

Board of Education Meeting
March 8, 2021
6:00 PM, at Polk County High School Media Center
Board training prior to the Board meeting at 4:00 PM

Members Present: Chairman Covil, Vice-Chairman Mr. Ashworth, Ms. Page, Ms. Allen (via zoom), Ms. Bell (via zoom), Ms. Gibbs, Ms. Jackson

Members Absent: None

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

Call to Order and Welcome

Mr. Covil called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

Recognition of Retirees

Superintendent Greene recognized Pamela Arrowood for her service to Polk County Schools and presented her with a gift. He thanked her for her many years of valuable service to the students of Polk County Schools.

Recognition of Newly Certified National Board Teachers

Ms. Dill presented to the Board regarding the National Board Certified Teacher Program. She recognized three of the districts newly certified national Board Teachers, Ms. Jamie Graber, Ms. JJ Waddell, and Ms. Donna Hall. Ms. Dill also recognized Ms. Nikki Honeycutt, Assistant Principal at PCMS and mentor for the Program. Ms. Honeycutt spoke to the Board regarding the program and gave a brief overview of the requirements. She stated that it is her pleasure to help any teacher that is wanted to become National Board Certified. Ms. Dill explained that she encourages her beginning teachers to pursue National Board Certification immediately following the Beginning Teacher Program.

Approval of the February 8, 2021 Board Minutes

Chairman Covil called the Board's attention to a copy of the February 8, 2021 Board Minutes. Mr. Covil asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Covil entertained a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

2020-2021 Summer School - Ronette Dill (Information)

Ms. Dill informed the Board of the pending legislation for a required 2020-2021 Summer School program. Ms. Dill explained that there is not a detailed plan outlined due to the uncertainty of House Bill 82. If House Bill 82 passes there will be a six week "in person" school year extension learning recovery and enrichment program for K-12. Ms. Dill briefly discussed the attached plan as a draft plan depending on the approval of House Bill 82.

Summer Testing Plan - Dave Scherping (Action)

Assistant Superintendent Dave Scherping offered information to the Board regarding the Summer Testing Plan. Mr. Scherping briefly went over the 2020-2021 Summer Program Plan that was attached to the electronic agenda. He stated the submitted plan will be the same as it has been in years past. The Summer program will begin on June 14 and continue until August 6. Chairman Covil called for a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Summer Testing Plan. Ms.

Bell made a motion to approve the Summer Testing Plan and it was seconded by Ms. All. The Summer Testing Plan was approved 7-0.

Head Start Continuation Grant - Kathy Harding (Action)

Chairman Covil gave the floor to Kathy Harding, Preschool Director. Ms. Harding reviewed the documents attached to the Board Agenda including the Head Start proposed budget, the Self-Assessment Summary, the Training and Assistance Plan and the program goals. The Head Start grant budget total will be \$688,739 which includes \$12,827 of restricted money for technical assistance and training of staff. There is a \$172,185 non-federal match from the NC Pre-K program. Mr. Covil called for questions or comments and there were none. Mr. Ashworth made a motion to approve the Head Start Continuation Grant and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Head Start Continuation Grant was approved on a vote of 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget Amendment - Debbie Lovelace (Action)

Debbie Lovelace reviewed the budget amendment included with the agenda. Chairman Covil asked for a motion that the budget amendment be approved as submitted. Ms. Allen made the motion, which Ms. Bell seconded. Chairman Covil called for questions or comments and there were none. The motion was approved 7-0.

2020-2021 Calendar Administrative Updates - Dave Scherping (Action)

Assistant Superintendent Scherping presented to the Board regarding some minor changes in the 2020-2021 School Calendars. Mr. Scherping shared the following calendars and briefly went over the changes that were made: Polk County Early College - V5: Identified Dec 18 as "Remote" Day, Polk Central Elementary - V1: Identified "Remote" days for water issue, Saluda Elementary - V2: Removed "Remote" from March 8, All Other Schools - V5: Removed "Remote" from March 8. Chairman Covil called for a motion to approve the calendars that were presented. Mr. Ashworth made a motion to approve the presented calendars and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The presented calendars were approved 7-0.

PCHS/HVAC Project (Information) - Dave Scherping

Assistant Superintendent Scherping updated the Board on the ongoing PCHS/HVAC Project. Mr. Scherping went over the schedule of recent and upcoming events that were listed on the electronic and briefly described the events. Mr. Scherping explained the two contracts that were attached to the electronic agenda that will be brought to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Scherping stated that due to the date of the Local Government Commission (LGC) meeting at the state level the April Board meeting will need to be moved forward one week. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the April Board meeting moving to April 19 and it was seconded by Ms. Bell. The motion was approved 7-0.

Student Transfer Request (Action) – Aaron Greene

The Board agreed to vote on the student transfer request that had been included in their closed session packet without further discussion. Mr. Ashworth made a motion to approve the request and it was seconded by Ms. Bell. The student transfer request was approved on a vote of 7-0.

