Columbia County Board of Education
Regular Session
April 22, 2025
5:30 p.m.

The Columbia County Board of Education met at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at the Columbia County Board of Education. The following Board of Education members were present:

Mr. David Dekle, Chairman
Ms. Judy Teasley, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Katie Allen, Board Member
Ms. Kristi Baker, Board Member
Mr. Philip Kent, Board Member

Call to Order

Chairman David Dekle called the meeting to order.

Invocation

Powell Baptist Church Senior Pastor Dr. Nick Bates led the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Martinez Elementary School and Riverside Elementary School 4-H Presidents led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Bake, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Special Recommendations

Superintendent Flynt recommended LeAnne Gregg for Chief Academic Officer, as presented. Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve LeAnne Gregg for Chief Academic Officer, as presented, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Superintendent Flynt recommended Dr. Brian Campbell for Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, as presented. Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve Dr. Brian Campbell for Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, as presented, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

6. Special Recognitions
    a. GHSA Literary State Champions for 5A and 6A
    b. NJROTC Tri-State Competition
    c. SkillsUSA
    d. SRP Federal Credit Union Affinity Check Presentation
    e. Columbia County Aspiring Leaders Academy 2024-2025

7. Board Comments and Acknowledgements

Business Section

Superintendent Flynt requested approval of Consent Items 8 a-f, as presented. Board Member Katie Allen requested to remove Item b, March Financials from the Consent Items and have it as a separate item for discussion. Chairman Dekle made a motion for approval of Consent Items 8 a, and c-f, as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

8. Approval of Consent Items…………...….......……....….….……….…….....………...Chairman Dekle

a. Minutes of March 25, 2025, Work Session Meeting, and Minutes of April 1, 2025, Special Called Meeting
b. March Financials
c. Fundraisers
d. Employee Travel
e. Program/Camp/Employee Participation Request
f. Lease/Use of Facilities

b. March Financials

Chairman David Dekle made am motion to open the floor for discussion regarding Consent Item b, March Financials. Following board discussion regarding Consent Item b, March Financials, Chairman David Dekle made a motion to approve Consent Item b, March Financials, as presented, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Bake, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Budget Review Process

John Snyder with Serotta, Maddox and Evans, external auditors, provided an overview of the district's budget process.

10. Strategic Planning
    a. Vision and Mission

Superintendent Flynt provided an overview of the Strategic Plan.

    b. Goal Areas and Related Performance Objectives
        i. Maximize Student Achievement and Success for Each Student, Associate Superintendent Dr. Kellye Bosch

Associate Superintendent Dr. Kellye Bosch provided a review of Goal 1, Maximize Student Achievement and Success for Each Student.

        ii. Community Engagement and Support, Chief Financial Officer Alex Casado

Chief Financial Officer Alex Casado provided a review of Goal 2, Community Engagement and Support.

11. Star Rating Update, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristen Carroll

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristen Carroll provided an update on school climate star ratings, and the financial efficiency star rating the school district.

12. House Bill 268 Update (Safety Bill), Associate Superintendent Penny Jackson

Associate Superintendent Penny Jackson provided an update of House Bill 268 regarding school safety.

13. Special Education Update, Director of Special Education Sharard Pritchett

Director of Special Education Sharard Pritchett provided an update on Special Education.

Public Participation

Chairman Dekle called upon one participant who requested to speak during Public Participation. Ms. Maddox Brown requested to speak about elementary school extended recess.

14. FY2026 Budget Presentation

Superintendent Flynt and Chief Financial Officer Alex Casado provided a presentation for the FY2026 budget.

Building Program

Superintendent Flynt presented a project update.

Superintendent Flynt recommended approval of the bid results for multipurpose copy paper for the school district to Contract Paper Group in the amount of $208,580.40, as presented. Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve the bid result for multipurpose copy paper for the school district to Contract Paper Group in the amount of $208,580.40, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Columbia County
SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 15, 2025

To: Dr. Steven Flynt, Superintendent
From: Alex Casado, Chief Financial Officer

RE: Award Recommendation for Multipurpose Copy Paper

On March 14, 2025, the Columbia County School District (CCSD) Purchasing Department solicited sealed competitive bids under Request for Proposal number HC-04-01-25A. The solicitation was sent out to more than 15 vendors, posted on the CCSD website, and posted on the Georgia Procurement Registry website.

The purpose of the request was to obtain formal bids for delivery of multipurpose copy paper for next school year.

Bids for domestic paper at exact quantity load pricing were received from the following companies prior to the April 1, 2025 bid closing:

Distributor/Brand	Unit Price (per case)	Total Extended Price
Advantage Gifts	$145.82	$1,102,399.20
A6 Scientific Corp.	$29.00	$219,240.00
Archie Supply	$148.82	$1,102,399.20
Contract Paper Group	$27.59	$208,580.40
Empire	$77.82	$588,319.20
JFM International Group	$28.42	$214,855.20
Southern Paper & Chemical	$30.75	$232,470.00
Staples	$30.99	$234,284.40

Based on the above bid results, we are recommending a contract award to Contract Paper Group for an estimated amount of $208,580.40 assuming a quantity of 7,560 cases. This represents an increase $0.09 per case from 2024.

If the approved bidder is unable to, does not desire to accept, or fails to meet the requirements of this award, the award recommendation will go to the next lowest bidder that represents the best interest of the CCSD upon agreement from the Chief Financial Officer and Purchasing Supervisor.

Superintendent Flynt recommended approval of the bid results for E-Rate Wiring for Lakeside Middle School and Riverside Middle School to Structured Media in the amount of $197,310.00, as presented. Chairman David Dekle made a motion to approve the bid results for E-Rate Wiring for Lakeside Middle School and Riverside Middle School to Structured Media in the amount of $197,310.00, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Columbia County
SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 15, 2025

To: Dr. Steven Flynt, Superintendent
From: Alex Casado, Chief Financial Officer

RE: Recommendation for E-Rate Wiring Projects

On February 24, 2025, the Columbia County School District (CCSD) Technology Department and Business Department solicited sealed competitive proposals for rewiring Lakeside Middle School and Riverside Middle School. The solicitation was posted on the USAC website for any vendor to review and to submit a proposal. Vendor proposals were rated based on the following criteria point scale: price (50%), meets specifications (20%), prior experience (20%), in state vendor (10%).

The following summarizes the results from the Wiring Projects bidders:

	Structured Media	AiOS Group
Price	$197,310.00	$181,985.75
Proposal Score	90	60

Structured Media Solutions received the highest rating on their proposal, meets the required specifications, and has many years of successful project execution with the CCSD.

E-Rate has not yet approved the district's application for wiring projects at this time. It is anticipated that E-Rate will fund 60% of the cost of this project in the amount of $118,386. The net cost to the district will be $78,924.

Based on the rating of the proposal, the Technology Department and Business Department recommend an award to Structured Media Solutions for wiring in the amount of $197,310. The district is not obligated to move forward with this project if E-Rate does not fund the application.

Superintendent Flynt recommended approval of the bid results for playground equipment for the new North Columbia Elementary School to Playworld in the amount of $234,929.93, as presented. Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve the bid result for playground equipment for the new North Columbia Elementary School to Playworld in the amount of $234,929.93, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Columbia County
SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 15, 2025

To: Dr. Steven W. Flynt, Superintendent
From: Alex Casado, Chief Financial Officer

RE: Recommendation for New North Columbia Elementary Playground

Columbia County School District (CCSD) Purchasing Department solicited sealed competitive bids under request number HC-03-14-25A. The solicitation was sent to more than 15 vendors, posted on the CCSD website and Georgia Procurement Registry website.

The purpose of the request was to obtain formal bids for playground sets. Vendors attended a pre-bid meeting on January 24 and walked the property with administration. The companies in attendance were: Bliss Products, Gametime, Great Outdoors Play, Hasley Recreation, KorKat, Playground Creations, Playscapes and Playworld. Each company was asked to propose a design and quote for the playground.

Bids were reviewed by the school's administration and the purchasing department to determine the best selection based on price, style, and references. Based on that analysis, we recommend an award to Playworld for the North Columbia Elementary playground improvements for a total estimated cost of $234,929.93. Playworld has performed various installations that include Westmont Elementary, Evans Elementary, Cedar Ridge Elementary, South Columbia Elementary, Grovetown Elementary and Baker Place Elementary.

Resolutions

Superintendent Flynt recommended approval of the Capital Outlay Resolution for Evans High School, as presented. Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion to approve the Capital Outlay Resolution for Evans High School, seconded by Board Member Philip Kent and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST A REVISION
FY25 CAPITAL OUTLAY APPLICATION
COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Whereas the Columbia County Board of Education submitted and had approved its FY25 Capital Outlay Application.

Whereas the Columbia County Board of Education is requesting to remove the roof replacement for buildings 5010, 5011, 5012, and 5020 at Evans High School (Facility 4050) from its FY25 Capital Outlay Application.

Whereas, Columbia County Administration has determined that currently these roofs do not need replacing.

Be it therefore resolved that the Columbia County Board of Education is requesting this revision to its FY25 Capital Outlay Application.

Approved by Columbia County Board of Education on this ____ day of ______, 2025.

________________________________ ________________________________

(Signature of Superintendent) (Signature of Board Chair)

Superintendent Flynt recommended approval of the 5 Year Local Facilities Plan Resolution, as presented. Board Member Kristi Baker made a motion to approve the 5 Year Local Facilities Plan Resolution, seconded by Board Member Philip Kent and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

RESOLUTION

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Columbia County Board of Education ("Board") to hereby approve the new Local Facilities Plan ("Plan") as recommended by the Facilities Survey Team and the Superintendent.

In adopting the Plan, the Board agrees with its contents and priorities, and requests State Board of Education approval.

Furthermore, the Board directs that the Plan will provide facility guidance for the school system over the life of the Plan in accordance with Georgia Board of Education Rule 160-5-4-01.

Approved in official session of the Board on ________________________

______________________________ ________________

Signature of Board Chairperson Date

______________________________ ________________

Signature of Superintendent Date

16. Excellence in Governance Institute

Superintendent Flynt provided an update on the Excellence in Governance Institute.

17. Superintendent Reports

Superintendent Flynt presented the following reports and announcements.

a. School Year Update for 2024-2025
b. Arts at the Plaza, April 26
c. FY2026 Budget Presentations
    i. Budget Presentation, April 29
    ii. Budget Presentation, May 6
    iii. Final Budget Presentation, May 13
d. Rookie of the Year, May 14
e. Kindergarten Round-Up, May 15
f. Early Dismissal/Last Day of School, May 21
g. Class of 2025 Graduation Ceremonies, Evans Towne Center Park
    i. Evans High School, May 21, 6:30 p.m.
    ii. Greenbrier High School, May 22, 9:00 a.m.
    iii. Harlem High School, May 22, 6:30 P.m.
    iv. Grovetown High School, May 23, 9:00 a.m.
    v. Lakeside High School, May 23, 6:30 p.m.
h. Report Cards, May 23
i. Memorial Day Holiday, May 26
j. Summer School
    i. Registration, April 28-May 23
    ii. Grovetown High School, May 29-June 26
    iii. Graduation, Columbia County Performing Arts Center, June 26

Executive Session

At this time, a motion for the Board to retire into Executive Session was made by Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion that Chairman David Dekle be directed to execute an affidavit, as called for by Georgia Law, affirming that no subject was discussed during Executive Session, which violated the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Georgia. The motion was seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Personnel Recommendations

Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley made a motion for approval of the personnel list to include the Personnel Recommendations which was discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Chairman David Dekle made a motion to approve the re-contracting for greater than 190-day employees for the 2025-2026 school year, seconded by Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Katie Allen, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent.

Board Items

There were no board items for discussion at this time.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chairman David Dekle made a motion under Robert's Rules of Order to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Kristi Baker, and approved by Chairman David Dekle, Vice-Chairman Judy Teasley, Board Member Kristi Baker, and Board Member Philip Kent. The motion to adjourn the board meeting was opposed by Board Member, Katie Allen.

David Dekle, Chairman

Dr. Steven Flynt, Secretary