

EXECUTIVE SESSION, WORK SESSION, COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION &
BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE
DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 9, 2024

The DeKalb County Board of Education held its Executive Session, Work Session, Community Input Session and Business Meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024, in the J. David Williamson Board Room, at the DeKalb County School District's Robert R. Freeman Administrative Instructional Complex, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr. convened the meeting at 11:42 am and noted the following were in attendance; himself, Mrs. Deirdre P. Pierce, Mrs. Anna Hill, Ms. Whitney McGinniss, Mrs. Vickie B. Turner, Ms. Allyson Gevertz, Dr. Joyce Morley and Superintendent, Dr. Devon Q. Horton.

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

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. led the pledge of allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called to adopt the agenda for the December 9, 2024, work session and business meeting.

Mrs. Turner made a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Hill seconded the motion. Dr. Morley opposed to the adoption of the agenda. With a vote of 6-1, the December 9, 2024, work session and business meeting agenda was approved.

RECOGNITIONS

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ~ Miss Madison Taylor, Clarkston High School, 12th Grade was introduced by Superintendent, Dr. Devon Q. Horton.

RECOGNITIONS / PROCLAMATIONS / MIRACLE MAKER AWARDS

- a. Recognition: Honoring Barack H. Obama Elementary Magnet School of Technology Boys and Girls Track Team
Presented by: Mrs. Deirdre P. Pierce, Vice Chair
- b. Recognition: Donations from Rheaply
Presented by: Mrs. Vickie B. Turner, Board Member, District 5
- c. Recognition: Henderson Mill Elementary School District Soccer Champions
Presented by: Ms. Allyson Gevertz, Board Member, District 4

GROUP / EXTERNAL PRESENTATION

Choral Presentation ~ DeKalb School of the Arts Chorale

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT and COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Superintendent’s Report ~ Recognitions from the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE)

- i. Recognition: Kelley Lake Elementary School ~ Demonstration School
Presented by: Mrs. Anna Hill, Board Member, District 1
- ii. Recognition: District Recognition ~ Demonstration District
Presented by: Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Board Chair

2. Committee of the Whole Presentation ~ No Agenda Item This Month

REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER 9, 2024, BUSINESS MEETING

06.01.a.

Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Board Chair requested that the Board of Education approve the official meeting schedule for February 2025 through January 2026. On a motion to approve by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, an abstention by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the . The item was approved. for the consent agenda.

06.01.b.

Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Board Chair requested that the Board of Education approve the District to engage **Dentons for Professional Services** in an amount not to exceed **\$144,000** within the period from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, at a rate of **no more than \$12,000 per month** for strategic support and lobbying services. On a motion by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Hill, an abstention by Dr. Morley, and a vote of 6/1. The item was approved for the consent agenda.

On a motion to approve by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, abstention by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the item was approved.

06.01.c.

Mr. Dijon DaCosta, Sr., Board Chair requested that the Board of Education adopt the 2025 Legislative Priorities. On a motion by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Hill, an opposition by Dr. Morley, and a vote of 6/1. The item was approved for the consent agenda.

On a motion to approve by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, opposition by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the item was approved.

06.02.a

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. requested that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the following meetings: November 11, 2024, board meeting which includes the executive session, work session, community input session and business meeting.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.a.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.03.b.

BUSINESS SERVICES_~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.03.c.i.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve the contract extension for **RFP 20-472** for an extension of 90 days from January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025:

- **Allstate Tours**
- **American Coach Lines**
- **Coast to Coast Tours, LLC**
- **Friendship Tours**
- **Harmon Brothers Charter Service**
- **Kelly Tours**
- **Kingsmen Coach Lines**
- **R & W Motor Coach**
- **Samson Tours**
- **We Care Charters**

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.d.

