

**Towns County Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting  
March 1, 2021  
6:45 PM**

The Towns County Board of Education met in a regular board meeting on Monday March 1, 2021 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were Tamie Bradley, Brandon Grimsley, Caroleen Woods, Stan Chastain, and Stephanie McConnell. Chairperson, Tamie Bradley called the meeting to order. Dr. Darren Berrong gave the invocation, and Tamie Bradley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by, Stephanie McConnell to **approve the agenda**. The motion carried.

Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by, Stan Chastain, to **approve the consent agenda**. The motion carried.

- Fundraisers:
  - i. MS Baseball / Home Run Derby / March 5, 2021
  - ii. ES PTSO / Mother's Day Rose and Candy Sale / April 27 – May 6, 2021
- Work Session Minutes / February 1, 2021
- Regular Board Meeting Minutes / February 1, 2021
- Monthly Financial Statement

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the resignation of a Special Education Paraprofessional, effective at the end of the 2021 school year**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsely, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the retirement of 4 teachers, 1 School Nutrition Assistant, & 1 Media Paraprofessional, effective at the end of the 2021 school year**. Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Caroleen Woods, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Special Education Paraprofessional, upon completion of fingerprint and background check**. Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsely, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a School Nutrition Substitute, upon completion of fingerprint and background check**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Substitute Teacher, upon completion of fingerprint and background check.** Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsely, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve that all full-time employees receive a one-time payment in the amount of \$1,000. The payment will be given to employees once we receive approval from the state. Governor Kemp recommended school employees receive this payment for the hard work and dedication shown during the pandemic. The state will fund the majority of the expense. This recommendation is that all employees receive the payment and the Towns County Board of Education will supplement additional cost from local funds.** Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsely, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried.

Board Appreciation Week falls on March 15-19. In recognition of this the Principals of each school presented each member with a gift certificate for \$50.00 a piece to the school store. Mr. Shannon Moss spoke to the board members on behalf of all the schools to thank them for all their support they show to the students and staff. Dr. Berrong also, talked about his appreciation for the support and ease in which they converse on matters of importance to the school system.

Elementary School Principal, Shannon Moss, reported to the board on the following:

- Spring Picture Day march 4th
- Fun-Friday's – Tie Dye Day, Wild West Day, Yellow Day and Dr. Seuss Day in honor of Read Across America
- March 18<sup>th</sup> STEM Science Night
- Second Step Program continues to go well
- COVID update for students and staff
- Enrollment 406 students, 36 online

Middle School Principal, Dr. Connie Hobbs, reported to the board on the following:

- The ease of snow days is better since we have had so much practice with online learning
- March Madness Calendar Raffle starts today
- 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Math testing
- COVID report for students and staff
- Enrollment 225 students, 11% online

High School Principal, Roy Perren, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 317
- Girls Basketball - Sweet 16
- Basketball – Elite 8 & tickets are still available
- Soccer and Baseball off to a good start
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> Winter Sports Awards
- April 17<sup>th</sup> Prom
- Evening with the Stars

- PBIS rollout & Bazya Smith is chosen Student of the Week
- COVID report for students and staff

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, reported to the board on the following:

- COVID update
- Vaccines - March 8<sup>th</sup> teachers will be eligible to receive the vaccine when available, & are working with the TCHD on a date
- Testing

No Closed Session.

Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsley, **to adjourn the meeting**.  
The motion carried.

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Tamie Bradley, Chairperson

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Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent