The Toombs County Board of Education met for its regular meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Clint Williams, Chairman, Mr. Russ Benton, Vice Chairman, Mr. Trent Akins, Mr. Jonathan Holland, Mrs. Toni Wilkes, and Superintendent Richard Smith. Mr. Mitch Bellflower and Mr. Michael Grimes were absent from the meeting.

Visitors in attendance were Crystal Sharpton, Lisa Turner, Aaron Turner, Angie Wilds, Dee Tapley, Crystal Blocker, Brandi Anthony, Belinda Denmark, Sandra Floyd, Tabatha Nobles, Shannon Chambers and Bill Benton.

The Invocation was given by Mr. Williams, followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

On a motion by Mrs. Wilkes, and seconded by Mr. Akins, the board approved the agenda for the meeting.

Unanimously Approved

During Public Participation, Mrs. Lisa Turner spoke to the board concerning the lack of heat on her child’s school bus. She expressed this had been an issue for about two weeks. The board had been made aware of the situation, and the issue is being addressed. Mr. Smith is to check on when the problem may be corrected and contact Mrs. Turner next week.

On motion by Mr. Benton and seconded by Mr. Holland, the board approved the consent agenda for the meeting that included the minutes from the January regular meeting.

Unanimously Approved

On a motion by Mrs. Wilkes and seconded by Mr. Benton, the board approved the purchase of one (1) 72 passenger 2015 International School Bus from Rush Bus Centers of Georgia for $80,390. State Bond Money will be used to pay the largest portion of this expense. Local Funding will make up the final $2,000.

Unanimously Approved

The board will hold their 3 hour Whole Board Training session on April 28, 2016. Laura Tanase with the GADOE Food Service Division will discuss the Farm to School Program. Shelly Smith will present training on the Evaluation of the Superintendent.

Mr. Smith presented a draft copy of a 160 day school calendar for FY2017. The calendar also showed possible dates that could be added as student class days. Mr. Smith advised the board he would be seeking more input from teachers and administrators prior to presenting a calendar to the board next month. Discussion was also held on the need to push the testing window for Georgia Milestones as deep into the school year as possible to give more learning days prior to the test. It was also discussed that it may be possible to add summer school days for students who need to retest. No action was taken.

Mr. Smith presented the board with the February SPLOST report. No action was required.
On a motion by Mr. Benton, and seconded by Mr. Holland, the board approved the Resolution to Close-Out the New Toombs County High School Building Project. This resolution allows the Facilities Division at GADOE to declare the project closed and release the final reimbursement funds.

Unanimously Approved

On a motion by Mrs. Wilkes, seconded by Mr. Benton, the board voted to go into executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3(6)).

- Trent Akins - yes
- Russ Benton - yes
- Jonathan Holland - yes
- Toni Wilkes - yes
- Clint Williams-yes

On motion by Mr. Akins, seconded by Mrs. Wilkes, the board voted to come out of executive session.

- Trent Akins - yes
- Russ Benton - yes
- Jonathan Holland - yes
- Toni Wilkes - yes
- Clint Williams-yes

On a motion by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Holland, the board approved the following personnel recommendations: **Employment Recommendation:** Rachel Gray Cowart, Pre-K Teacher, TCES; Jared Hamlin, Teacher, FY2017; Jennifer Marsh, Transportation Secretary; Rick Wilson, Bus Driver, Janet Poole, Pre-K Paraprofessional, TCES; Pamela Dixon, Substitute Bus Driver, Andrew Williams, Substitute Bus Driver. **Retirement Notice for the end of the current year:** Martha Eason, Teacher, LPS; Jacqueline Rowe, Teacher, LPS; Shelia Pittman, Teacher, TCHS; Sonya Ross, Assoc. Supt. - Curriculum Director (8/1/2016); Nathaniel Joyce, Custodian, TCHS. **Resignation Notice:** Aimee Kight, Teacher, LPS (End of the Year); Misty Roberts, Paraprofessional, LPS (2/15/2016), Michele Williams, Lunchroom Worker, LUES (2/5/2016).

Unanimously Approved

On motion by Mr. Akins, and seconded by Mr. Holland, the board approved to deed land to the City of Lyons for the purpose of constructing a road connecting Bulldogs Road and Bellevue Ave. This will allow for a joint project between the city, the county and the school system to build the road.

Unanimously Approved

On motion by Mrs. Wilkes, and seconded by Mr. Holland, the board approved the resolution to accept the Strategic Waiver School System Final Application.

Unanimously Approved
Mr. Smith provided the board with information concerning the property at Booster Stadium that is currently deeded to the City of Lyons. It involves a strip of land that runs from the north end zone of the stadium through the outfield of the baseball field. There is also land located at Faison Park that the city wants to use for recreation purposes that is deeded in the name of the school system. We have been asked to explore the possibility of making a land swap between the properties. Mr. Smith stated he will investigate the situation and have more information next month.

On motion by Mr. Akins, and seconded by Mrs. Wilkes, the board approved for employees who wish to purchase the service provided by Air Med Care be allowed to have the expense of this enrollment be payroll deducted. In doing so, an employee who elected to take the service from Air Med Care would see their annual expense reduced from $65 to $50.

Unanimously Approved

On a motion by Mr. Akins, seconded by Mr. Holland, the board voted to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously Approved