

Date: October 17, 2023



**ROME CITY
SCHOOLS**

BOARD O'GRAM

MEETING MINUTES



Report of Rome Board of Education

Board Members Present:

- Ms. Faith Collins, Chairperson
- Mr. Will Byington, Vice-Chairperson
- Ms. Toni Blanchard
- Dr. Melissa Davis
- Mrs. Jill Fisher
- Mr. Alvin L. Jackson, Sr.

Board Members Absent:

- Ms. Pascha Burge

Opening:

- Mrs. Collins called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Mr. Byington gave the opening prayer, and Rome High School's JROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- At Mrs. Collins' request, Mrs. Kristin Teems called the roll and determined that the Board had a quorum.

Minutes and Financial Reports:

- On a Jackson/Blanchard motion, the Board members unanimously approved the minutes for the September 12, 2023 regular Board meeting, financial report, and other reports.

Public Recognition:

- Mrs. Buffi Murphy presented the Rome City Schools Employees of the Month:
Anna K. Davie Elementary - Ms. Shannon Roper
East Central Elementary - Ms. Heather Byington
Elm Street Elementary - Ms. Janeth Soto
Main Elementary - Ms. Jada Scott
West Central Elementary - Ms. Joandra Mendoza
West End Elementary - Mr. Kenny Futch
Rome Middle School - Ms. Miracle Gray

Rome High School - Ms. Susan Mann
PLC/RTA - Ms. Margarita Lowrance

- Ms. Coretta Stewart presented the Rome City Schools Students of the Month:
Anna K. Davie Elementary - Gabriel Guzman
East Central Elementary - Ellie Bennett
Elm Street Elementary - Alana Vicente Mendez
Main Elementary - Emner Orozco Gomez
West Central Elementary - Jimena Vasquez Reynoso
West End Elementary - Stevie Daniel II
Rome Middle School - E'Shanti Ware
Rome High School - Hannah Jackson
PLC/RTA - Salomon Hernandez

Public Comment:

- None

Superintendent's Report and Recommendation:

- Attendance Report:
 - Our elementary attendance winner for the second month is West End, at 96.75%.
 - Our secondary attendance winner for the second month is Rome Middle School, at 94.70%.
 - Our staff attendance winner for the second month is West Central, at 97.97%.
 - The overall attendance rate for Rome City Schools for the second month is 94.0%.

- Personnel Report:
 - On a Fisher/Davis motion, the Board unanimously approved Dr. Holland's personnel recommendations for employment for the 2023-2024 school year.

Please see attached for a list of the approved personnel recommendations.

- ESPLOST V:
 - Director of Finance, Mr. Greg Studdard, presented the ESPLOST V receipts for the tax period of September 2023, which indicate the actual amount collected was \$716,775. The anticipated ESPLOST amount was \$505,300. We had a positive variance of \$211,475.
- Spotlight on Rome High School, Principal, Mr. Parke Wilkinson:
 - Mr. Wilkinson began his presentation by introducing his new administration and sharing highlights of Rome High School. Excellence in Everything - High-Achieving Academic Program, Thriving Fine Arts Program, and Winning Athletics Program. He then progressed to the 4 pillars of Student Achievement, Staff Development, Stakeholder Engagement, and Safety and Operations giving detailed examples of working in achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan.

- Other Items:
 - Hispanic Heritage Month
 - Flexible Learning Day/Parent Conference Day on Monday, October 17th
 - Volleyball Team will be hosting a region tournament
 - We are celebrating Homecoming Week. We have a homecoming parade on Friday, October 20th and a homecoming dance on Saturday, October 21st @8:00 PM.
 - Howl-O-Ween Literacy Festival at the Family Resource Center on Saturday, October 21st @10:00
 - Peach State on Saturday, October 28th
 - We are celebrating National Principals Month with a shout-out to all of our principals. We appreciate who you are and what you do for our students.
 - We are celebrating Bus Driver Appreciation Month with a shout-out to all of our bus drivers and Mr. Graham.
 - Professional Learning Day with Principals on Thursday, October 19th at the CCA
 - The Board will be visiting Rome High School on Friday, October 20th @12:00 PM.
 - National Signing Day on Thursday, November 2nd
 - Senior Night at the Rome High School football game on Friday, November 3rd

Communications:

- Mrs. Murphy recognized and congratulated the Rome City Schools' Board of Education as a 2023 Georgia School Board Association (GSBA) Exemplary Board.
- Ms. Marores Perry presented information concerning the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 - October 15, with a video highlighting Rome City Schools' students and the motto that we are one; we are Rome.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- Mrs. Murphy presented the Rome City Schools' Advanced Degree Program Partnership between Kennesaw State University's Bagwell College of Education and Rome City Schools. Teachers selected for this program would have the opportunity to earn either a Master of Arts in Teaching or a Master of Education. Dr. Epps, the Dean of KSU's Bagwell College of Education, shared a few words concerning the consideration of the proposed partnership. On a Blanchard/Jackson motion, the Board members unanimously approved the partnership resolution between Kennesaw State University's Bagwell College of Education and Rome City Schools.
- Parrish Construction Group presented its Guaranteed Maximum Price Approval with a Guaranteed Delivery Date. On a Jackson/Blanchard motion, the Board members unanimously approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$108,000,000 with Parrish Construction for building the new Rome Middle School.

Closing:

- There being no further business, Mrs. Collins adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.