Board of Education Meeting

June 8, 2026

6:30 PM, in the Stearns Education Center Boardroom

Members Present: Vice-Chairman Mr. Covil, Ms. Allen, Ms. Gibbs, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Page, Mr. Stich

Members Absent: Chairman Ashworth

Others: Superintendent Todd Murphy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jan Crump, Human Resource Specialist Tonya Odel, Director of Operations Brandon Schweitzer, and Attorney John Henning, Jr.

Call to Order and Welcome
Mr. Covil called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of May 11, 2026, Board Minutes (Action)
Vice Chairman Covil called the Board's attention to a copy of the May 11, 2026, Board Minutes. Mr. Covil asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Covil entertained a motion to approve minutes as presented. Mr. Stich made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

CTE Plan – Todd Murphy (Action)
Superintendent Murphy presented the District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) Plan to the Board. Mr. Murphy briefly went over the documents that were attached to the agenda. Mr. Covil entertained a motion to approve the CTE plan as presented. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the CTE plan as presented, and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The CTE plan was approved 6-0.

Overnight Field Trip Request – Todd Murphy (Action)
Superintendent Murphy requested approval from the Board for an overnight field trip request for the PCHS FFA to attend the NC FFA State Convention in Raleigh, NC. Vice Chairman Covil called for a motion to approve the presented overnight field trip request. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the request, and it was seconded by Mr. Stich. The overnight field trip request for PCHS FFA trip to Raleigh, NC was approved 6-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget Amendment - Debbie Lovelace (Action)
Debbie Lovelace reviewed the Budget Amendment included with the agenda. Vice Chairman Covil called for questions or comments and there were none. Mr. Covil asked for a motion that the Budget Amendment be approved. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the Budget Amendment, and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion was approved 6-0.

Year-End Budget Amendment Resolution – Debbie Lovelace (Action)
Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace presented a year-end budget amendment resolution to the Board. This resolution will allow the finance officer to make amendments and adjustments until June 30. All appropriate rules and policies will be followed. This will help the finance officer make sure all state and federal funding is expended before local funding. Vice Chairman Covil called for questions or comments. There were none. Mr. Covil called for a motion to approve the Year-End Budget Resolution. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the Year-End Budget Resolution, and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Year-End Budget Resolution was approved 6-0.

Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement – Debbie Lovelace (Action)
Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace presented to the Board regarding the attached Errors and Omissions / General Liability Fund agreement. This agreement provides liability protection for the Board. Superintendent Murphy and Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace both agreed that there have been no changes in the agreement since the previous year. Vice Chairman Covil asked the Board's pleasure in adopting the Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement. Ms. Page made a motion to approve the Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement, and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion passed 6-0.

Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers – Todd Murphy (Action)
Superintendent Murphy presented the Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers to the Board. Mr. Murphy stated that this is the same agreement the two districts have shared in the past and recommended it for approval. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers, and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers was approved on a vote of 6-0.

Food Services Bid Proposals – Todd Murphy (Action)
Superintendent Murphy presented to the Board Food Service Bids that were attached to the electronic agenda. He briefly went over the attached list of submitted renewals for 2026-2027. Vice Chairman Covil asked if there were questions or comments regarding the bids and there were none. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the presented bids, and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The 2026-2027 Child Nutrition bids were approved on a vote of 6-0.

Drivers Education Contract – Todd Murphy (Action)
Superintendent Murphy presented the 2026-2027 Drivers Education Contract. This is the same standard agreement that the district has had with Mountain Professionals in the past. Superintendent Murphy recommends the district continue with the agreement. Vice Chairman Covil called for a motion to approve the Drivers Education Contract. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to approve the 2026-2027 Drivers Education Contract, and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The 2026-2027 Drivers Education Contract was approved 6-0.

Student Device Purchase - Brandon Schweitzer (Action)
Director of Operations Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented a proposal that was electronically attached to the agenda to purchase student Chromebook devices. Polk County Schools is requesting approval to purchase 250 Lenovo 100e Gen 4 Chromebooks for student use. These devices will support the district's instructional technology program and replace aging student devices currently in service. The purchase includes device management licensing, device preparation services, and a four-year accidental damage protection warranty to ensure long term reliability and support. Administration recommends approval of this purchase through NC Statewide IT Contract 204A in the amount of $146,252.84 for the acquisition of student Chromebooks and associated services. Vice Chairman Covil ask for questions and there were none. Mr. Covil asked the Board's pleasure in approving the Student Device Purchase. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to approve the Student Device Purchase, and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion passed 6-0.