Administrative Procedure Review - Dave Scherping (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented to the Board regarding hazard pay for frontline essential workers. Auditors are requesting a procedure be put in place regarding the Hazard Pay. Assistant Superintendent Scherping stated that the School Board Association wrote Procedure 7500-R – Hazard Pay for this purpose. The District has taken the majority

of this procedure and kept it the same. Mr. Scherping briefly went over the changes that the District made to the procedure. Chairman Covil called for a motion to approve Procedure 7500-R – Hazard Pay, as presented. Mr. Ashworth made a motion to approve Procedure 7500-R – Hazard Pay and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Procedure 7500-R – Hazard Pay was approved on a vote of 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene stated that committee assignments have been sent to the Board. If there is any feedback regarding those assignments to please contact Mr. Greene.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene stated he has sent out some 360-evaluation request for the Board to complete for his professional development.

Security Agreement Resolution – Assistant Superintendent Scherping provided information to the Board regarding the Security Agreement with the Local Government Commission (LGC) for the loan for the PCHS HVAC project. He briefly covered points in the agreement with the Board. Attorney Feagan stated that the financing agreement will be approved by the LGC, and this resolution is authorizing the approval of the financing agreement and the security agreement. Attorney Feagan stated that the Board would need to vote to add the Security Agreement Resolution to the agenda. Mr. Ashworth made a motion to add the Security Agreement Resolution to the agenda and it was seconded by Ms. Bell. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

V. INFORMATION – Mr. Covil went over these items with the Board:

February NC PreK Committee Minutes Presented to the Board

February Pre-K Monthly Report Presented to the Board – An error on the report was discussed

Pre-K Financial Report Presented to the Board

Monthly Financial Report Presented to the Board

Month to Date Credit Card Report Presented to the Board

Holiday 4/2/2021

Spring Break 4/5/21-4/9/21

BOARD TRAINING

Ethics for Local School Board Members (Webinar) - March 30, 2021

Understanding Your Legal Duties as Board Chair (Webinar) - March 30, 2021

Show Me the Money-The Reach of NC's Public Record Law (Webinar - April 13, 2021

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

One visitor stated that he was grateful that he was able to watch the Board work and that he appreciates all the Board does.

VII. CLOSED SESSION**Closed Session**

At 6:47 PM Mr. Covil entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel and a student matter. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Bell. The motion carried 7-0.

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 7:14 pm, Ms. Bell made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Covil called the Board's attention to those matters on the personnel agenda that required Board approval. Mr. Covil asked the Board's pleasure in regard to a motion. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

There was discussion among the Board regarding administrative contracts. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the administrative contracts as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Administrative contracts were approved on a vote of 7-0.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Morgan Hodge	Teacher Assistant/Food Service Aide/Afterschool Group Leader	Sunny View	Terminated
Leon LaFay	Food Service Aide/Afterschool Group Leader	Saluda	Resigned
Keith Rimer	Carpentry Teacher	PCHS	Resigning
Melissa McIlwain	Clerical Assistant	PCHS	Resigned
Jennifer Painter	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	FMLA
Terry Bishop	Clerical	Bus Garage/Stearns	Leave*
Jamie Reeves	Bus Mechanic	Bus Garage	Leave*
Morgan Hodge	Teacher Assistant/Afterschool	Sunny View	Leave*
Ashley Bell	Counselor	Polk Central	Leave*
Parker Mullinax	Teacher	Tryon	Leave*
Shea White	Teacher	Tryon	Leave*
Ty Stott	Teacher	Tryon	Leave*
Jamie Weathers	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Leave*
Brandon Moore	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Leave*
Jennifer Young	Speech	Saluda/Sunny View	Leave*

Jessica Searcy	Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver	Saluda	Leave*
Larissa Ingle	Teacher Assistant	Saluda	Leave*
Ethan Edwards	Teacher	PCMS	Leave*
Angie Kelly	Custodian	PCHS	Leave*
Billy Alm	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Brittany Gilbert	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Dawn Forward	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Hunter Allen	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Jennifer Allsbrook	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Molly Hill	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Natalie Heatherly	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Rachel Hall	Teacher	PCHS	Leave*
Tina Muse	Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver	PCHS	Leave*
Tracy Gray	Clerical	PCHS	Leave*
Felicia Pegg	Food Service Aide	PCMS	Leave*
Melanie Harris	Food Service Aide	PCMS	Leave*

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Kaitlyn Owens	Afterschool Group Leader	Polk Central	Tryon	N/A	N/A	3
Reagan Davis	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Forest City	Gardner-Webb	N/A	
Suzanne Metcalf	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Tryon	N/A	N/A	10
Rosemarie McNeil-DeVito	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Tryon	Nova Southeastern University	Emotionally Handicapped K-12/Math 5-9	30+
Robbie Franklin	Temporary Full Time Custodian	Tryon	Tryon			
Lori Oliver	School Nurse	PCMS	Radford University	Columbus		29

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Administrators Contracts Renewed
David Scherping
Michael Melton
Ronette Dill
Rachael Haynes-Wood

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Covil declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Mr. Covil, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO