



MEETING MINUTES

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Attendance

Voting Members

Dr. Carmen Sulton, Chair

Mr. Hans Utz, Vice Chair

Mrs. Tracey Anderson, Board Member

Mr. James Herndon, Board Member

Dr. Jana Johnson-Davis, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Mr. Robert Wilson, Attorney

Dr. Gyimah Whitaker, Superintendent

Miss Nia Batra, Student Board Representative

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

i. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

ii. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

II. Agenda: Revision(s) and Approval

A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Motion made by: Dr. Jana Johnson-Davis

Motion seconded by: Mr. James Herndon

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

III. Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September board meetings.

Motion made by: Mr. Hans Utz

Motion seconded by: Mr. James Herndon

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

IV. Board Recognitions

Mrs. Karen Newton-Scott (Deputy Superintendent) shared student and staff recognition.

- National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists
- Georgia Governors' Honors Program (GHP) Finalists
- Level IV Gem Award Recipients
- Excellence in Career and Technical Education
- Student Leadership in STEM

V. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Gyimah Whitaker presented the Superintendent's report.

- The Wallace Foundation Professional Learning
- 2025 Graduation Rates
- Expansion of programming for students with disabilities
- Honorable Mention: 2025-2026 Georgia Artists with Disabilities Exhibition
- Inaugural Transition Fair
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- National Principals Month
- Superintendent's Listening Session
- Remote Digital Learning Day (November 4, 2025)

VI. Chair's Report

Board Chair Dr. Carmen Sulton presented the Chair's report.

- CSD Board of Education - 2025 Quality Board
- Overview of Pre-work and Work sessions
- Board Recognitions

VII. Public Facilities Authority Bond Resolution and Intergovernmental Agreement

Dr. Lonita Broome (Chief Financial Officer) and Ms. Terri Finister (Murray Barnes Law Group) discussed the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Decatur Public Facilities Authority and the Bond Resolution.

A motion was made to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement of Sale between the City Schools of Decatur Board of Education and the City of Decatur Public Facilities Authority for the sale relating to the issuance of City of Decatur Public Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2025.

Motion made by: Mr. Hans Utz

Motion seconded by: Dr. Jana Johnson-Davis

Voting:

Dr. Carmen Sulton - Yes

Mr. Hans Utz - Yes

Mrs. Tracey Anderson - No

Mr. James Herndon - Recuse

Dr. Jana Johnson-Davis - Yes

A motion was made to approve the recommendation that, upon approval by the City of Decatur Public Facilities Authority, authorization for the Chair of the City Schools of Decatur Board of Education and the Superintendent of the City Schools of Decatur to execute the documents necessary and appropriate for the fulfillment of that purpose.

Motion made by: Mr. Hans Utz

Motion seconded by: Dr. Jana Johnson-Davis

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

VIII. Items for Action, Information, or Discussion

i. ACTION

a. Consent Items

Dr. Lonita Broome (Chief Financial Officer) presented the monthly financials. A motion was made to approve consent items 1-8.

Motion made by: Mrs. Tracey Anderson

Motion seconded by: Mr. James Herndon

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

1. Financial Reports

2. School Nutrition

3. Personnel Report

4. Field Trips

5. Budget Calendar

6. Maxair Mechanical LLC

7. Maxair Mechanical Boiler Replacement (DHS)

8. Mechanical Service Incorporated

ii. INFORMATION

iii. DISCUSSION

IX. Public Comment

The following community members made public comments.

- Bernad Fragg
- Janike Ruginis
- Student Hilton
- Ben Brewer
- Adam Kong
- Caroline Morgan Berchuck
- Jessica Cino
- Rudy Colberg
- Katie Bell
- Joleen Hillus
- Scott Pendergrast
- Student Mcginnis

X. Future Dates

Future board meeting dates were shared.

- October 29, 2025 - Public Hearing (Beacon Hill Middle School)
- November 11, 2025 - Board Meeting

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.