

Board of Education Meeting
August 8, 2022
6:30 PM, Stearns Education Center Boardroom

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

Members Absent: None

Others: Superintendent Aaron Greene, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jan Crump, Assistant Superintendent Dave Scherping, Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace and Attorney Phillip Feagan

Call to Order and Welcome

Mr. Ashworth called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of June 13, 2022 and June 23, 2022 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to the June 13, 2022 and June 23, 2022 Board meeting minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections to either set of minutes and there were none. Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Mr. Covil made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The June 13, 2022 and June 23, 2022 Board minutes were approved unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

Pre K Half Days - Jan Crump (Information)

Jan Crump informed the Board of the beginning of year schedule for Pre K, and that those students would attend half days for the first week. Ms. Crump stated that the Pre K schedule to attached on the electronic agenda. She stated that not only will this give the students extra time to get accustomed to the setting, it also gives Pre K staff time for the extra required training. All members of the Board were in agreement to allow the Pre K half days for the first week of school.

Attendance Policy - Linley Foster (Action)

Superintendent Greene stated that this action item needed to be removed and will be brought back to the Board at the September meeting.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Out of District Tuition Approval - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented an "out of district" tuition recommendation to the Board. He reminded the Board that CFO Lovelace calculates the "per child" receipt of local revenue to arrive at the yearly figure, and this year's calculation resulted in a recommendation of \$2,365 per student for Out of District tuition. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Out of District Tuition. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the tuition and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The Out of District Tuition was approved 7-0.

Construction Update - Dave Scherping/Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Assistant Superintendent Scherping provided an update to the Board regarding the PCHS HVAC project. Mr. Scherping presented a diagram showing the Board which building sections are completed and what is left to be completed. He communicated that everything should be up and running by August 18. Mr. Scherping informed the Board of damage done to the terrazzo floor and wax, and that there is ongoing discussion about how best to address the issues. Dr. Brandon Schweitzer offered a brief update to the Board about the Forbes preschool addition. An initial building drawing has been reviewed and was sent back for changes. Once the completed drawing is back a design and contract will be brought to the Board for approval. Dr. Schweitzer went over the brief that was attached to the Board agenda in more detail explaining when the projects would be completed.

CEP - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene gave the floor to Assistant Superintendent Scherping to go over the District's CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) program and status. Mr. Scherping explained that CEP allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost. Mr. Scherping went through the attached presentation indicating that Polk Central Elementary, Tryon Elementary, and Sunny View Elementary qualify for CEP. He informed the Board of recent increases in food prices and operations costs, bragged on the committed Food Service staff, and discussed other cost cutting measures. It was made clear that Polk Early College, Polk middle, and Polk High do not qualify for CEP and will revert back to the use of free meal applications to determine student food costs at those locations. There are three options available to the Board for the 2022-2023 school year. Option one is to Continue CEP at TES, PCES & SVE with Saluda as "Polk - Universal Free." This would mean the District would secure donations and add local funding to ensure all PK-5 students would eat free breakfast and lunch. Option two is continue CEP at TES, PCES & SVE with Saluda families completing Free and Reduced Lunch Applications. Option three is operate the 4 schools independently - using the meal reimbursement method that generates the most revenue. There was discussion among the Board regarding these options. Mr. Covil made a motion for the district to continue with Option one for this school year and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion for the district to continue CEP at TES, PCES & SVE with Saluda as "Polk - Universal Free" was approved 7-0.

Micropurchasing Resolution - Debbie Lovelace (Action)

Ms. Debbie Lovelace presented a Micropurchasing Resolution to the Board. This is the same resolution from previous years that must be approved annually. This resolution affords the CFO and the Superintendent the ability to make purchases up to amounts for different source purchases to be sure all funding streams are consistent with Board approval thresholds. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Micropurchasing Resolution. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the Micropurchasing Resolution and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The Micropurchasing Resolution was approved on a vote of 7-0.

