

**COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**April 22, 2021
at
Virtual Meeting**

Committee members present:

James Ragland (Chair) - Board Member, Carol Beckerle (Vice-chair) - Board Member, Gregory Jordan - Community Member, Tim Grant - Community Member

Others present: IA Carolyn Smith, Kevin O'Connor, Dr. Talisa Dixon, Dr. Tina Pierce, Stan Bahorek, Dr. John Stanford, Maurice Oldham, Jenny Vanover, Mike De Fabbo, Mira Wright, Courtney Hale, Hollie Aselage, Robert Collins, Ryan Nord, Dion Brown, Terri Berchak, Kevin Saionzkowski, and Harold Saunders

Committee member absent: Jennifer Adair, Board President, Ilija Vadjon, Community Member

Chair Ragland asked Vice-Chair Beckerle to Chair the meeting.

Vice-Chair Beckerle called the regular meeting of the Board of Education Audit and Accountability Committee (the Committee) to order at 3:48 p.m.

Vice-Chair Beckerle recognized the attendance of Committee Members: James Ragland, Tim Grant, and Gregory Jordan.

Vice-Chair Beckerle made a motion to accept the agenda as presented with no changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 25, 2021 was made by Member Grant and seconded by Member Jordan. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Operations

A&A Committee Charter – Draft

Vice-Chair Beckerle led the discussion of the A&A amended proposed charter. The charter amendments are part of an overall effort of the Board to restructure and bring into conformance all Board committee charters and to emphasize that the roles of the committees are an advisory to the Board.

IA Smith and the Committee discussed the bridging document which highlights the contrast between the current A&A charter - amended 4/26/2018 and the new proposed aligned charter.

Vice-Chair Beckerle shared with the Committee the amended language that authorizes the activities of each committee ties back to the bylaws provision that creates the committees.

IA Smith, Mr. Bahorek and the Committee engaged in further discussion regarding the amended proposed A&A Charter.

Vice-Chair Beckerle clarified with Member Jordan and Member Grant suggestions regarding the scope of the Committee and the mission of the Office of Internal Audit in terms of whether it is beyond this financial compliance into overall compliance with other legal and regulatory requirements. The proposed charter will be revisited at an upcoming meeting.

Office of Internal Audit Report

Request for Release of Report(s)

Human Resources (HR) – Benefits Audit Report

Mr. Saunders led the discussion of the HR – Benefits Audit Report. The Executive Summary, and Background were discussed.

In Spring 2020, the Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS) offered a Peer Review Report for the HR Department relative to its operations, governance, training and technology processes in their comparisons to other like districts or governments across the country. IA reviewed the released report and offered some mitigations hints to HR leadership.

The following high-risk issues and recommendations were discussed:

Issue 1 – The Human Resources Department lacks sufficient governance programs; goals and objectives setting and monitoring; vision setting; strategic planning; and performance measurement.

Issue 5 – Benefits management could not provide a documented rationale analysis of the section's decision to not maintain stop-loss coverage.

Mr. De Fabbo shared with the Committee HR is formalizing a steering committee to focus on change management associated with the response to the CGCS audit, recent OIA audits, and department transformation. HR will hire a project manager who will focus on all of this work.

Mr. Saunders, Mr. De Fabbo, IA Smith, Mr. Bahorek, Dr. Dixon and the Committee engaged in further discussion regarding the Human Resources – Benefits Audit Report.

A motion to approve and release the HR – Benefits Audit Report was made by Member Ragland and seconded by Member Grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Internal Audit Activity and Dashboard Report

Mr. O'Connor presented to the Committee a high-level overview of the OIA Activity Dashboard Report. Mr. O'Connor discussed audits that will be presented at the June A&A meeting.

Mr. O'Connor and the Committee engaged in further discussion regarding the Internal Audit Activity and Dashboard Report.

The IT Risk Assessment is being performed by Schneider Downs and started in April. OIA non-personnel budget was presented to Finance and Appropriations Committee in March.

A motion to approve and accept the additions and deletions to the audit plan was made by Member Jordan and seconded by Member Ragland. The motion passed unanimously.

Risk Management

Safety & Security Update

Mr. Collins shared with the Committee the Lobby Guard security system has been replaced with Raptor technologies. The Raptor visitor management school security system screens for sex offenders, alerts staff of custody violations, and provides everything schools needs to screen persons for COVID-19 exposure, reduce contact during check-in, and facilitate contact tracing.

The upgrade also allows the Safety & Security Department to have administrative rights and provide a report internally or externally without having to contact the vendor to generate a report.

Safety & Security is currently upgrading the District surveillance camera system from analogue coaxial cable cameras to digital IP and cloud cameras replacing 11 camera systems with two.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Member Ragland and seconded by Member Jordan. The Committee Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.