

Talbot County Board of Education
Board Meeting
January 19, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Central Elementary/ Middle/ High School
Via Zoom

The Talbot County Board of Education met in regular session on January 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Anton Turner (D1), Mr. James Steverson (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 6:00 p.m.
- Chair Sharleta Hall led the Moment of Silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Sharleta Hall.
- A motion was made by Mr. Carlton Mahone to approve the January 19, 2021 agenda seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0
- A motion was made by Mr. Anton Turner to approve December 1, 2020 and December 15, 2020 board minutes, seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0

1. School Food Service

Ms. Andrea Mahone, Food Service Director – Dr. Catrett presented her report in her absence

Food Service Report for December 31, 2020

- Budget- \$595,000.00
- Expended- \$203,526.03
- Obligated- (\$11,458.22)
- Balance- \$391,473.97
- Percentage Spent- 34% Percentage Remaining- 66%

2. School System Finance

Mrs. Chemia Henderson, Finance

Financial Report for December 31, 2020

- Budget- \$6,873,139.00
- Encumbered- \$ 3,312.29
- Expended- \$452,079.20
- Percentage Spent- 47% Percentage remaining- 53%
- *Reports given*
 - Expenditure Summary
 - Check Register 431863-431884

- Elementary/Middle School
Mrs. Brenda Walker, Director

Deferred to Mr. Taylor for the school report.

- High School
Mr. Jonathan Taylor, Principal

1. All students are doing Virtual At Home Learning
 - a. Each student has access to Microsoft Team
 - b. Each Student was given a Curriculum Workbook
 - c. Students without internet are given Work Packages and Curriculum Workbooks
(assignments are to be turned in to the front office)
 - d. Several students are not participating (not logging on to Microsoft teams, not picking up work packages or turning in assignments). Those students will receive a grade of 55 until work is turned in. Points will be taken off for work not turned in on time.
 - e. Board members, please encourage parents that their students must sign on and complete all assignments.
2. Administrators are observing teachers' classes daily to ensure teaching is taking place.

Teachers must go live everyday unless they have been given approval to do otherwise by an administrator.

- Guidance Counselor
Dr. Jody Tarleton, Counselor

Counseling Department is currently building the schedules for the High School students for the 2021-22 school year.

We have 39 seniors this year. Twenty-five have already applied for college. Of those, nine are interested in Voorhees College. One student has signed with the U.S. Navy. Another student is pursuing the U.S. Air Force. One Senior has been accepted at Columbus State and was encouraged to apply for the Presidential Scholarship; one will attend real estate school; one will attend Voorhees; one will attend photography school and get a bachelor's degree in business; one has been accepted to 6 different colleges – they chose Albany State;

○ Instruction/Special Education

Dr. Fenton Dixon, Director

Our Teachers are performing ZOOM meetings with their students. Assistant Sped Director, Ms. Whiddon is present on all of the zoom meetings. The elementary school has 23 students; middle school has 15 students and the high school has 27 students. Sped packets are being sent home to our students.

In an effort to reduce costs a Speech Teacher has been hired this year instead of using a contractor.

○ Technology Update

Mr. Torrence Freeman

We have received 325 chrome books. Work is being completed to have them registered in g-suite; uploading and registering student's names; restrictive filters are placed on them to limit internet access. Chromebooks are for educational purposes only, they will be turned in at the end of the school year.

The state of Georgia gave us two hot spots to assist people with internet connections. An instructional manual will be made with pictures to assist students and parents with the use of their chromebook.

The donated equipment was for the teachers, they are not actually chrome books.

A survey was done prior to ordering chromebooks to assist with the number needed. Several parents stated they did not need our devices. Should there be a gap, additional chromebooks will be ordered. Every child will have a device.

