



JOINT EDUCATION AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023 | 1:00 PM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

COUNCILOR J.T. MOORE, COMMITTEE CHAIR  
COUNCILORS DARRELL O'QUINN & CLINTON WOODS, MEMBERS

Councilor(s) Present: Moore, O'Quinn, Woods

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Councilor J. T. Moore.

II. INVOCATION

Councilor Moore opened the Meeting with Prayer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES – May 15, 2022

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve the Minutes.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

The May 15, 2023 Joint Education and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes were Approved as Recorded.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Yvette Richardson, Alabama Board of Education – District 4

Dr. Richards presented information on the State Department of Education, Legislative Session, and District Schools.

There is a new salary matrix for LPN's and nurses in the schools. It will increase to ensure that \$15.00/hour is the minimum pay for all personnel on a salary schedule. There are some personnel that will make more, depending on their level education.

There will be a two percent (2%) pay increase for all public education employees.

Updated TEAMS Matrix

- There has been a push for STEM in the schools; technology, education, mathematics. Individuals who have master's degrees and passes a certain level are able to apply to become a TEAMS teacher.
- There will be career coaches in each district.
- The allotment for Reading Coaches is \$80,000.00 for district.
- This includes the amount for salary and fringe benefits.
- The local school district determines where those coaches will be placed.
- There was a \$25 million allotment for math coaches.
- National Board-Certified Teachers will receive an additional \$5,000.00 for being national board certified.

CALT

- Each teacher who becomes a mentor receives an additional \$1,000.00 to their salaries (per year).
- Special Education teachers will receive an additional \$1,000.00 to their salaries (per year).
- Speech Pathologists will receive an additional \$1,000.00 to their salaries (per year).

SUPPLEMENT APPROPRIATIONS

- Advancement and Technology Plus
- College and Career Readiness
- Prefund CIS Student Materials

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- School Safety Grants
- Summer Math Camps
- Fleet Renewal High Needs

**OTHER FINANCIALS**

- Grocery Tax
- Competitive Bidding
- Public Works
- Elected Superintendents Compensation
- Interstate Teach Mobility Compact
- Parental Rights
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention
- Safe at Schools Act
- Special Education Classroom Cameras
- Retired LEOs as SROs
- Cash at Sports Events
- Alabama Credential Quality and Transparency Act – Graduation Requirements
- Financial Literacy
- Principal Mentorship Act
- Alternative Teaching Certification

**FINANCIAL LITERACY**

- The Alabama State Department of Education mandates that all students take a course which includes financial literacy.
- The bill aligns the legislature's intent with the standards set by the Alabama State Department of Education.
- The Alabama State Department of Education will create an exam that would test on the standards of the approved financial literacy course.
- Alabama is the 5th in the nation for access to Financial Literacy.
- The test will be provided to all school districts and administered to each student.
- School districts will then provide exam results to the Alabama State Department of Education on a yearly basis.

**PRINCIPAL MENTORSHIP ACT**

- Mentoring programs will be developed for new principals.
- Leadership Academy will be developed.
- Applications currently being solicited for Design Team.
- Comprehensive Professional Learning Plan by Spring 2024.
- The funding will begin Spring 2025.

**TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS**

There is a teacher shortage.

The Alabama State Department of Education has been looking at various teaching certificates.

**ALABAMA LITERACY ACT**

- Add age appropriateness to rubrics for reviewing core reading and intervention programs.
- Add the Director of ARI to the membership of the Literacy Task Force.
- Of the seven new members of the Literacy Task Force, two must be public k-12 teachers.
- Add two at-large members that will serve as the Chair and Vice Chair on a rotating basis.
  - One appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
  - One appointed by the Speaker of the House
- Members serve a four-year term and may be reappointed one additional two-year term.

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- Assessment list finalized for the 2021-2022 school year shall be valid for a period of five years, the list approved by the Literacy Task Force shall be valid for three years, starting with 2023-2024 school year; assessments may be added during the time period, but not removed.
- Literacy Task Force shall make public all rubrics and measurements used to determine eligibility and compliance for all assessments that applied for consideration.

**ALABAMA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

- Increases scholarship amount from \$6,000.00 to \$10,000.00 per student in all grades.
- Expands definition of “eligible student” from 185% of the federal poverty level to 250% and eventually to 350%.
- Removes “failing school” and “non-failing” terminology and use “priority” and “qualifying”
- Lowest performing schools indicator as D and F; not bottom 6%.
- Increased cap from \$30 million to \$40 million initially, and possibly \$60 million in coming years, if the cumulative amount of tax credits issued exceed 90% of the cap in the three out of four years.

**CHARTER SCHOOLS**

- Legislation is now in place to ensure charter schools.
- The Legislatures approved that charter schools are going to have their own office (their own person to oversee the charter schools).
- The Charter School Commission is working on appointments.
- The State Board of Education will ensure that the Charter School Commission comply with what the public schools are doing.

**REPORTS**

- Reports must be submitted by June 15<sup>th</sup> to the Legislature on:
- The Literacy Act
- Middle School Computer Programing Initiative
- Computer Science Educator Training
- Alabama Technology in Motion (not mandated)
- Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative
- Alabama Science in Motion (not mandated)

**TEACHERS SHORTAGE**

**Committees:**

- Alabama Teacher Shortage Taskforce
- Teacher Preparation and Certification Work Group
- Teacher Retention Taskforce
- Teach Quality Roundtable.

The Alabama Department of Education has:

- 18,661 trained teachers in math.
- 93 Regional Literacy Specialist
- 742 Local Reading Specialist
- 3,452 National Board-Certified Teachers
- 97 **Posts**

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Seventy percent (70%) of third graders are reading on grade levels.

**Vocabulary Reading and Comprehension**

- 2021 – 77% of students were doing well
- 2022 – 78% of students were doing well
- 2023 – 76% of students were doing well

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**GRADUAL RELEASE OF PEOPLE**

In 2019, 52 schools were identified as needing full support as far as how they were performing.

In 2022, 35 of the schools were removed to limited support.

**COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ACT**

- Charles A. Brown has been cleared.
- Hemphill has been cleared.
- Hayes K8 has been cleared from comprehensive school improvement
- Washington has been cleared.
- West End Academy has been cleared.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The US Supreme Court ruled on Affirmative Action
- The Biden Administration announced a loan forgiveness in the amount of \$39 billion for over 800K participants.
- Birmingham City Schools start date is Monday, August 7, 2023.
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 7, 2023. Submit agenda items by Wednesday, August 2, 2023 by 4:00p.m. to [terri.chatman@birminghamal.gov](mailto:terri.chatman@birminghamal.gov)

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Adjourn.**

**Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.**

**Meeting Adjourned.**