SCHOOL NUTRITION_~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.03.e. i.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve:

- The established Guaranteed Maximum Price (“GMP”) of **\$7,402,255** for the construction of the **Livsey Elementary School HVAC Systems Replacement and Renovations E-SPLOST V project** per the terms set forth in the Construction Manager at Risk (“CM@Risk”) contract previously awarded to **Ajax Building Company, LLC**.
- A Budget Reallocation of **\$3,302,255** from E-SPLOST V program contingency to fund this project.
- Approve **Amendment No. 02** to **Croft & Associates, Inc.** in a Not -to-Exceed amount of **\$184,033** for added design services.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e. ii.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve:

- The established Guaranteed Maximum Price (“GMP”) of **\$7,335,874** for the construction of the **Toney Elementary School HVAC Systems Replacement and Renovations E-SPLOST V project** per the terms set forth in the Construction Manager at Risk (“CM@Risk”) contract previously awarded to **Ajax Building Company, LLC**.
- A Budget Reallocation of **\$1,784,124** from E-SPLOST V program contingency to fund this project.
- Approve **Amendment No. 02 to Croft & Associates, Inc.** in a Not -to-Exceed amount of **\$164,973.50** for added design services.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.iii.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve:

- The Modification of the October 2023 Agenda Item to include a total amount to pay **Mobile Modular Management Corporation** for the month-to-month lease and subsequent removal of the portable classroom units.
- A Budget Reallocation from Program Contingency to the necessary project cost code (SP5FACCON.36535.PRECONST) in the amount not- to- exceed **\$433,080**.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e. iv.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve:

- The Modification of the October 2023 Agenda Item to include a total amount for the month-to-month lease of the portable classroom units.
- A Budget Reallocation from Program Contingency to the necessary project cost code (SP5FACCON.36135.PRECONST) in the amount not- to- exceed **\$138,529**.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.v.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve:

- The Modification of the October 2023 Agenda Item to include a total amount for the month-to-month lease of the portable classroom units.

- A Budget Reallocation from Program Contingency to the necessary project cost code **(SP5FACCON.32235.PRECONST)** in the amount not- to- exceed **\$433,080**.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.vi.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve Amendment No. 2 to **SSOE | Stevens & Wilkinson., for Hawthorne Elementary School Major System Renovations and Replacements** project for an additional design and engineering fee in the amount of **\$346,293**.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.vii.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve the award of RFP No. 24-752-004 for **Design/Build Services for Gymnasium Ceiling Renovation at Lithonia Middle School to Performance Services, Inc** for a not-to-exceed amount of **\$1,070,803**.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.viii.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve the award of **RFQ No. 25-752-001 for Construction Management Services (“CM@Risk”)** for the **Allgood Elementary School HVAC System Replacement and Renovations project to Parrish Construction Group**.

Additionally, it requested that the Board approve a not-to-exceed amount of **\$100,000**, for the **Pre-Construction Phase Fee** associated with this contract. Additional packages will be presented to the Board for approval as indicated below:

- Early release package tentatively presented Spring 2025.
- Final Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) will be presented Summer 2025.

Additional sub packages may be presented to the Board for approval as needed.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.ix.

- Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve the Contract Award of **RFP 24-752-037 for Third Party Commissioning Services to Total Systems Commissioning, Inc. (\$359,727.50) and TLC engineering Solutions (\$282,458)** for a total Contract award in the **Not to Exceed amount of \$642,185.50** as follows:

Total Systems Commissioning: \$359,727.50

Sample Project #1 - **\$90,805**

Cross Keys HS - **\$119,443**

Sample Project #3 -**\$149,479.00**

TLC Engineering Solutions: \$282,458

Champion Theme Middle School: **\$171,204**

Nancy Creek Facility (Sample Project #3): **\$111,254**

- Additionally, it is requested that the Board approve a **budget reallocation in the amount of \$401,901.50 from Program Contingency to fund the Third-Party Commissioning Services project as follows:**

Cross Keys HS - **\$119,443.50**

Champion Theme Middle School -**\$171,204**

Nancy Creek Elementary School- **\$111,254**

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.03.e.x.

Mr. Erick Hofstetter, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Operations, requested that the Board of Education approve Ratification / Change Order No. 1 to **Evergreen Construction** for a not-to-exceed amount of **\$468,393** for Owner requested items as outlined in the Ratification / **Change Order No. 1** documents.

Mrs. Hill objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.04.

INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.05.

CHIEF OF STAFF ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.06.a.

Mr. Byron Schueneman, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance, requested that the Board of Education accept the October 2024 Monthly Financial Report.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. It was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.07.a.

Mrs. Tasha Davis Mills, Chief Human Resource Officer, Division of Human Resources, requested that the Board of Education approve the December Human Resources Report.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. It was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.08.