Book Challenge Update – Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene provided an update to the Board and stated that Dr. Schweitzer is still awaiting feedback from committee members and he would need to bring this item back to the Board at a later date. Ms. Jackson asked about the committee. Dr. Schweitzer stated that there are seven members of the committee and one that has resigned.

Instructional and Supplementary Materials Policy - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene went over a Policy 3200 - SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS, Procedure 3200-R - SELECTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURE, and Policy 3210 - PARENTAL INSPECTION OF AND OBJECTION TO

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. Mr. Greene spoke to the Board in detail regarding the policies and procedures that are up for actions. Ms. Allen asked if the composition of the Media and Technology Advisory Committee (MTAC) be determined by the principal at each school. Superintendent Greene stated that the principal would be responsible, with the input of district administration. Ms. Jackson asked about the use of the words educational and instructional. In the old policy the words were used throughout the policy, where in the proposed policy she felt the words were not used as consistently. Mr. Greene, Attorney Feagan and the Board discussed this issue and decided the district would revisit the wording and make any necessary corrections. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve Policy 3200 on first reading and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Policy 3200, with revisions discussed, was approved 7-0.

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding Procedure 3200-R - **SELECTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURE.** Attorney Feagan stated that based upon the guidelines of Procedure 3200 R, related forms and administrative procedure would be developed per the new policy guidelines. Mr. Parsons asked if this procedure would be out for others to see. Mr. Greene explained that all policies and procedures are listed on the Polk County Schools website. Ms. Jackson asked that the Board look at the word “suitability” and possibly replace it with another term. The was discussion amongst the Board regarding this word and its replacement. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve Procedure 3200-R - **SELECTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURE** with the understanding that if a more suitable word is found, the word “suitability” will be replaced. Ms. Page seconded the motion. Procedure 3200-R - **SELECTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURE** was approved 7-0 on first reading.

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding Policy 3210 - **PARENTAL INSPECTION OF AND OBJECTION TO EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.** Mr. Greene stated that the primary reason for the change in this policy is to clarify and clearly delineate the difference between instructional and supplementary materials. Instructional materials are materials that are used for classroom instruction and supplementary materials are materials that the student would have access to but are not required for instruction. The Board recommends adding “school” in front of Media and “school” in front of committee within the policy. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve Policy 3210 - **PARENTAL INSPECTION OF AND OBJECTION TO EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS** with the recommended corrections and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. Policy 3210 - **PARENTAL INSPECTION OF AND OBJECTION TO EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**, with corrections, was approved 7-0 on first reading.

Superintendents Update - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene stated that there is no longer a requirement to vote on COVID restrictions effective June 30, 2022. Superintendent Greene stated that the yearly Administrative Retreat will be held on August 16-August 17, and New Employee Orientation will be held on August 18. There will be a Polk County Schools Convocation at Polk County High School on August 23, and all members of the Board are invited to attend. Superintendent Greene also addressed several questions and comments that had been communicated by different board members.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene updated the Board regarding teacher supplements. Mr. Greene went over a sample teacher supplement scale for the Board to think about. Pending receipt of any additional monies from the state budget Superintendent Greene will amend the proposal and bring the recommended local teacher supplement scale to the September Board meeting for approval.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. INFORMATION

2022-2023 School Year: First Student Day for All Polk County Schools(Except Early College) is August 29, 2022.

2022-2023 School Year: First Student Day for Polk County Early College will be August 10, 2022.

Head Start Monthly Financial Report Presented to the Board

Preschool Monthly Report (June/July)

Monthly Financial Report

June Credit Card Report

July Credit Card Report

OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

2022 Fall Regional Meeting September 22, 2022 - Ferguson Hall, AB Tech Campus

2022 Fall Law Conference - October 12-14 - Asheville

2022 Annual Conference - November 14-16 - Sheraton Greensboro/Koury Convention Center

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Several members of the community spoke during public input. A vote to amend the time limit for Public Input was needed for the number of speakers requesting to speak. Ms. Jackson made a motion all speakers be allowed to speak and it was seconded by Mr. Page. The motion passed 7-0. A verbatim account of public input and all open meeting Board discussion is available via digital audio recording.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 8:12 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel and Attorney Client Privilege. Mr. Covil made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion carried 7-0.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Resumption of Regular Session: With all discussion concluded in closed session, Mr. Ashworth called for a motion to return to open session. At 9:36 pm, Ms. Gibbs made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Ashworth called the Board’s attention to those matters on the personnel agenda that required Board approval. The Board agreed vote on the personnel agenda in three parts, the complete personnel agenda, single-year Administrative contracts, and then the agreement for a contracted EC Teacher. Mr. Ashworth asked the Board’s pleasure in regard to a motion for the first section. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer for the first portion personnel agenda. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and Human Resource Officer for the second portion of the personnel agenda and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion carried 7-0. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer for the third portion personnel agenda. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Stephanie Champion	Teacher	PCMS	FMLA

Josh Hill	Afterschool Director/CTE Director	Stearns	FMLA
Nancy Johnson	Pre K Teacher Assistant	Tryon	FMLA
Jessica Marrow	Transfer from Full-Time Teacher Assistant at PCMS to Full-Time Teacher Assistant at Polk Central		

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Michelle Bean	Principal	PCHS	Mill Spring	Queens University	Multiple areas	4
Tobree Mostel	Principal	Saluda	Mill Spring	The College of NJ	School Administrator	Years
Adam Dedmon	Assistant Principal	PCMS	Forest City	Converse University	Multiple areas	2
Leslie Rhinehart	STEM Teacher	PCMS	Columbus	UNC Charlotte	Science 9-12	15
Laura Freck	Pre K Teacher	Saluda	Saluda	Western Carolina	B-K	6
Matthew Gratz	6th Grade Science Teacher	PCMS	Columbus	Nipissing University	El Ed	0
Cole Kittredge	Chorus Teacher	PCMS/PCHS	Greenville, SC	North Greenville University	Pending	0
Debbie Fowler	Transfer from Part Time Teacher Assistant to Full Time 3rd Grade Teacher	Saluda	Boiling Springs, SC	University of SC	Elementary Ed	22
Diana Martin	2nd Grade Teacher	Polk Central	Columbia, SC	University of SC	Multiple areas	9
Sarah Fulton	Spanish Teacher	PCMS/PCHS	Forest City	Gardner-Webb	Spanish K-12	4
Michelle Kennedy	5th Grade Teacher	Tryon	Spartanburg, SC	Gardner-Webb	Elementary Ed	4
Lisa Briere	Transfer from Full Time Teacher Assistant to 4th Grade Teacher	Polk Central	Mill Spring	Suny Potsdam	Elementary Ed	Years

Monica English	Speech Language Therapist	Polk Central/Early College	Hendersonville	California State University	Student Services	12
Bethany Fine	Pre K Teacher Assistant Floater	Tryon/Saluda	Tryon	N/A	N/A	2
Meghan Eadus	Pre K Teacher Assistant	Forbes	Tryon	University of Vermont	N/A	15
Laura Fry	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Tryon	University of SC	N/A	Years
Sydney Cash	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Rutherfordton	Liberty University	N/A	0
Brandy Quay	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	2
Haley Robinson	Part Time Teacher Assistant	Saluda	Mill Spring	Western Carolina	N/A	4
Marsha Cole	Full-Time Cafeteria Manager	Sunny View	Forest City	N/A	N/A	4
Adam Giles	Transfer from Teacher to Assistant Principal	PCHS	Inman, SC	Western Carolina	Admin Principal	New Admin
Tiffany Fowler	Transfer from Full-Time EC Hearing Impaired Teacher to Full Time Hearing Impaired Teacher/District Assistant Afterschool Director	All Schools/Central Office	Forest City	Vanderbilt University	Deaf and Hard of Hearing Teacher	1

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO