

**Bronson, FL  
October 13, 2020  
5:30 p.m.**

## **Executive Session**

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 at 5:30 p.m. with Board Chairman Paige Brookins, Chris Cowart, Ashley Clemenzi, Brad Etheridge and Board Attorney David Delaney present. Board member Cameron Asbell attended virtually.

**Expulsion Recommendations:** The Board heard information regarding a recommendation for expulsion. After School Administrator, BMHS Principal Curtis Gaus, had given testimony; the following actions were taken by the Board.

**Student 21-02:** (student and parent were present). After discussion from the Board Members and Administrator, Cameron Asbell moved to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to expel the student for the remainder of the 2020-2021 SY and 2021-2022 SY without educational services, second by Brad Etheridge, motion carried.

## **Regular Session 6:00 p.m.**

The School Board of Levy County met in Regular Session this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with Board Chairman Paige Brookins, Brad Etheridge, Chris Cowart, Ashley Clemenzi and Board Attorney David Delaney present. Board member Cameron Asbell attended virtually.

Public comments can be submitted by email to [publiccomment@levyk12.org](mailto:publiccomment@levyk12.org) or delivered in writing to the District Office at 480 Marshburn Drive, Bronson, FL., and must be received at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Public comments may also be made in person on the day of the meeting.

All School Board meetings are recorded and may be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/LevyCountySchools> within 1-2 days after the scheduled meeting.

**Adoption of Agenda:** Chris Cowart moved to approve the agenda, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

**Welcome Visitors and Public Comments:** Chairman Paige Brookins welcomed everyone to the meeting in person or virtually and asked if anyone would like to address the Board. Brandy Horne, mother of Chiefland students expressed her concerns about students being quarantined after exposure to the COVID-19 virus. She asked for the quarantine policy to be reviewed. Board Attorney David Delaney read an email that was submitted by Shari Rice to the public comment email. She expressed her concerns about temperature checks at schools and social distancing at functions and sporting events.

**Disability Awareness Week:** Dr. Rosalind Hall gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Disability Awareness. She said the first two weeks of October are Disability Awareness Weeks. She shared information about the top five accomplishments: Federal Uniform Graduation Rate 86%, Standard Diploma Graduation Rate 96%, Employed or Continuing Education 76%, Career and Technical Education (CTE) 15% and Early Childhood Program 90%. She updated the Board on LEA Enrollment Group and Inclusive Education. She said Special Education is a "service" not a "place".

**BMHS Way Academy "Believing is Achieving":** Curtis Gaus, Principal of BMHS introduced Rod Thomas, BMHS Teacher Aide, ESE/SS with the BMHS FOCUS Center. Mr. Thomas shared information of how he has connected with the students in the FOCUS Center. He brought in one of his press machines and trained the students how to design and press the transfers onto t-shirts. The students have been very excited about the class. They designed and made t-shirts for the entire BMHS staff. The Board thanked Mr. Gaus and Mr. Thomas. Mr. Thomas said the students will also make t-shirts for the Board members.

**2021 Insurance Renewal:** Kalee Wade, Coordinator of Benefits and Risk Management, shared a spreadsheet with the Board showing insurance costs and expenses comparison from 2017 through 2021. She discussed the yearly increases to health insurance from 2017 to 2021. She said the changes for 2021 are as follows:

- AFLAC (Cancer and Accident Plans) – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- Humana Dental – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- Humana Vision – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- One America Long Term Disability – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- American Public Life Hospital Indemnity – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- SunLife Basic Life Insurance provided by the Board – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- SunLife Voluntary Life Insurance (paid by the employee) – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- Healthcare and Dependent Care Reimbursement Plans – No rate increases or changes for 2021.
- Yearly increases are: 2017 – 3.02%; 2018 - 5.90%; 2019 - 2.80%; 2020 - 2.74% and 2021 – recommendation of 2.74%.

After discussion, Chris Cowart moved to approve the insurance renewal for 2021, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

Ms. Wade said the Health Insurance through Florida Blue will have an increase of 2.74%. She Florida Blue will provide \$25,000 wellness money to the District. Who pays for the increase will be decided in negotiations. After discussion, Chris Cowart moved to approve the health insurance with Florida Blue for 2021, second by Brad Etheridge, motion carried.

