

2-DAY BOARD RETREAT AND EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE
DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 18 – April 19, 2024

The DeKalb County Board of Education held its 2-Day Board Retreat and Executive Session, April 18 – April 19, 2024, at the Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center located at 800 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Chair, convened the meeting at 9:41 a.m. and noted the following were in attendance; Mrs. Deirdre P. Pierce, Mrs. Anna Hill, Ms. Whitney McGinniss, Mrs. Vickie B. Turner, Ms. Allyson Gevertz, and Dr. Devon Q. Horton, Superintendent. Dr. Joyce Morley joined the meeting virtually.

Also in attendance were General Counsel Attorney, Ms. Melanie Slaton and Ms. Carolyn Lloyd, Executive Director of Board Operations.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. requested that the DeKalb County Board of Education adopt the April 18 – April 19, 2024, 2-Day Board Retreat and executive session.

On a motion by Mrs. Pierce, second by Ms. Gevertz, and a vote of 6/0, the agenda was approved.

BOARD RETREAT – APRIL 18, 2024 (DAY 1 – 9:41 AM)

1. WELCOME & RETREAT OBJECTIVES

By: Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Board Chair.

2. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION – Day 1

a. Student Assignment Update

Presented by: Ms. Sarita Smith, Executive Director of Student Assignment, Division of Equity & Student Empowerment

b. ESPLOST Update

Presented by: Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations

c. Budget Presentation

Presented by: Mr. Byron Schueneman, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance

d. Human Resources (HR) Update

Presented by: Dr. Tekshia Ward-Smith, Administrator, Division of Human Resources

e. Foundation Update

Presented by: Mr. Thurman Green, Oversight Executive, Division of Community Engagement, & Innovative Partnerships

Dr. Yolanda Williamson, Chief Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships, Division of Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships

f. New BOE Member Pre-Orientation

Presented by: Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Board Chair

RECESS BOARD RETREAT – DAY 1

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. requested that the DeKalb County Board of Education recess Day 1, April 18, 2024, of the 2-day board retreat and executive session. On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, and a vote of 6/0. Day 1 of the board retreat recessed at 4:45 PM.

RECONVENE BOARD RETREAT – APRIL 19, 2024 (DAY 2 – 8:30 AM)

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called the DeKalb County Board of Education to reconvene the 2-day board retreat and executive session to order. On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, and a vote of 6/0 the board retreat reconvened at 8:57 am.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION ~ (Day 2 ~ Part 1)

- a. Georgia School Board Association (GSBA) Presentation & Training
Presented by Ms. Julie Bernath, Board Development Specialist, Georgia School Board Association

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DaCosta, Sr., called for a motion to adjourn April 19, 2024, Day 2 of the board retreat to an executive session for the purpose of discussing permitted matters regarding litigation, land, legal, personnel, and student appeals.

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, and with a vote of (6/0), the April 19, 2024, board retreat adjourned to Executive Session.

ADJOURN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DaCosta, Sr., called for a motion to adjourn the April 19, 2024, Day 2 executive session

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce and with a vote of (6/0), the April 19, 2024, board retreat adjourned the Executive Session.

ACTION ITEM(S)

Mr. DaCosta requested that the DeKalb Board of Education vote to extend the Superintendent's contract.

On a motion by Mrs. Pierce, second by Mr. DaCosta, Sr., and a vote of 6/0, Dr. Horton's contract was extended.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION – Day 2 ~ Part 2

- a. Professional Development Activities

Presented by: Dr. Rita D. Williams, Visionary & CEO, FINE TUNE

ADJOURN

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. requested that the DeKalb County Board of Education adjourn the 2 day, April 18 – 19, 2024 Board Retreat & Executive Session

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Ms. McGinniss, Mr. DaCosta, Sr. noted that the 2-day board retreat adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Secretary Ex-Officio

Chair