

Elbert County Schools—Board Brief

Summary of the September 4, 10, & 20, 2018 Meetings

Highlights of Presentation and Discussion Items

The following items were presented to the Board:

- **Finance Report** - The General Fund Revenue to date as of August 31, 2018 was \$755,896. The General Fund Expenditures to date as of August 31, 2018 was \$3,288,040. The Cash Balance as of August 31, 2018 was \$4,417,122. SPLOST revenue for August 2018 was \$174,214.
- **Attendance Awareness Month** - Superintendent Chuck Bell proclaimed "Elbert County School District will stand with the nation in recognizing September as "Attendance Awareness Month" focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all students an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotional and socially."
- **Five-Year Tax Digest and Levy History**-Superintendent Bell and Keith Martin led a discussion on the on the Five-Year Tax Digest and Levy History along with 2018 Estimated Tax and Levy for FY19 Tax Digest and millage rates. Based on the 2018 re-assessment numbers the rollback millage calculation would decrease from 16.942 to 15.87. This 1.072 mill decrease would result in a tax revenue loss of \$29,047 from the amount budgeted. The budget could absorb this decrease but uncertainty comes from the \$11.5 million in outstanding appeals. If half the appeals are granted and the millage is rolled back to 15.87 then the tax revenue would be \$120,280 short of the budgeted amount. To account for half of the appeals and bring the anticipated tax revenue back to the budgeted number would require the millage to be set at 16.10 or .23 above the rollback rate.
- **Teaching and Learning** - Tanya Long updated the Board on Teaching and Learning at all schools and the programs, supports, and assessments being used.
- **Operations and Facilities Report:** Jon Jarvis presented information on the FY 20 Capital Outlay Project Application. The District earns money as buildings age and can use for modification. The application was approved two years ago for HVAC at ECES and ECMS. Since then construction costs have gone up. The HVAC at ECES will begin in June of 2019 and then ECMS.
- **Technology Report** - The District Technology Committee will meet September 13 to discuss quarterly projections and needs. The Granite Bowl will be brought into the network for live streaming. Twenty security cameras were replaced at ECCHS because of recording issues. ECMS has 75 new Chromebooks due to increased enrollment.
- **Standards Based Report Cards** - Principal Stephanie Wiles shared a power point presentation on Standards Based Report Cards which are being implemented at ECES this year. The reason for the change is that the old report cards sent a mixed message to parents when GA Milestones results do not match the report card. Standards Based Report Cards will let parents know the grade level expectations all year long and assess how well a child mastered each skill within each subject. "I" will be used for insufficient progress toward the standard, "P" for progressing toward the standard, "M" for meets the standard, and "E" for exceeding the standard.
- **ECCHS Updates** - Principal Jason Kouns and Graduation Coach Rhonda Driver updated the Board on Graduation 2019, Dual Enrollment, Discipline Plan, and Grade Point Average information.
- **Strategic Communication Plan** - Superintendent Bell shared that Blackboard, the new District website will go live September 28.
- **Recognition** - The Classified Employee of the Month was Mr. Russell Davis, special education paraprofessional at ECCHS.

The following items were approved:

- **Personnel Resignations** - The Board approved four Personnel Resignations.
- **Personnel Recommendations** - The Board approved six Personnel Recommendations.
- **Millage Rate for 2018-2019 Fiscal Year** - The Board approved the millage rate for the 2018-2019 fiscal year based on the 2018 assessed value for Elbert County School District to be set at 15.87 which equals the rollback millage.
- **FY 2020 Capital Outlay Project Application** - The Board approved the FY 2020 Capital Outlay Project Application with the Georgia Department of Education which included modifications at ECES and ECMS that only include replacement of the HVAC systems at both schools.
- **Overnight Field Trip Requests** - The Board approved eight Overnight Field Trip Requests.
- **FY19 Local Board Governance Training Plan** - The Board approved the FY 19 Local Board Governance Training Plan to include Winter and Summer Conference training and Whole Board training with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government through UGA in January.