The Decatur County Board of Education met for the Work Session Meeting on October 16, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Board of Education Support Center, 507 Martin Street. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Bobby Barber, Jr., Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., Mr. Randall Jones and Mr. Winston Rollins.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order.

Superintendent Rayfield provided the Board with information on the following items:

- Financial Update - information provided by Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rayfield and Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tim Matthews.
- Shared Savings Update - information provided by Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rayfield and Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tim Matthews.
- Strategic Plan Implementation Update - information presented by Assistant Superintendent, Dr. April Aldridge.

No action was taken.

**Superintendent Notes:**

**REMINDERS:**

1). Board Training Session – November 6, 2014, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Support Center.

Mr. Jacky Grubbs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Winston Rollins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.
Decatur County Board of Education  
October 16, 2014  
Regular Minutes

The Decatur County Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting on October 16, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur County Schools Support Center. Members present were: Dr. Sydney Cochran, Chairman, Mr. Jacky Grubbs, Mr. Bobby Barber, Jr., Mr. Kelvin Bouie, Sr., Mr. Randall Jones and Mr. Winston Rollins.

Dr. Cochran called the meeting to order. Mr. Jacky Grubbs gave the invocation. The inspirational message was provided by Potter Street Elementary School teacher, Mrs. Melissa Benton. Mrs. Benton showed a video representing the students, faculty and staff of Potter Street Elementary School.

Dr. Cochran announced that an action item for entering Executive Session to discuss personnel would be added to the agenda.

Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to accept the agenda. Mr. Kelvin Bouie gave a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Randall Jones made the second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION and PRESENTATIONS:

Superintendent Rayfield presented:

- Parent Leadership Award – Superintendent Rayfield along with Dr. Cheryl Guy, Decatur County School System Parent Involvement Coordinator; Mrs. Kathy Varner, Federal Programs Director; and Mrs. Deborah Brown, West Bainbridge Elementary Assistant Principal recognized West Bainbridge Elementary parent volunteer Mrs. Gail Bouie. Mrs. Bouie is a 2014 Georgia Parent Leadership Award winner, awarded by the Georgia Department of Education and the Georgia Parent Teacher Association. She will also serve on the State Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council (PAC) as Decatur County School System’s Parent Representative. Mrs. Varner also noted that Decatur County Schools will host the Region 4 Parent Involvement Coordinators meeting (PIC) in March 2015.
Golden Radish Award – Superintendent Rayfield recognized Hutto Middle and Bainbridge Middle Schools as honorary recipients of the Golden Radish Award. Decatur County School District was one of 30 Georgia Districts honored. The district has six schools growing their own edible gardens, each with a specific focus such as Hutto Middle School’s greens garden. Teachers at both Hutto Middle School and Bainbridge Middle School incorporated farm to school into their curriculum by combining STEM projects with ideas from local agricultural businesses. Locally grown food items were featured and served in the School Nutrition Program.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

I. Administrative Services Report:

A. Financial: Tim Matthews, Chief Financial Officer, reported that with 25% of the school year completed, we are right on budget. Mr. Matthews noted that ESPLOST receipts for September were $349,000 and are up by 2% year to date and holding steady.

B. School Food Service: Mrs. Debbie Purcell, SFS Director, reported that with 25% of the year complete, SFS had expended 23% of their budget.

C. Maintenance: Jerry Mills, Maintenance Director – Mr. Mills reported that the new Jones Wheat-Elementary School move was complete. The transition was very smooth thanks to a 100% team effort. All students were in their seats on Thursday, October 9, 2014 to begin the second nine weeks of school. Mr. Mills noted this is an end to a great project.

D. Transportation: Farrell Lawrence, Transportation Director – reported that the regular routes for the new Jones-Wheat are going great. Mr. Lawrence also reported that the Georgia and National School Bus Safety Week will be held the week of October 20 – 24, 2014. Monday, October 20, 2014 will be Georgia School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

E. Kathy Varner, Federal Programs Director reported that Visitor’s Day for Migrant Students at Valdosta State University will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2014. Mrs. Erica Mills, Migrant Interpreter will accompany the students. Mrs. Varner also noted that Short Term Action Plans (STAP) for School Improvement will be held on November 4 - 5, 2014.

F. Dr. April Aldridge, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum reported that the Curriculum and Instruction Department continues to make progress with learning targets and curriculum assessments. Dr. Aldridge also commented that the second phase of administering student assessments has begun. Dr. Aldridge noted that the two Tele-Health programs at JWE and WBE are preparing for training and implementation.
G. Dr. Suzi Bonifay, Assistant Superintendent for Teacher Evaluation and Secondary Curriculum – absent.

H. Catherine Gossett, Exceptional Education Director - reported that the Exceptional Education Department is preparing for the first FTE Count. Mrs. Gossett also reported that 512 students are served in the Exceptional Education Program.

I. Technology: Steve Dunn, Director - reported on the technology progress of the new Jones-Wheat Elementary School.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Recommendation of Personnel - Superintendent Rayfield presented the Board with the October 2014 personnel recommendations and resignations. Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to accept the personnel recommendations and resignations. Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a second to the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Randall Jones made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel with a second by Mr. Kelvin Bouie. The motion carried and the Board entered executive session. No action was taken. Mr. Jacky Grubbs made a motion to adjourn executive session with a second by Mr. Winston Rollins. The motion carried and the Board adjourned executive session. Dr. Cochran called the meeting back to order.

Mr. Bobby Barber made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kelvin Bouie made a second to the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned.

________________________________________
J. Sydney Cochran
Chair or Presiding Officer

Fred H. Rayfield, Jr.
Secretary