

Board of Education Meeting
September 12 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 August 8, 2022 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to the August 8, 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. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion. The August 8, 2022 Board minutes were approved unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

Opening of School Update – Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene provided an update to the Board on the opening of school. Polk Schools held a convocation for the district prior to the first day of school. Several Board members were in attendance. Mr. Greene introduced Adrian Hammond to present an initial enrollment summary 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Hammond briefly went over the attached initial enrollment document attached to the electronic agenda. Ms. Hammond explained the biggest difference is that virtual students are now counted in the enrollment of the Polk County Early College since it is considered a Virtual Academy. Enrollment for the year is up around 38 students.

Federal Consolidated Application Plans for 2022-2023 – Jan Crump (Action)

Jan Crump presented a request for approval of the Federal Consolidated Application plans. Ms. Crump stated the funding is used to work with at risk students, Pre K Students, summer remediation, professional development and several other programs. Chairman Ashworth asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none. Mr. Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Federal Consolidated Application Plans for 2022-2023. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the Federal Consolidated Application Plans for 2022-2023 and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion was approved 7-0.

2021-2022 Testing Update – Adrian Hammond/Dave Scherping (Information)

Assistant Superintendent Scherping gave a 2021-2022 testing update to the Board. Mr. Scherping went over the student performance reports that were attached to the electronic agenda. He covered the 21 indicators that were listed and discussed how Polk County Schools performed on those indicators. Mr. Scherping informed the Board that Polk County Schools had the third highest grade level proficiency in the state when all measures were combined, and that

the students and staff were to be commended on their efforts last year. He asked the Board if there were any questions and there were none.

Overnight Field Trip Proposals – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented both the Construction Technology and the National FFA Convention overnight field trip requests to the Board. He briefly went over each request. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve both field trip requests as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Construction Technology and the National FFA Convention overnight field trip requests were approved 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Attendance Policy 4400 – 1st Reading – Linley Foster (Action)

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding Attendance Policy 4400. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. Mr. Greene stated the changes made within the policy will better help direct and guide intervention and support. This policy adds a definition of what “chronically absent” means and the importance of attending school. This new policy is very similar to the old policy regarding adherence to statutory requirements. Attorney Feagan advised that “guardian” be used in place of “parent” in “Section C” so the policy is the same all the way through. Mr. Greene wanted to Board to know that going to the Magistrate to press charges for truancy is the very last option the District employs to improve attendance and meet the legal obligation. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve Attendance Policy 4400 with the corrections noted on first reading and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Attendance Policy 4400 was approved 7-0.

Local Supplement – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene offered a proposal to the Board on local supplements. Mr. Greene went over the brief that was attached to the electronic agenda and went over an additional document titled Teacher Supplement Proposal 2022-2023 School Year that was distributed to the Board. Administration is proposing yearly tiers for teacher supplements. There was discussion amongst the board regarding the tiers, budget, and years to come. Ms. Page made a motion to approve the Local Teacher Supplement scale as proposed and it was seconded by Mr. Covil. The Teacher Supplement Proposal 2022-2023 School Year was approved 7-0.

PCHS Construction Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer provided an update to the Board regarding the PCHS HVAC project. Dr. Schweitzer presented a diagram showing the Board that all of the physical equipment has been installed. Dr. Schweitzer communicated some of the issues still need to be addressed.

Tryon Elementary/Preschool Addition – Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Director of Operations Schweitzer gave an update to the Board on the Tryon Elementary/Preschool Addition. Dr. Schweitzer briefly went over the construction rendering attached to the electronic agenda. Dr. Schweitzer stated that scaled drawings were available in the hallway for inspection. There is still work to be done on the contract before bringing it to the Board for approval, hopefully by the next meeting. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none.

Instructional and Supplementary Materials Policy - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene went over 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 reminded the Board of the discussions from the previous meeting and the changes that were requested to be made. There was discussion between the Board regarding the replacement of the word “suitability” in the “Criteria” section of the policy. The Board agreed to replace the word “suitability” with “content balance.” Mr. Covil made a motion to approve Policy 3200 and Policy 3210 on second reading and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. Policy 3200 and Policy 3210 was approved 7-0 on second reading. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve Policy 3200-R with the discussed changes. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve Policy 3200-R with the correction on second reading and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Policy 3200-R, with corrections, was approved 7-0 on second reading.

Student Transfer Request – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene stated that the included request was straight forward and there are no concerns from administration in reference to approval. The Board agreed to vote on the request. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the student transfer request submitted and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The presented student transfer request was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene stated that there had been some confusion about lunch costs and how long any waivers for free meals might be in place. He stated that NCDPI clarified the students in grades 6-12 will be required to pay for lunch during the 2022-2023 school year.

Superintendent Greene stated that administration will be coming back to the Board with a request to increase bus driver pay at the October Board meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. INFORMATION

Preschool Monthly Report
Pre K Financial Report
Monthly Financial Report
Year to date Credit Card Report

OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

Fall Regional Meeting – AB Tech Campus-September 22
2022 Fall Law Conference – Asheville – October 12-14, 2022
Annual Conference – Greensboro – November 14-16

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Several members of the community spoke during public input. A vote to amend the time limit for Public Input was not needed for the number of speakers requesting to speak. A verbatim account of public input and all open meeting Board discussion is available via digital audio recording.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 7:50 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel and Attorney Client Privilege. Ms. Jackson made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Page. 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 9:30 pm, Ms. Allen made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Page 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. Mr. Ashworth asked the Board’s pleasure in regard to a motion. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

There was an attorney client matter discussed during closed session.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Angela Wilson	Transfer from ESSER Teacher Assistant to Permanent Teacher Assistant	Sunny View	
Rachel Goettert	EC Clerical/ICC Liaison	CO/PCEC	FMLA
Bridget Franklin	Clerical	Sunny View	FMLA
Kim Wilson	Guidance Clerical	PCHS	Disability
Kenneth Blackburn	Custodian	Polk Central	Disability
Deborah Crist	EC Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver	PCHS	Unpaid Medical Leave

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Destine Conner	Pre K Teacher	Polk Central	Tryon	UNC Greensboro	Pending	Years
Kelsey Filadelfo	Kindergarten Teacher	Sunny View	Spartanburg, SC	Urbana University	Pending	2
Amy Fox	Full-Time Teacher Assistant	Sunny View	Bostic, NC	N/A	N/A	0
Hannah Nikki Parker	English/Theater Teacher	PCHS	Rutherfordton	Appalachian State	Lang Arts/SS	3

Margaret Feagan Hannon	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	Tryon	Gardner-Webb	N/A	3
Ginger Helton	Food Service Aide	PCHS	Campobello, SC	N/A	N/A	1
Roanna Green	Afterschool Group Leader/Substitute Teacher	Saluda	Saluda	UNC Greensboro	N/A	2
Kai Goldstein	Afterschool Group Leader	Polk Central	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Susan Anderson	Afterschool Group Leader	Polk Central	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Lauren Wilson	Afterschool Group Leader	Sunny View	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	1

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
 AG/TO