

Elbert County Schools—Board Brief

Summary of the September 9th and 16th, 2019 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, 2019 was \$1,139,104. The General Fund Expenditures to date as of August 31, 2019 was \$3,488,687. Excess Revenue over Expenditures was (\$2,349,583.) The Cash Balance as of August 31, 2019 was \$4,876,084. The Fund Balance as of August 31, 2019 was \$4,010,397. SPLOST for August was \$188,506..
- **2019-2020 Annual Report** - Superintendent Bell presented the 2019-2020 Annual Report through a power point presentation. The District is in the third year of the 5-Year Strategic Plan focusing on the four main goal areas. There is strong work taking place and progress is showing. The District has a monthly payroll of \$1,691,738. The current student enrollment is 3, 080. The buses run 223,560 miles a year transporting students. Elbert County Schools operates on 109 acres of grounds. The official graduation rate is embargoed until September 18th but all indications point to a significant increase. Staff, administrators, teachers, and students were commended for their hard work and reminded everyone that we are "In This Together,"
- **Teaching and Learning** - Tanya Long and Adam Kurtz presented the Elbert County College & Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Closing Gaps in a power point presentation. They provided performance data from Georgia Milestones Math tests in grades 3 - 12th. To meet or exceed the targets, CCRPI and Georgia Milestones scores must annually increase by 3% of the gap between the baseline year (2019) score and 100. Kim Fuller and Jason Kouns presented the high school portion.
- **Operations and Facilities** - The District is taking bids to build track concessions, restrooms, and storage at the ECMS track. On September 14, 2019 a bus driver training class for potential new drivers was conducted. Phase I of the safety grants is finished spending \$117,000 out of the \$150,000. A new safety fence at ECPS will be added to extend the playground and will have gate "key access." The new scoreboard for the softball field has been delivered .
- **Technology** - Fifty Chromebooks were purchased with fifty going to ECPS and ten to ECES. The District Technology Committee met on September 6th discussing interactive display, how to spot "phishing" emails, and new "hot spots" were introduced. The hot spots will have extra filters and be available for student checkout for two days. Hot Spots will be available for buses going to sports events and field trips for students to complete school work while traveling. At present grade 4 - 12 all have Chromebooks to take home, 3rd grade will be added in November, and 2nd grade in February. On September 19th the District will be hosting a Google Admin. Bootcamp. The goal is to have everyone leave as certified Google Administrators at the end of the day.
- **Elbert Memorial Hospital 2019 Summer Youth Volunteer Program** - Students who participated in the Elbert Memorial Hospital 2019 Summer Youth Volunteer Program were recognized. The following nine students worked numerous hours over the summer: Allison McGarity, Wyatt Brown, Alex Anderson, Alyssa Evans, Lacie Hall, Janitel Bernier, Chesnee Brown, and Harley Carter. Principal Jason Kouns, Nancy Seymour, and Kerry Trapnell from the Hospital were very complimentary of the students work.
- **Classified Employee of the Month** - The Classified Employee of the month was Bertha Huff, an Administrative Assistant at ECES. She was presented a plaque of recognition and awarded \$50 incentive pay for her exemplary work going above and beyond.
- **Teacher Advisory Council & Parent Advisory Council** - Superintendent Bell met with the Teacher Advisory Council last week to get input, ideas, and share thoughts, so that "their voice is heard." The Parent Advisory Board will meet in October. Both councils will meet four times a year.
- **Federal Programs** - The Board was updated on Federal Program Initiatives underway through Title I, Title II Part A, Title IV, Title V, and Academic Interventionists' Progress Monitoring.

The following items were approved:

- **Personnel Resignations** - The Board approved one Personnel Resignation.
- **Overnight Field Trip Requests** - The Board approved five Overnight Field Trip Requests.
- **Millage Rate** - The Board approved the millage rate for 2019-2020 based on the 2019 Tax Digest, to be set at 15.933, which equals the rollback millage rate.
- **General Fund Loan to SPLOST** - The Board approved a loan from the General Fund to SPLOST Fund, not to exceed \$700,000 to cover over-expenditures in the SPLOST Fund incurred during Fiscal Year 2019.
- **FY20 Local Board Governance Training Plan** - The Board approved the FY20 Local Board Governance Training Plan.