Tryon International and Polk County Sheriff's Office
Superintendent Murphy publicly thanked the Tryon International for generously hosting the Polk County Schools Class of 2026 commencement ceremony. He expressed his sincere appreciation to all departments and staff members whose hard work and dedication helped make the event a success. Mr. Murphy also extended special thanks to the Polk County Sheriff's Office for their assistance and support in ensuring a safe and memorable ceremony for graduates, families, and guests.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Property Proposal – Todd Murphy (Information)
Superintendent Murphy asked Attorney John Henning, Jr, to update the Board on what he had learned regarding the Property Proposal that was discussed at the May Board Meeting. Mr. Henning, Jr, said that he had not reached out to the people that had submitted the proposal, but assured the Board that he would have information for them soon. Superintendent Murphy stated that a response had to be given by the end of September.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. INFORMATION
Head Start Policy Council Minutes
Preschool Monthly Report
Pre-K Financial Report
Monthly Financial Report
Month to Date Credit Card Report

NCSBA OFFERED OPTIONAL BOARD TRAINING
Summer Leadership Conference – June 15-19, 2026, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, Wrightsville Beach
Core Training – July 16, 2026, 9:00 am, July 17, 2026, 12:00 pm
Fall Law Conference – October 15, 2026, 12:00 pm – October 16, 2026, 12:00 pm, Asheville, NC
2026 NCSBA Annual Conference, November 9, 2026, 8:00 am – November 11, 2026, 11:00 am, Greensboro, NC
NCSBA Video Training Library

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 6:51 PM Mr. Covil entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel and preserving Attorney-Client Privilege. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to go into closed session, and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion carried 6-0.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Resumption of Regular Session: With all discussion concluded in closed session, Mr. Covil called for a motion to return to open session. At 7:48 pm, Mr. Stich made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Covil called the Board's attention to those matters on the personnel agenda, and the contract renewals presented that required Board approval. Mr. Covil asked for the Board's pleasure in regard to a motion. Mr. Stich made the motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Specialist. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0

Information:

Michelle Bean	Principal	PCHS	Retiring
Macy Dedmon	EC Teacher	PCES	Resigned
Mandy Wolfe	EC Teacher	TES	Resigned
Karsten Masinick	Social Studies Teacher	PCHS	Resigned
Chelsey Price	Teacher Assistant	PCES	Resigned, added to substitute list
Kelly Sparks	EC Teacher Assistant	PCMS	Resigned, added to substitute list
Jessica Conner	EC Teacher Assistant	PCMS	Resigned, added to substitute list
Melinda Gragg	Food Service Worker	PCHS	Resigned
Charlotte Grabman	CTE-Life Skill Teacher	PCMS	Transferring from 8th Grade ELA to CTE Life Skills Teacher

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Ronette Dill	Principal	SVE	Landrum, SC	Mars Hill/Converse	Administration/Instructional Support/Elementary Ed	35
Katie Bradley	EC Director	CO	Hendersonville, NC	Chapel Hill/WCU	Exceptional Children	17
Colin Bradey	EC Teacher	TES	Bostic, NC	Gardner Webb	Exceptional Children	1.5
Adina Ruff	EC Teacher	TES	Hickory, NC	West Chester	Special Education	30
Carley Lawter	Teacher	TES	Mill Spring, NC	Gardner Webb	Elementary Education	0
Ashlyn Searcy	Teacher	PCES	Mill Spring, NC	Gardner Webb	Elementary Education	6

Kathryn Sushil	Teacher	PCMS	Anchorage, AK	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Secondary Education	5
Jodi Lanford	Receptionist	TES	N/A	N/A	N/A	14
Zoya Stamey	Teacher Assistant	Forbes	Ellenboro, NC	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tammy George	Basketball Coach	PCHS	Zirconia, NC	UNC Charlotte	Child & Family Development	30
Scott Hopper	Principal	PCHS	Bostic, NC	App State	Administration	10

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Covil declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

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Mike Ashworth, Board Chair

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Todd Murphy, Board Secretary
TM/RC