

Talbot County Board of Education
Board Meeting
February 2, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Central Elementary/Middle/High School
Virtual - Zoom

The Talbot County Board of Education met in a work session on February 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Anton Turner (D1), Mr. James Steverson, Vice Chair (D2), Mrs. Sharleta Hall, Chairperson (D3), Mr. Carlton Mahone (D4) and Mrs. Mildred Biggs (D5).

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharleta Hall at 6:08 p.m. There was a delay in starting due to technical difficulties.
- Chair Sharleta Hall led the Moment of Silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Sharleta Hall.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Mildred Biggs to approve the February 2, 2021 agenda seconded by Mr. Carlton Mahone 5-0-0
- Action Items from Superintendent
Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent
- Covid-19 Update – Mrs. Epps – Talbot County has 333 confirmed cases with 13 deaths. All surrounding counties are steadily increasing. CDC is stating that all vaccinated individuals should continue to adhere to the CDC guidelines to protect themselves and others.
- Threat Level Determination – Mrs. Epps – The level for Talbot County is high. It appears the younger people are not testing for the covid and not taking it seriously.
- Vaccinations – Nurse Chaney – A letter has been mailed out to all rising 8th grade students that they are required to have one dose of Tdap vaccine and one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine to fulfill Immunization requirements. A letter for rising 11th graders for their immunization requirements has been mailed stating they need meningococcal booster shot (MCV4) before starting school.
- Curriculum/Federal Audit Update – State budgets are being amended to include more online resources for students. Needs are higher with digital on line learning.

Monday, January 25th annual attendance and school protocol meeting reconvened. Interesting data was discussed with the large number of high school students that are not

signing on day by day or class by class during virtual learning. The administrative team is working on that. Next time we meet we are hoping for improved attendance for online learning. School climate varies from house to house with online learning. A survey being placed on our website for parent engagement.

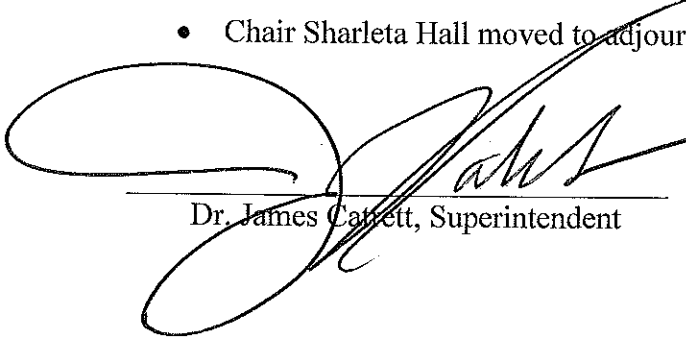
GaDoe is meeting with state legislators to inform them of their needs and priorities. Some of these items are as follows: Provide 21st century classroom, high speed internet access, provide funding for military liaison position, elevate the teaching profession as strengthening the teacher pipeline. Promote changes to allow districts to utilize retired teachers in highly needed areas; one time funding for covid relief; provide additional transportation costs; additional funding for school counselors to help in mental health due to covid; expand use of splash funds. Optional essay will no longer be part of SAT. Deep cuts are being made in education.

- School Report – Mr. Taylor – virtual at home learning is going well. Report cards go out on February 9, 2021; Ten percent of students are not logging in or doing assignments. This will result in them failing. Teachers, counselors and paraprofessionals are contacting students and parents concerning their lack of participation. All communication is being documented.
- Counselor Update – Dr. Tarleton – Application process for the 8th grade REACH Scholars has been started. Students will receive \$10,000 scholarships each for the Georgia College of their choice. Funds have been placed for REACH in our account with the Georgia Student Finance Commission for 2021-2022 school year. Thus far we have had \$53,000 in REACH scholarships.

Counseling is going smoothly through virtual, via telephone, emails and TEAMS via Office 365. The next ASVAB test will be given in April. Upward Bound is continuing modified services to our students through the remainder of the year.

- Chrome Books/Technology – Mr. Freeman 138 students have registered for chrome books. That means families with more than one student have asked for chrome books. Fifty-seven have been handed out. I am helping families to program their own personal devices. Working with Ms. Bass for internet services.
- School Athletic Report – Varsity Basketball game today at Stewart County at 6 p.m. Region tournament will start next week. Track and baseball have been cancelled due to Covid19 for our region.
- Physical Education/Health Teacher/Head Football Coach - A committee has been put together to interview for this vacancy. Candidates must hold a valid Georgia certificate. Interviews are starting next week.
- Library Board Appointment – Pine Mountain Regional Library System is asking the school board to appoint a new board member to fulfill the unfinished term of Chemia Henderson. The term will end June 20, 2023

- GSBA Board Development Catalog is in your packet. School board members are encouraged to take classes to become a better educated and informed school board member.
- Dr. Catrett asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel.
- Mr. Carlton Mahone made a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:24 p.m.; seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0
- Mr. Carlton Mahone made a motion to move back into regular session at 7:31 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Mildred Biggs. 5-0-0
- No action was taken from the executive session. It was decided to postpone action until the next board meeting, February 16, 2021.
- Chair Sharleta Hall moved to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.



Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent



Mrs. Sharleta Hall, Chairperson