**Request for Public Hearing to Adopt/Amend the Following School Board Policies:** John Lott informed the Board that this is the meeting to adopt/amend School Board Policies 3.06 - Safe and Secure Schools, 3.30 - Automatic External Defibrillators, 3.31 - Exertional Heat Illness, 5.03 - Student Attendance/Absences, 5.29 - Notification of Involuntary Examination, 6.03 - Employment of Personnel, 6.031 - Employment Defined, 6.032 - Appointment or Employment Requirements, 8.11 - School Construction Bid Process, 8.111 - Pre-Qualification Procedures of Contractors on School Construction, 8.20 - Background Screening for Contractors. After discussion, Brad Etheridge moved to adopt/amend the School Board Policies, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

**Request Approval to Advertise to Adopt/Amend School Board Policies:** John Lott reviewed School Board Policies 4.06 - Requirements for Graduation, 5.38 - Bullying and Harassment, 5.40 - Dating Violence and Abuse, TBD - Prohibiting Discrimination, including Sexual and Other Forms of Harassment and requested permission to advertise to adopt/amend them at the November 17, 2020 Board Meeting. After discussion, Cameron Asbell moved to approve to advertise, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

**2020-2021 Legislative Platform:** Superintendent Jeff Edison reviewed the proposed 2021 Legislative Platform with the Board. He said after discussing the list with Kim McDougal, Legislative Consultants Group, the list of topics should be limited to the top three. After discussion, Chris Cowart moved to approve the following School Board of Levy County Legislative Agenda Potential Topics for 2021, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried:

1. Continue the Special Facility funding for the new CMHS project.
2. Reduction of the districts participation requirement relating to the local discretionary capital improvement mileage from 1.0 mil to 0.75 mil.
3. Restore the Digital Classroom Plan (DCP) allocation to \$250,000 minimum.
4. Include in Rule 6A.7.0710, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), a requirement that the evaluation of instructional materials for adoption specify that access to digital materials and resources be included without additional charges or fees for the life of the adoption. (Work through FLDOE rule making authority).

**Approval of Minutes:** Brad Etheridge moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 Board meeting, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:** After discussion of the Agenda, Chris Cowart moved to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Ashley Clemenzi, motion carried.

## 1. GENERAL ITEMS:

**a) Employee Status Changes / Recommendations:**

1. Kristine Nichols, CES Custodian, *resignation* from employment to *participate in DROP*, effective January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2025.
2. Brittany Gainey, WES Teacher, Fifth Grade, *resignation*, effective October 2, 2020, and *payment* for any unused leave, original hire date January 5, 2016.
3. Stephanie Greene, CMHS Teacher Aide, ESE, *effective* September 21, 2020, paid from Project #40230 F2021, *vacancy*.
4. Out-of-Field Assignments for the 2020-2021 school year:

YTS	Employee	Certification	OOF Area(s)
	Susan Merson	Elem Ed K-6; ESE K-12; Reading End.	Math 5-9

5. Elizabeth Tallman-McGlynn, BES Teacher, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, *dismissal during probation period*, effective September 25, 2020, original hire date August 3, 2020.
6. Susan Merson, YTS Teacher, Math MS, *effective* October 2, 2020, *vacancy*.
7. Jolene Coblenz, WMHS Teacher Aide, ESE, *effective* September 28, 2020, paid from Project #40230, *vacancy*.
8. Allen Carter, YTS Custodian, *resignation for retirement*, effective September 25, 2020, original hire date July 23, 2008.
9. Jacqueline Starling, CES Teacher, ESE, *effective* October 12, 2020, *vacancy*.
10. Kathy McCain, CKS Teacher, KG, *exiting DROP early*, effective October 15, 2020, original hire date September 12, 1988.
11. Carl James, WMHS Teacher, Science, S/H, *effective* October 6, 2020, *out-of-field* in General Science, M/J 5-9, *vacancy*.
12. Ivonne Diaz, District Hospital Homebound, *effective* October 19, 2020, *vacancy*.

**b) Personal Leave in Excess of Six (6) Days:**

1. **(Board approved 9/22/20)** - Anne Sesock, BES Teacher, ESE, September 25 – November 30, 2020, *amend ending date to* October 2, 2020.
2. Donna Owens-Myer, BES School Nurse, September 28 – November 9, 2020.

