



James Carmichael, Chairperson  
 Dr. Cheraton Love, Vice Chairperson  
 Kimberly Oliver  
 Dr. Dee Stokes  
 Judy Younts

## Tele- MEETING MINUTES

THOMASVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 2, 2021

### Board Members Digitally Present:

James Carmichael, Board Chairperson  
 Dr. Cheraton Love, Board Vice Chairperson

Kimberly Oliver  
 Dr. Dee Stokes  
 Judy Younts

### Board Attorney:

Bradley Hunt was in attendance.

### Media in Attendance

Daniel Kennedy, Thomasville Times via Zoom

### Citizens to address the Board

No one signed up to address the board for this meeting.

### Superintendent's Staff in Attendance:

Dr. Cate Gentry  
 Johnnie Musgrave  
 Dr. Chris Kennedy  
 Dr. Kelli Dalton  
 Jennifer Buck  
 Carol Chapman

Tiffany Charles  
 Dr. Jessica Dreher  
 Ken Hill  
 Eric Johannesen  
 Lorrie Johnson  
 Diane Roberts  
 Krystal Sanders  
 Andrew Wiener

Dr. Angela Moore-Little  
 Jennifer Tallant  
 Kevin Leake  
 Calvin Freeman  
 Michelle Posley

### Information for meeting participation in digital format

Dr. Cate Gentry made certain the meeting was accessible for participation via Zoom. She reviewed directions for participation using the platform for virtual meeting participation.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by James Carmichael, Board Chairperson.

Mr. Carmichael welcomed all the participants who were joining via Zoom for the meeting. He also stated that the meeting would be recorded and all votes would be taken via roll call.

Mr. Carmichael thanked Mr. Scott Styers and Mrs. Jane Murphy, Thomasville City Council representatives, for attending the meeting.

### Additions/ Deletions to Agenda

The Board Meeting agenda was adopted as presented.

- Motion to accept agenda was made by Judy Younts
- Second by Kimberly Oliver
- The agenda was adopted 5-0 via roll call vote

### \*Adoption of Agenda:



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### Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gentry shared the following with the Board:

- Welcomed to Bulldog Nation Mrs. Carol Chapman who will serve as the district's new Finance Officer.
- Welcome to February 2021 – The Groundhog saw his shadow and we will anticipate six more weeks of winter.
- Dr. Jessica Dreher celebrated School Counselors and asked the Board to approve a National School Counselor Appreciation Proclamation.
  - The proclamation was approved on a motion by Kimberly Oliver
  - Second was offered by Dr. Cheraton Love
  - A 5-0 rollcall vote approved the motion unanimously
- Jennifer Tallant, Liberty Drive Elementary School Principal, presented the Board with information regarding the ways in which teachers and students were working together, both in-person learning and virtual learning, to make their days and academic life as normal as possible during the Pandemic disruption.
- Dr. Gentry, as required by state requirement, shared School Mental Health Support Personnel – Local Report and Session Law 2019-222; House Bill 75. Dr. Gentry discussed that currently TCS employs 1 school psychologist, 5 school counselors, 1 full-time social worker, and 2 school nurses. These positions are outlined in the report.
- Dr. Gentry announced that during February the district would be celebrating:
  - Black History Month
  - National Career/Technical Education Month
  - Love the Bus Month
  - Celebrating Bus Driver Appreciation Week: February 15-19
- Dr. Gentry shared a recap of Gov. Cooper's press conference from earlier in the day. She reminded that our students would be returning to in-person learning on "Plan B" on Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. The district and individual schools will be communicating specifics with teachers, parents, and students during the remainder of this week.

### \*Consent Items:

All items listed under the Consent section of the agenda were approved. Items included:

- Briefing Minutes from January 5, 2021
- Meeting Minutes from January 5, 2021
- Motion to approve consent items was made by Dr. Dee Stokes
- Second to the motion was offered by Kimberly Oliver
- Motion passed 5-0 via roll call vote





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### **\*Selection and Contract Approval for Financial Auditor**

Dr. Kennedy requested that the Board review the RFP and auditor selection process and approve the Financial Auditor Contract with the firm, Anderson, Smith, & Wilk, PLLC for the ensuing three years. The firm comes very highly recommended and offered the best financial deal.