SCHOOLS & LEADERSHIP ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.09.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.10.

WRAP AROUND SERVICES ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.11.

STUDENT SERVICES ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.12.a.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.13.

ACCOUNTABILITY & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT ~ No Agenda Item This Month

06.14.a.i.

Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Deputy Chief Communications Officer, Division of Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships, requested that the Board of Education accept the **eSports** donation on behalf of the Beta Psi Omega Chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc, in the amount of **\$10,000** to support the eSports program at Martin Luther King Jr., High School for the 2024-2025 school year.

06.14.a. ii.

Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Deputy Chief Communications Officer, Division of Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships, requested that the Board of Education accept the donation from office furniture from Rheaply to DeKalb County School District. Value not to exceed \$281,302.62.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. It was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. The item was removed from the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

06.14.a.iii.

Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Deputy Chief Communications Officer, Division of Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships, requested that the Board of Education accept a

donation of \$6,500 from the Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. designated exclusively for transportation costs related to the Rock the Vote initiative.

06.14.a. iv.

Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Deputy Chief Communications Officer, Division of Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships, requested that the Board of Education approve the acceptance of the U.S. Department of Education's (USDOE) Teacher Quality Partnership Grant for \$3,517,500.

06.15.a.

LEGAL SERVICES ~ No Agenda Item This Month

AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS AND POLICIES

F.1.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education accept an amendment to Board Policy BBFA: Local School Councils for First Read. The proposed revisions are requested to update the policy and to clarify the current language. This policy has been reviewed and analyzed by the Board Policy Committee. The Committee agrees on the recommended revisions.

Dr. Morley objected to this item.

Mrs. Turner made a motion to table this item. Second by Mr. DaCosta, and with a vote of 7/0, the item was tabled and would be placed on the January 13, 2025, meeting.

F.2.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BC: Board Meetings.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. It was tabled and would be placed on the January 13, 2025, meeting.

Mrs. Turner made a motion to table this item. Second by Mr. DaCosta, and with a vote of 7/0, the item was tabled and would be placed on the January 13, 2025, meeting.

F.3.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BBI: Board Staff Relations.

Dr. Morley objected to this item. It was tabled and would be placed on the January 13, 2025, meeting.

Mrs. Turner made a motion to table this item. Second by Mr. DaCosta, and with a vote of 7/0, the item was tabled and would be placed on the January 13, 2025, meeting.

F.4.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BCBI: Public Participation in Board Meetings.

F.5.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BDC: Policy Adoption.

F.6.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BDF: Review of Administrative Rules.

F.7.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education delete Board Policy BE: School Board Records as it is covered by Board Policy CN: Administrative Records.

F.8.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BH: Board Code of Ethics.

F.9.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BHA: Board Member Conflict of Interest.

F.10.

Ms. Melanie Slaton, General Counsel, Hall Booth Smith, PC Attorneys at Law requested that the Board of Education amend Board Policy BHC: Board Member Political Activity.

ADJOURN TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called for a motion to adjourn December 9, 2024, meeting 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 (7/0), the December 9, 2024, meeting adjourned to executive session.

ADJOURN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called to adjourn the December 9, 2024, executive session to convene the business meeting.

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner and with a vote of (7/0), the December 9, 2024, executive session adjourned to the convene the community input session.

The community input session began at 5:40 pm.

COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION AND BUSINESS MEETING

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. convened the Community Input Session and Mrs. Pierce read the Guidelines for Public Comments.

The following individuals addressed the Board:

1. Sara Faris
2. Daniel Sobczak
3. Deborah Jones
4. Trinity Smith ~ Request Withdrawn
5. Theresa Austin
6. Sundra Burdette
7. Willie Pringle
8. Joel Edwards
9. Lance Coachman
10. Carla Weston-Brown

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called for a motion to approve the December 9, 2024, consent agenda items.

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner and with a vote of 7/0, the motion passed to approve the consent agenda.

ACTION ITEM(S)

K.1. APPROVAL OF AN ITEM(S) FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION ~ No Item This Month

K.2. APPROVAL OF AN AGENDA ITEM(S) PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called for a motion to approve the following Action Items which were NOT placed on the consent agenda.

- a. Agenda Item: E.2.a. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner, opposition by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

- b. Agenda Item: E.3.c.i. Contract Extension Charter Bus Services ~ RFP 20-472 ~ Allstate Tours, American Coach Lines, Coast to Coast Tours, Friendship Tours, Harmon Brothers Charter Service, Kelly Tours, Kingsmen Coach Liners, R & W Motor Coach, Samson Tours, Southeastern Stages, Inc., We Are Charters

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner, abstention by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

- c. Agenda Item: E.3.e.i. E-SPLOST V Project GMP Budget Reallocation and Amendment Request ~ #39535 Livsey Elementary School HVAC Systems Replacement and Renovations Ajax Building Company, LLC and Croft & Associates, Inc. ~ Final GMP Approval, Budget Reallocation, and Amendment No. 2. A/E Fee Adjustment

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Mrs. Hill and Ms. McGinniss and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- d. Agenda Item: E.3.e.ii. E-SPLOST V Project GMP, Budget Reallocation and Amendment Request ~ #35235 Toney Elementary School HVAC Systems Replacement and Renovations ~Ajax Building Company, LLC and Croft & Associates, Inc. ~ Final GMP Approval, Budget Reallocation, and Amendment No. 2. A/E Fee Adjustment

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Mrs. Hill and Ms. McGinniss and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- e. Agenda Item: E.3.e.iii. E-SPLOST V Project Modification and Budget Reallocation Request – Mobile Modular Management Corporation ~ Modular Classroom Lease Extension at Salem Middle School ~ October 2023 Board Agenda Item Modification and Budget Reallocation

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Ms. Gevertz, opposition by Dr. Morley, Mrs. Hill and Ms. McGinniss and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- f. Agenda Item: E.3.e.iv. E-SPLOST V Project Modification and Budget Reallocation Request – Mobile Modular Management Corporation ~ Modular Classroom Lease Extension at Fairington Elementary School

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Mrs. Hill and Ms. McGinniss and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- g. Agenda Item: E.3.e.v. E-SPLOST V Project Modification and Budget Reallocation Request – Mobile Modular Management Corporation ~ Modular Classroom Lease Extension at Redan Middle School

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Mrs. Hill and Ms. McGinniss and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- h. Agenda Item: E.3.e.vi. Amendment SSOE|Stevens & Wilkinson – Hawthorne Elementary School Major System Renovations and Replacements ~ Amendment No. 2. Additional Design Fee Approval

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Ms. Gevertz, opposition by Dr. Morley, and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

- i. Agenda Item: E.3.e.vii. Contract Award RFP 24-752-004 Lithonia MS Gymnasium Ceiling Renovation

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Ms. McGinniss, Mrs. Hill and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- j. Agenda Item: E.3.e.viii. Contract Award CM @ Risk Allgood ES HVAC System Replacement and Renovations ~ Parrish Construction Group ~ Pre-Construction Phase Fee

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Ms. McGinniss, Mrs. Hill and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- k. Agenda Item: E.3.e.ix. Contract Award and Budget Reallocation Third Party Commissioning Services

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Ms. Gevertz, opposition by Dr. Morley, Ms. McGinniss, Mrs. Hill, and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- l. Agenda Item: E.3.e.x. Capital Improvement Project Ratification Evergreen Construction ~ Tucker Middle School HVAC and Controls

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Pierce, opposition by Dr. Morley, Ms. McGinniss, Mrs. Hill and with a vote of 4/3, the motion passed.

- m. Agenda Item: E.6.a. Acceptance of the October 2024 Monthly Financial Report

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, opposition by Dr. Morley and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

- n. Agenda Item: E.7.a. Approval of the Human Resources Monthly Report for December

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner, opposition by Dr. Morley and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

- o. Agenda Item: E.14.a.ii. Donation Acceptance: Office Furniture from Rheaply to DeKalb County School District

On a motion by Mrs. Turner, second by Mrs. Hill, opposition by Dr. Morley and with a vote of 6/1, the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Mr. DaCosta, Sr. called for a motion to adjourn the December 9, 2024, work session and business meeting.

On a motion by Mrs. Hill, second by Mrs. Turner and a vote of 7/0 the work session and business meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Secretary Ex-Officio

Chair