of-the-Year Winners

The following system-level winners were recognized before the Board:

Cindy Atkins (Niota School) Grades PreK-4

Christian Mason (Rogers Creek School) Grades 5-8

Brittany Davis, (McMinn County Career and Technical Education Center) Grades 9-12 and overall system winner.

Teresa Blevins, (Niota School) Principal of the Year

Melasawn Knight (Central Office) Supervisor of the Year

b. Leah Sauceman

Leah Sauceman addressed the Board regarding the hazards of the existing composite concrete gym floor at Riceville School. She provided a PowerPoint presentation of acceptable and unacceptable sport surfaces and gave examples of the legal repercussions that could follow a serious injury. Mrs. Sauceman noted that several injuries had already occurred due to falls on the gym floor, and she asked the Board to consider replacing it with a more skid-resistant and force-absorbing material.

2. REGULAR CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**a. Bids and Purchases**

BID

E-Rate Mini-Bid Assessment for 2021-2022

Central Technologies - \$132,755.00

6101 Industrial Heights Dr NW
Knoxville, TN 37909

Encore Technology Group - \$127,901.25

141 Grace Dr
Easley, SC 29640

b. Budget Amendments

FEDERAL PROJECTS #142, Title I, #121

To amend the current budget in order to be the same as the FY 2020-2021 ePlan document

FEDERAL PROJECTS #142, Carl Perkins, #820

To amend the budget in order to be the same as the FY 2020-2021 ePlan document

FEDERAL PROJECTS #142, Title I, #121

To amend the budget in order to be the same as the FY 2020-2021 ePlan document

GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND #141

To adjust the budget line item approved but not entered in original FY 2020-2021 budget

c. Salary Supplements

NAME	DATE	ACCOUNT	TITLE	AMOUNT
Kathie Givens	1/5,6,7,8,13,14,15,19,20 21,22,25,26,27,28,29/2021	SPED	Bus Driver	\$640.00
Susan Liner	1/19/21	MCBOE	Bus Driver	60.00
Donna Mason	1/5,7,8,11,12,14(½),15,19 21(½),22,25,26(½)/2021	SPED	Bus Driver	210.00
Ronald Pierce	1/11,12/2021	SPED	Bus Driver	80.00
Connie Stephens	1/19/2021	MCBOE	Bus Driver	90.00
Dan Robinson	1/19/2021	MCBOE	Bus Driver	60.00

d. Surplus Equipment

CTE Center – Nonfunctional equipment

Rogers Creek – Obsolete and nonworking equipment
All items were valued under \$500.

e. EPP/LEA Partnership Agreement – Western Governors University

Western Governors University requested to form a partnership agreement with McMinn County Schools. This Education Preparation Provider/Local Education Agency State-Recognized Partnership Agreement is a placement program providing field experience for educator candidates. Its purpose is to introduce candidates to the classroom through a series of activities, including observations and lesson planning. The term of this agreement is January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

f. Fundraiser Requests

SCHOOL	DEPARTMENT	FUNDRAISER	MONIES RAISED ALLOCATION
CTE	FFA – AG Dept.	Kiss the Pig	CASA Corridor – Help foster children in need
E.K. Baker	School-wide	School Apparel & Ford Virtual Test Drive	To purchase digital sign for outside of school building

Chairman Brown asked for any item to be removed for discussion. Mr. Parkison requested Item 2.b, the e-Rate Mini-bid Assessment for 2021-2022 and asked Chief Technology Officer Jill Pierce to comment. Ms. Pierce explained the major differences between the two bids, adding that Encore Technology Group's lower price also included a lower level of service. Central Technologies submitted the higher bid, but Ms. Pierce said they covered a much wider service plan—including 1,200 hours of on-site service plus travel—which would save our system money in the long run.

Mr. Parkison recommended the Regular Consent Items for Approval. Chairman Brown asked for a motion to accept. Donna Casteel made the motion, and Jonathan Pierce seconded. There was no further discussion. The roll-call vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

2.A. UPDATED CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

MOU – McMinn County Schools and Clemmer College of ETSU

This Memorandum of Understanding is a mutual agreement designed to provide field experience and residency for candidates of the teaching profession. The terms of the contract will be renewed by August 2021 and can be terminated by either party upon notice of 120 days.

Mr. Parkison recommended. A motion to approve was made by Tony Allman and seconded by Quinten Howard. There was no discussion. The roll-call vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

3. PERSONNEL

There were no personnel actions to report.

4. COMMUNICATION

a. 2021 School-Level Teacher-of-the-Year Winners

Mr. Parkison presented the names of the following school-level 2021 Teacher-of-the-Year winners:

Grades PreK-4: Calhoun – Stephanie Davis; E.K. Baker – Cullen Conner; Englewood – Amy Woody; Mt. View –

Enchanti Cheatham; Niota – Cindy Atkins; Riceville – Elizabeth King; Rogers Creek – Callie Ramin

Grades 5-8: Calhoun – Katie Butler; E.K. Baker – Christy Elliott; Englewood – Todd Oaks; Mt. View – Macy Cass; Niota – Jade Mason; Riceville – Kellie Hester; Rogers Creek – Christian Mason

Grades 9-12: Central High – Tiffany Farner, Christian Woody; McMinn County High – Brandy Bridwell, Sarah Dalby

Career & Technical Education – Brittany Davis

b. Heart of our Program Luncheon – February 17, 2021, MCHS Cafeteria – 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

The 2021 Heart of our Program winners were invited to a catered luncheon to take place at McMinn County High School's cafeteria on Wednesday, February 17. The honorees would be presented with a plaque in recognition of their service and dedication to McMinn County Schools. Mr. Parkison added that these (Education Support Personnel) employees are very important to us, and they are dear to our hearts.

5. REPORTS

a. Committee Reports

On behalf of the Policy Committee, Chairman Rob Shamblin recommended **Policy 1.803 – Tobacco-Free Schools** for the first and final reading. Mike Lowry seconded. The roll-call vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

b. Second Reading of Policies:

- 1.400 – School Board Meetings
- 1.901 – Charter School Applications
- 4.400 – Textbooks and Instructional Materials
- 4.401 – Textbooks – (Delete/Omit)
- 4.700 – Testing Programs
- 5.202 – Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees
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The second reading of these policies was recommended by the Policy Committee. Jonathan Pierce seconded. A unanimous roll-call vote was recorded. The motion carried.

c. Review Policy Section 5

Mr. Shamblin asked the Board to review Policy Section 5 for the next meeting.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Parkison briefed the Board on the current COVID-19 stats in our system, stating we had one positive case and three exposures among our professional staff, and there were two positives and four exposures among our support staff. Out of 742 employees, we had only 10 who were currently affected. Among students, we had 12 positive cases and 99 total exposures.

The focus on ESSER 2.0 monies, which were designated for needed items, had been temporarily laid aside at the news of the coming ESSER 3.0. Mr. Parkison said these funds would be nearly twice as much as ESSER 2.0 and would be confined to the areas of learning loss.

Regarding capital projects, Mr. Parkison said that while a new and safer gym floor at Riceville would be a good thing, he would love to see it attached to a new gym and a new school. He said Riceville was rated number one on our list of those in need of a new building. He added that, with the direction of Chairman Brown, he and our county commissioners would like to discuss forming a five-person committee to evaluate the condition of our buildings and

grounds.

Mr. Parkison complimented our school personnel for the great job they are doing with the temperature checks and other COVID protocol county-wide cases were up a bit

7. PRAISES AND COMPLIMENTS

Mr. Parkison congratulated the Englewood Lady Rams basketball team on their advancement to the 2021 TMSAA state tournament games for the second year in a row. The Lady Rams were the reigning 2020 state champions and would travel Smyrna, TN on February 12, to defend their title. Mr. Parkison said this is phenomenal

Chairman Brown also congratulated the Englewood Lady Rams, stating it was a wonderful accomplishment, and she was excited for the team, the coaches, and the school.

Mr. Rob Shamblin gave compliments for the Teacher-of-the-Year Luncheon, stating it was well done and very appreciated. He added that it was good thing for the community, our county, and especially for the recognition of our teachers.

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Brown shared that in recognition of FFA Week, the Ag Department of Central High School had given each of the Board members a packet of beef.

Ms. Brown drew the Board's attention to a collection of cards and pictures made by students of E.K. Baker School's RTI class, in recognition of School Board Appreciation Week. She thanked the students, schools, and everyone who had participated in this week.

The next Regular Session Board Meeting: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chairman Brown asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Lowry made the motion, and Quinten Howard seconded. A unanimous roll-call vote was recorded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman's Signature

Director of Schools' Signature