After a brief discussion

- Motion to approve the Financial Audit Firm of Anderson, Smith, & Wilk PLLC and the contract for three years was made by Judy Younts
- Second to the motion was made by Dr. Cheraton Love
- Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote

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### **\*Revision to BOE Policy 3620: Extra- Curricular Activities an Student Organizations**

Dr. Gentry presented her request to revise BOE Policy 3620, specifically the portion related to student attendance, as outlined in red within the policy.

- A motion to waive the usual 30-day period to table if changes were approved was made by Dr. Cheraton Love
- Second was offered by Judy Younts
- Roll call vote was 4-1 with Dr. Dee Stokes offering the dissenting vote.

Dr. Gentry answered questions and board members shared their unique perspectives related to policy amendment. After a lengthy discussion:

- Motion to approve the policy amendment was made by Dr. Cheraton Love
- James Carmichael made a second to the motion
- Motion to approve the revision was 3-2; Mr. Carmichael, Dr. Love, and Judy Younts voting to approve and Dr. Stokes and Mrs. Oliver voting not to approve.

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### **\*Family First Coronavirus Relief Act**

Dr. Kelli Dalton shared an outline of the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act with the Board indicating that the entire piece of legislation was contained with their January 27, 2021 Briefing information.

- Judy Younts made a motion to approve
- Dr. Dee Stokes made a second to the motion
- Approved: 5-0



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### **\*BOE Policy to Approve/Incorporate into TCS Board Policy**

Dr. Kelli Dalton presented to the Board for policies for adoption:

- Policy 3620 - Extra-Curricular Activities and Student Organizations
  - Policy 1510/4200/7270 - School Safety
  - Policy 1710/4020/7230 - Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law
  - Policy 1740/4010 - Student and Parent Grievance Procedure
  - Policy 1742/5060 - Responding to Complaints
  - Policy 1750/7220 - Grievance Procedure for Employees
  - Policy 1760/7280 - Prohibition Against Retaliation
  - Policy 2120 - Code of Ethics for School Board Members
  - Policy 2121 - Board Member Conflict of Interest
  - Policy 3000 - Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program
  - Policy 3102 - Online Instruction
  - Policy 3300 - School Calendar and Time for Learning
  - Policy 3410 - Testing and Assessment Program
  - Policy 4001 - Equal Educational Opportunities
  - Policy 4040/7310 - Staff-Student Relations
  - Policy 4400 – Attendance
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- Motion to adopt Policies listed was made by Dr. Dee Stokes
  - Second was made by Dr. Cheraton Love
  - Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote

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### **\*BOE Policy for review and table**

Dr. Dalton presented the Board with the policies listed below for their review and to table in order to obtain feedback from school/community stakeholders.

- Policy 4600 - Student Fees
  - Policy 5020 - Visitors to the School
  - Policy 5030 - Community Use of Facilities
  - Policy 5070/7350 - Public Records: Retention, Release, and Disposition
  - Policy 6305 - Safety and Student Transportation Services
  - Policy 7232 - Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
  - Policy 7335 - Employee Use of School Media
  - Policy 7510 - Leave
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- A motion to table these listed policies was made by Judy Younts
  - Kimberly Oliver offered a second
  - Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote



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### \*Closed Session

- A motion to enter Closed Session was made by Kimberly Oliver A second to the motion was made by Dr. Dee Stokes
- The board entered Closed Session on a 5-0 roll call vote

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### \*Open Session

The Board of Education returned to open session:


- A motion to return to open session was made by Dr. Cheraton Love
- Motion seconded by Judy Younts
- Approved 5-0
- A motion to approve personnel report was made by Kimberly Oliver
- Motion was seconded by Judy Younts
- Motion was approved 5-0

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### Adjournment

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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James Carmichael, Board Chairman

  
Cate Gentry, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools