The Toombs County Board of Education met for its regular meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Clint Williams, Chairman, Mr. Russ Benton, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Mitch Bellflower, Mrs. Toni Wilkes, Mr. Trent Akins, and Mr. Michael Grimes. Mr. Jonathan Holland was absent.

The Invocation was given by Mr. Bellflower and was followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Bellflower, and seconded by Mr. Benton, the board approved the agenda for the meeting.

Unanimously Approved

As advertised and as posted, the 3rd and final required Toombs County School System Tax Hearing occurred in conjunction with the regular Toombs County Board of Education Meeting. There was no public comments for Tax Hearing #3. On a motion by Mr. Akins, and seconded by Mr. Benton, the Toombs County School Board set the school property tax rate at 14.00 mills.

Unanimously Approved

Mr. Waller further informed the board and public the mill increase is necessary due to a state mandate which requires the rate to be at 14.00 mills by July 1, 2019. Failing to meet the 14 mill requirement would mean the school system would lose millions of dollars in equalization funding from the state and thereby require a substantial local mill increase to offset the state funding loss.

On a motion by Mrs. Wilkes and seconded by Mr. Bellflower, the board approved the consent agenda for the meeting which included:

- The minutes of the August 9, 2018 regular TCBOE meeting
- Rescheduling the Thursday, October 11, 2018 regular board meeting to the date of Tuesday, October 9, 2018 (The change is due to the Toombs/Vidalia Football Game which is scheduled for October 11).
- An approval of the FFA TCHS/TCMS Annual Field Trip to Indianapolis, IN

Unanimously Approved

During the Superintendent’s Report, Mr. Waller asked Mrs. Nobles, Principal of Lyons Upper Elementary School, to present the Spotlight on Student Achievement in Schools. Mrs. Nobles presented a powerpoint which highlighted the many accomplishments of LUES including:

* 5 Star School Climate
* BETA School of Merit
* Beating the Odds School
* CCRPI of 82.1
* PBIS Operational School
*Title I High-Progress School
*Student Academic Growth at LUES is higher than 81% of schools in the state.

Mrs. Nobles reviewed Lyons Upper Elementary School’s annual goals and the plans to meet those goals. Mrs. Nobles also recognized LUES students who have demonstrated excellent literacy gains and achievement.

Mr. Waller recognized the employees who had been voted by their peers as demonstrating exceptional service and dedication to students and the Toombs County School System. The Extra Mile Award was presented to LaGail Wright, LUES Counselor. The WOW Award was presented to James Johnson, TCMS Custodian. Mr. Waller extended thanks to these colleagues for a job well accomplished!

Mr. Waller reviewed current student enrollment numbers with the board.

Mr. Waller presented the board with monthly financial reports which included the:

- August SPLOST Report
- General Fund Budget Report (Tentative)
- General Fund Monthly Cash Flow Report
- July Check Register for Fund 100, General Operations
- Ameris Account Balance

No action was required.

Mr. Waller submitted policies JBC (School Admissions) and Policy JBC(1)- Homeless Students to the Board for review. These policies require amendments and will be available for public review for one month and will be presented for action at the October board meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Bellflower and seconded by Mrs. Wilkes 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
Mitch Bellflower- Yes
Russ Benton- Yes
Toni Wilkes-Yes
Clint Williams-Yes
Michael Grimes-Yes

On a motion by Mr. Bellflower and seconded by Mr. Grimes, the board voted to come out of executive session.

Trent Akins-Yes
Mitch Bellflower- Yes
Russ Benton- Yes
Toni Wilkes-Yes
On a motion by Mr. Grimes and seconded by Mrs. Wilkes, the board approved the following personnel recommendations:

Classified Recommendations: Brittney Matthews/Paraprofessional/LUES; Donna Kennedy/Bus Driver; Otis Walker/Bus Driver; Brandon Calhoun/Substitute Bus Driver

Classified Resignations: Teresa Odunfa/Bus Driver

Supplemental Duties and Contractual Amendments 2018-2019: Mark McDaniel/Resignation/Coaching Duties Only

Unanimously Approved

Mr. Waller provided the Board with information regarding the Special-Purpose Local-Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). This is a Joint Resolution between the Toombs County School System and Vidalia City Schools. Both Vidalia and Toombs County Schools are working to have the SPLOST ready for approval during the November Board Meeting. The current SPLOST cycle ends in March 2020.

Mr. Waller provided the Board with information regarding the Board Training Report.

Mr. Waller presented the board with the Board Training Plan which must be approved by the October Board Meeting.

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

Unanimously Approved