○ Action Items from Superintendent

Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent

- Covid19 – Mrs. Walker -The number of cases in Talbot County is steadily increasing. Currently there have been 303 reported cases with 11 deaths. The increase appears to be from the Thanksgiving Holiday. Christmas and New Years will increase the numbers significantly. Talbot County is in the red zone.
- Threat Update – Mrs. Walker– The threat level is currently at the high level. Our numbers appear to be steadily increasing.
- Child Abuse Protocol – this is a committee made up of law enforcement; Department of Family Services, judicial officials and education professionals. The purpose of this protocol is to ensure a multi-disciplinary response to child abuse and neglect.

By teaching virtually we are unable to determine if the children are being protected from abuse. Educators (to include board members) are mandated reporters. You have 24 hours to report. Reporting in the school goes first to Mrs. Epps then to Dr. Tarleton. As board members, if you suspect abuse contact one of

the administrators at the school. It is not our job to investigate, it is our job to report suspected abuse.

- Attendance Protocol – Family Connection – this committee is to ensure that children are attending school. We have one of the highest attendance rates in the region. Mr. Taylor heads that committee, making the report to Judge McBride. The school board is invited to attend this meeting. You are invited to attend as a judicial watch. This is not a board meeting.
- Georgia High School Rules and Regulations – Mr. Taylor/Coach Cotton – All coaches in our region met and created a plan in order for the athletes to complete a season. Schools will only play another school once. Basically playing the second half of the season. The gym is set up to accommodate only 150 spectators, tickets will be sold first come/first served. Mask signs are in place and will be enforced; temperatures will be taken; and hand sanitizer stations are in place. Individuals with passes will be seated on the players' side. Georgia High School will impose fines if gyms are overcrowded. Some teams are not allowing fans in the gym.

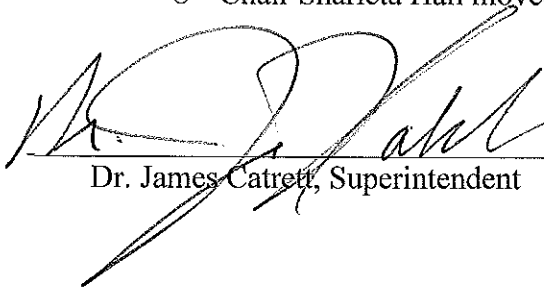
Friday, January 22, 2021 game with Schley County – the coaches have asked that it be moved to 5 p.m. rather than 6 p.m.

At the Regional Football meeting two of our players were selected for the 2nd Team All region Defensive Lineman, they are Javier Favors and Amorie Durham.

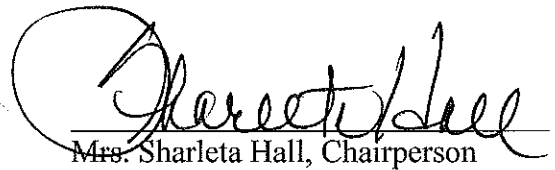
Senior night against Greenville will be moved to January 26, 2021.

- CARES-2 Act Relief Fund – Federal flow through. The funds are based on your Title-1 population. This is a notification but not an allocation. Talbot County Schools will receive \$1,376,000. There are various areas that this money can be used for to include fiscal budget reductions. Not sure when these funds will become available and when we can drawdown the funds.
- Governor Kemp wants to give staff members a \$1,000.00 bonus payment. \$180 million of the money will come from the GaDoe's CARES Act funds.
- Dr. Catrett asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel.
- Mr. Carlton Mahone made a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:46 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Anton Turner. 5-0-0
- Mr. James Steverson made a motion to move back into regular session at 8:03 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Mildred Biggs. 5-0-0
- Dr. Catrett asked for the Board to accept the resignation of Paraprofessional, Shekeva Scott.

- Mrs. Mildred Biggs made a motion to accept the resignation of Paraprofessional, Shakevia Scott; seconded by Mr. Carlton Mahone. 5-0-0
- Dr. Catrett asked for the Board to accept the resignation of Coach Cedric Stegall and for Coach Cedric Stegall to be released from his contract.
- Mr. James Steverson made a motion to accept Coach Cedric Stegall's resignation and to release him from his contract; Mr. Anton Turner seconded both actions. 5-0-0
- Chair Sharleta Hall moved to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.



Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent



Mrs. Sharleta Hall, Chairperson