**c) Family Medical Leave Requests:**

1. (Board approved 9/10/20) Angela Sprawling, CMHS Teacher Aide, Other Basic, September 8 – December 11, 2020, *amend return date to* September 22, 2020.
2. Joyce Days, Transportation Bus Driver, September 10 – October 30, 2020.
3. **(Board approved 9-10-20)** Alicia Richardson, Transportation Bus Driver, September 1 – October 9, 2020, *amend return date to* October 5, 2020.

**d) Administrative Services:**

**1. Contracts and/or Agreements:**

- i. **(Board approved 9/22/20)** 2020-2021 Revised Five-Year Work Plan.
- ii. 2020-2023 Engagement Letter between the School Board of Levy County and Purvis, Gray and Company, LLP to provide services for the annual internal accounts.
- iii. 2020-2021 Site Lease Agreement between the School Board of Levy County and T-Mobile South LLC, Jacksonville, FL.
- iv. Health Care Medical Services Agreement between the School Board of Levy County and Medical Risk Solutions, LLC (“MRS”).

**2. FINANCE:**

- a. Budget Amendments #20-00004 2A & #20-00005 2B.
- b. Surplus Property:
  1. Request permission to declare the following items as surplus, and to dispose of in the best interest of the Board on Govdeals.com:

**CMHS Surplus Property:**

<b><u>FISH Report No.</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Acquisition</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
#049	TRI-COMA Portable By the Tower 24’ wide x 40’ long	1972	Undertermined built in-house in 1972

**Superintendent’s Comments/Recommendations:** Superintendent Jeff Edison shared some of the face masks received from FSBA and said they will be distributed to the schools. He said we received 119 COVID-19 rapid test kits to use for staff. He said we will hold a Special Board Meeting on November 5, 2020 regarding the new CMHS Project, Final Plans and the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP). Mr. Edison said the new CMHS groundbreaking will be Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. at CMHS.

**Board Comments:** Cameron Asbell thanked Mr. Rod Thomas for his presentation and thanked Superintendent Edison for arranging the presentation tonight. Chris Cowart thanked the CKS 9<sup>th</sup> grade class for sending them copies of their “Land Remembered” activities in education. He asked for a bus Wi-Fi update. Morgan Bennett and Gary Masters said the busses ran the scheduled routes for several weeks, but the usage was very low. They said some weeks had no usage at all. Mr. Bennett said they are exploring new or different locations. Mr. Cowart said CKS Hospitality Club will hold their fishing tournament in November. He said the Beast Feast is postponed until spring and the Gala is moved to next fall. He said in place of the Beast Feast, the Foundation is holding a “Great Giving Levy County”. He said there are only 300 tickets at \$50 per ticket and the drawing for prizes, including cash prizes, will be November 5, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. He thanked CKS Cross Country team for recognizing Coach Brad and Sue Penney at their competition. Ashley Clemenzi thanked Mr. Bennett and Mr. Masters for providing the portable Wi-Fi for students without internet services and trying to find other solutions. Mr. Morgan said there are still hot spots available at all schools. Mrs. Clemenzi said we are blessed to live in Levy County and allow our schools to have football games, parades, student events and still be able to keep our COVID numbers as low as possible. Brad Etheridge asked about the letters being sent to parents about the nine-week notice to decide to continue or change educational options for their students. He said he is concerned with the policies and guidelines in dealing with COVID 19. He feels that the SBLC policies and guidelines need to be re-visited and reviewed. Mr. Etheridge said he appreciated everyone re-creating the homecoming event in Williston. He said they had the largest turnout in years. He said congratulations to the WMS Parliamentary Team for winning the 2020 State Middle School Parliamentary Procedure LDE. The team included: Elizabeth Allnutt, Jennifer Cook, Reagan Hancock, Savanna Jerrels, Carly Legler and Miles Miller. Their advisor is Natalie Couey. Paige Brookins agreed with Mr. Etheridge and said all the parades for each community had very large turnouts and success. She said everyone assisted to make them happen. She asked about the guidelines we have to follow concerning the the COVID virus. Superintendent Edison said we have to follow CDC guidelines.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned for the Board to go into Executive Session.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Jeffery R. Edison, Secretary

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Paige Brookins, Board Chairman