

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 29, 2022

Present: Christine Hilliard, Pat McCracken, Kelly Jones, Dr. Chris Dossenbach, Susan Britt, John Conway, Dr. Johnnye Waller, Dr. Andy Bryan, Rebecca Measamer, Sandra Bowen and Wendy Godfrey

Christine Hilliard called the meeting to order. Pat McCracken made a motion to amend and approve the agenda with adding Retention Bonus to #5 and moving the remaining items in sequential order, Christine Hilliard seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Pat McCracken made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 25, 2022 meeting, Christine Hilliard seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

ESS-Educational Staffing Solutions Report/Classroom Coverage-Dr. Andy Bryan

Dr. Bryan asked John Conway to update committee on the new sub company. Mr. Conway stated that the fill rate for absences is up to 70%, which is an overall increase of approximately 20% from the fill rate at this same time last year. ESS has hired a Lee County Schools dedicated consultant to recruit and fill open sub vacancies. John stated they are still using some teachers to cover classrooms in middle and high schools. General discussion took place amongst the committee regarding the need to re-implement the teacher coverage at middle and high school levels. Pat McCracken made a motion to approve teacher coverage with the stipulation that ESS/Frontline must be used to try to fill the vacancy prior to allowing teacher coverage as it is the intent to keep planning period available for teachers as much as possible. Christine Hilliard seconded the motion and this will be placed under New Business at the Board of Education meeting on October 11, 2022.

Retention Bonus – Dr. Andy Bryan

Dr. Andy Bryan presented two different retention bonus options for the committee to review – one for \$2,000.00 and second for \$3,000.00 to be paid as specified within additional handout in November. This bonus would be given with a written agreement from staff requiring them to pay back a pro-rated amount if they leave the district prior to June 30, 2023. General discussion was had by committee and staff regarding the total cost of both options. Pat McCracken made a motion to approve the \$2,000.00 bonus with a total estimated cost of \$3,700,200.00 using ESSR funding. Christine Hilliard seconded the motion and this will be placed under New Business at the Board of Education meeting on October 11, 2022.

Propane Gas Fees – Dr. Andy Bryan

Dr. Andy Bryan presented the bids for propane gas for the 2022-2023 school year in the absence of Chris McNeill. Staff recommendation was to continue use with Hunter Oil and Propane. Pat McCracken made a motion to approve a one-year contract with Hunter Oil and Propane for the 2022-2023 school year. Christine Hilliard seconded the motion and this will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the Board of Education meeting on October 11, 2022.

Netcom-open purchase order – Rebecca Measamer

Rebecca Measamer requested that technology have an open purchase order for Netcom for \$150,000.00. In recent months due to the turnaround time and the quotes typically only being good for 30 days, by the time technology gets the quote, takes it to the committees, get the approval and orders the 30 days has expired and the price has increased. Rebecca stated that they will report monthly as to what has been spent on the open purchase order to the committee. It was also noted that the same request went before Facilities and Technology and was approved to go to BOE. Pat McCracken made a motion to approve the open purchase order for Netcom for \$150,000.00. Christine Hilliard seconded the motion and this will be placed under New Business at the Board of Education meeting on October 11, 2022.

Review Board Attorney Invoice – Services through 8/31/2022 -FYI-Kelly Jones

Kelly Jones shared the invoice from Tharrington Smith, L.L.P for services rendered through August 31, 2022 with the Finance Committee for review. The invoice will be provided to the Board at the October 11, 2022 meeting.

Review Financial Report-FYI-Kelly Jones

Kelly Jones shared the Financial Report with the Finance Committee for review. The financial report will be provided to the Board at the October 11, 2022 meeting.

Board Expense Summary-FYI-Dr, Andy Bryan

Kelly Jones shared the Board Expense Summary with the Finance Committee for review. The expense summary will be provided to the Board at the October 11, 2022 meeting.

With no further business, Pat McCracken made a motion to adjourn, Christine Hilliard seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2022. 5:00pm, second floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly G. Jones
Chief Finance Officer