

**Board of Education Meeting
May 13, 2019
6:30 PM, Stearns Education Center Board Room**

Members Present: Chairman Tennant, Vice Chairman Page, Ms. Corley, Mr. Ashworth, Mr. Covil, Ms. Allen, Ms. Jackson

Members Absent: None

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

Call to Order and Welcome

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

Approval of the April 8, 2019 Board Minutes

Mr. Tennant called the Board's attention to a copy of the April 8, 2019 Board Minutes. He asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Chairman Tennant entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Plan Approval - Della Frye (Action)

Della Frye, CTE Director at Polk County High School, spoke to the Board regarding the Local CTE Plan for approval. She briefly went over printed information that she had given to the Board. She presented highlights and results from CTE programs and courses including HOSA, Agriculture, and Construction. Ms. Frye stated that she wanted the District to use the resources available to look at areas that need improvement. Ms. Frye mentioned improving the Business and Marketing classes by adding elements like coding, and focusing on internships and apprenticeships throughout the CTE program. Dr. Schweitzer spoke to the Board about how other principals ask him how the District keeps students excited about elective courses. He tells them it is a culture at Polk County High School. He said PCHS is seeing more students going into the trades as a career. Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board about how he, Chairman Tennant, Dr. Schweitzer, and Ms. Frye met and went over the CTE plan in more detail and Chairman Tennant and Superintendent Greene both support and endorse the proposed plan. Ms. Corley made a motion to approve the CTE plan as presented and Ms. Page seconded the motion. The CTE Plan was approved 7-0.

Testing Calendar- Dave Scherping (Information)

Dave Scherping spoke regarding the testing calendar that was attached to the electronic agenda. Mr. Scherping told the Board that all second administrations of testing will have to be completed online. Chairman Tennant asked if third graders will be sophisticated enough to complete the online testing. Mr. Scherping said that by 2021, every test will be online. Technically it is not very complicated but there will be instruction for the students reading the online material. There has been training this year to help the students be more comfortable with online testing, and for those participating in second administration testing. Chairman Tennant also asked about “extend one” students and if they have to complete the test on the day it is started or can the administration be stopped and started back the next day. Mr. Scherping answered that they can stop the testing and start back where the student ended the previous day. Mr. Covil asked if third grade students were already being exposed to online testing. Mr. Scherping stated that yes they were being worked with currently. Superintendent Greene asked Mr. Scherping if there would be second administration testing in math for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Scherping stated that there would not be second administration testing in math because the test is new. The District will not have the results until fall of 2019. Next year the English / Language Arts (ELA) test will be new and there will be no second administration testing for ELA in 2019-2020. Superintendent Greene asked Mr. Scherping’s opinion if the new online requirements for the second administration testing and not having second administration testing for math would be beneficial or detrimental to the District’s overall performance. Mr. Scherping answered that it usually is not very beneficial. Chairman Tennant asked the Board if they had any questions or comments for Mr. Scherping regarding the testing calendar.

NC State School Report Cards and financial reporting - Dave Scherping (Information)

1. 2017-2018 School Report Cards

Mr. Scherping showed the Board the NC School Report Card Website. He briefly went over the site and the reports that are available showing the comparison of Polk County Schools and other school systems in North Carolina. Chairman Tennant asked if the Board had any questions for Mr. Scherping and there were none.

2. NC School System Finance Report

Mr. Scherping also demonstrated the new North Carolina School Finance website. This website tells how districts utilize their funding. He briefly went over the site and showed the Board the information and reports available in case they have questions asked of them.

FFA Camp Trip Proposal/ FFA Convention Trip Proposal - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene submitted two FFA trip proposals for summer of 2019. The Board agreed to vote on both proposals at the same time. Chairman Tennant called for a motion and Mr. Ashworth made a motion to approve both the FFA Camp Trip and the FFA Convention Trip proposals be approved. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Chairman Tennant called for questions and there were none. The trip proposals were approved 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget Amendment #6 (Action) - Debbie Lovelace

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

Proposed 2019-2020 Local Budget - Debbie Lovelace (Action)

2019-2020 Proposed Budget/Capital Outlay for Commissioners

2019-2020 Proposed Budget and the Capital Outlay for Commissioners were attached to the electronic agenda with the total expenditures at \$5,454,788 and the Capital at \$312,000. Superintendent Greene stated that the \$5,454,788 in operations is standard. It does not include the anticipated \$300,000 from the tax increase. Mr. Covil asked for clarification on the \$312,000 in capital. Superintendent Greene indicated the \$312,000 is what has been officially committed by the County each year. The county is anticipating a total allotment of \$850,000, an additional \$540,000. Superintendent Greene provided a copy of anticipated capital expenditures for next year. Chairman Tennant called for any questions or comments from the Board and there were none. Superintendent Greene asked the Board for them to include the local capital improvements budget as part of this motion. Chairman Tennant called for a motion from the Board. Mr. Covil made a motion and Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The 2019-2020 proposed local budget and capital outlay budget were approved 7-0.

Food Service Bids - Aaron Greene (Action)

1. Extended Bids Submitted

Superintendent Greene went over the attached extended bids for approval. Ms. Corley made a motion to approve the extended bids as attached and Mr. Ashworth seconded the motion. The extended bids were approved 7-0.

2. New Bids Submitted

Superintendent Greene explained to the Board that the new bid information that was attached will go out for bid at the end of May and be brought back to the Board for action in June.

Breakfast/Lunch cost increases for 2019-2020 - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene stated that as a result of the recent state food service audit and in response to program analysis DPI recommended Polk County Schools lunch prices be increased. A meal costs the District \$3.57 on average to make, and the district currently charges \$2.75. The price of school breakfast has been \$1.00 for 19 years and the audit indicated it should be increased as well. Superintendent Greene recommended to the Board to increase lunch from \$2.75 to \$2.85

and breakfast from \$1.00 to \$1.25. Ms. Corley made a motion to approve the breakfast/lunch cost increases as presented and Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion was approved 7-0.

Establish Dates for Summer Board Meetings - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding summer meeting dates. He proposed not having a Board meeting at the end of June as in the past due to the fiscal year ending. Finance Officer Lovelace has learned the Board can extend the ability to move funds for the previous fiscal year into July. This would be very beneficial to the Finance Officer as she works to finalize and close out accounts. Superintendent Greene recommends instead having a meeting at some point in July. By doing this the Board would be authorizing the Finance Officer to make budget amendments up to June 30. The budget amendments would be brought to the Board at the July meeting. The Board tentatively agreed to meet on July 29, 2019.

Saluda HVAC Upgrades - Dave Scherping (Information)

Dave Scherping spoke to the Board regarding necessary Saluda Elementary HVAC upgrades. The district had a previous quote of \$150,000-\$200,000 to replace the steam line that has malfunctioned. Mr. Scherping stated that if the district “fixed” the steam line, it would put Saluda School in the same position it was in the seventies in terms of heating and cooling and that he believed that the District could find a better solution to the steam line issue for approximately the same cost. Three different companies have come in to look at the project and offer a bid. Mr. Scherping asked the companies to look at the possibility of doing something different in the rock building with heating and air. The district has been given two different ideas so far. Once the district has three different proposals the facilities committee will meet and go over them before bringing its recommendation to the Board for approval. Superintendent Greene stated that if the Board went with the Steam boiler option there would be significant improvements needed in the boiler room that would add to the cost of the total amount. Ms. Corley asked Mr. Scherping that during this process to check on the noise of the equipment. Chairman Tennant asked the Board if they had any questions for Mr. Scherping and there were none.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) 2019-2020 - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding CEP. He informed the Board the Saluda Elementary did not qualify for CEP for the upcoming school year. After analyzing projections for cost of participation for the other three elementary schools the program works best when each school is operated separately. Mr. Greene asked the Board about their opinion on having three elementary schools on CEP and one not. Mr. Covil stated that he would not like for that to happen. Mr. Greene gave the Board some information on the potential “universal option” for Saluda Elementary. Mr. Greene said that doing this would increase existing losses in food service by approximately \$15,000-\$20,000. To utilize the universal option and have all Saluda Elementary students continue to receive breakfast and lunch for free all parents would have to fill out a free and reduced lunch form. Superintendent Greene indicated the administration’s recommendation to the Board would be to keep CEP at all elementary schools except Saluda and

offer the universal option for Saluda Elementary. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the recommendation and Ms. Corley seconded the motion. Chairman Tennant called for questions or comments and there were none. The recommendation made by the superintendent was approved 7-0. Mr. Greene asked the Board if they hear positive comments from parents about CEP and free lunch and breakfast. Mr. Covil stated that he has had some parents thank him for the free lunch. Ms. Corley stated that she felt it would be good if the District could give families a little more time if the Board and District ever did stop CEP and the free meals, and to have some way not to leave out only one school. Ms. Lovelace stated that the district needs to require parents to complete the free and reduced lunch application. Chairman Tennant recommended getting these applications started now. Superintendent Greene stated that there will need to be some other discussions later regarding food service.

Sunny View Elementary Roof Bids - Aaron Greene (Action)

1. Benton Roofing, Inc
2. Cannon Roofing
3. Grier Roofing, LLC

Superintendent Greene briefly went over the roof bids that were attached to the agenda. The roof at Sunny View Elementary is almost 20 years old and leaking. Mr. Greene told the Board that it was his intention to use lottery money to pay for the roof. Superintendent Greene and Robert Gilbert, maintenance director, recommend Grier Roofing, LLC for the roof replacement at Sunny View Elementary School. Mr. Feagan asked if the 60 mil PVC to same as the 60 mil TPO. Mr. Greene answered that it is not, it is two different kinds of materials. Chairman Tennant called motion to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent. Ms. Jackson made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Ashworth. Chairman Tennant called for questions or comments and there were none. The recommendation for Grier Roofing LLC, in the amount of \$42,480 for the replacement of the roof of the Gymnasium and Pre K building at Sunny View Elementary was approved 7-0.

Student Transfer Request - Aaron Greene (Action)

Chairman Tennant asked the Board's pleasure of taking action on the transfer request at this time or discussing the request in closed session. The Board agreed to take action. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the transfer request that had been submitted in their closed session packet. Ms. Corley seconded the motion. The transfer request was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene told the Board that tap has been added to the approved easement for the Columbus sewer line that will be run across the old bus garage property.

Mr. Feagan has prepared a lease for the old bus garage property for Mr. Baston. This will be reviewed and signed by Mr. Baston and Chairman Tennant.

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The 2019-2020 Polk County Early College Calendar was recommended for approval. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Polk County Early College and Ms. Page seconded the motion. Chairman Tennant called for questions or comments from the Board and there were none. The 2019-2020 Polk County Early College Calendar was approved 7-0.

Superintendent Greene informed the Board that given the recent events that happened at the Polk County Early College the spring trip to the coast has been postponed and they will bring another proposal once it has been rescheduled.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding an outdoor classroom grant that the Polk County Early College has been awarded. They would like to use space where the old storage building was before the structure was removed. Ms. Rhodes, Polk County Early College teacher, has sketched out what they would like to do and the plan was shared with the Board. The Board agreed that the students could proceed with the project.

Kathy Harding, Nursing Director, spoke to the Board regarding the District's protocol for Lice and updated them regarding the latest information about Measles outbreaks. Ms. Harding explained to the Board that the district follows CDC recommendations and wants students to be in the classroom if at all possible.

V. INFORMATION-

April Pre-K Monthly Report Presented to the Board

April NC Pre K Committee and Head Start Policy Council Minutes Presented to the Board

Pre-K Financial Report Presented to the Board

Monthly Financial Report Presented to the Board

Credit Card Report Presented to the Board

PCHS Senior Graduation Walk - May 10, 2019

Senior Picnic at Harmon Field - May 17, 2019 at Harmon Field

Honors Dinner - Wednesday May 29, 2019

PCHS Senior Awards Night - June 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PCHS Graduation - June 7, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PCEC Graduation - Saturday, May 18, 2019, At 11:00 at Tryon Fine Arts Center

BOARD TRAINING

Summer Leadership Conference 6/17/19-6/19/19 at Carolina Beach

Policy Conference 6/20/19-6/21/19 at Carolina Beach

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 8:17 PM Chairman Tennant entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel, student matter, and a property matter. Ms. Page made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion carried 7-0.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Resumption of Regular Session: With all discussion concluded in closed session, Chairman Tennant called for a motion to return to open session. At 9:20 pm, Ms. Page made a motion to return to open session. Mr. Covil seconded the motion and it carried 7 to 0.

The Board made the decision to divide the personnel agenda into two parts. Chairman Tennant called the Board's attention to those matters on the hiring portion of the personnel agenda that required Board approval. The Chairman asked the Board's pleasure in regard to a motion. Ms. Covil 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.

Chairman Tennant called the Board's attention to the second portion of the personnel agenda that required Board Approval. The Chairman asked the Board's pleasure in regard to a motion. Ms. Corley made the motion to approve the request of professional leave that was on the second portion of the personnel agenda. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

The Board discussed Ariel Ballard. A hardship diploma was awarded contingent on the successful completion of her Spring 2019 courses.

INFORMATION:

Robert Livingston	Teacher	PCHS	RIF
Jeannie Solomon	Teacher	Saluda	Retiring
Patricia Stevens	Teacher	PCES	Retiring
Georgia Justice	Teacher	Tryon	Retiring
Debra Constance	Teacher	Tryon	Retiring
Pilar Pace	Teacher	Tryon	Retiring
Patti Shaw	Teacher	Saluda	Retiring
Margaret Boone	Teacher Assistant	Saluda	Retiring

Sheila Simpson	Food Service		PCHS	Retiring
Debra Woo	Teacher		PCHS	Resigning
Julia Carroll	Teacher		PCMS	Resigning
Andrew Reece	Teacher		PCMS	Resigning
Ivey Upton	Afterschool Group Leader		Sunny View	Resigning
Kayla Manning	Afterschool Group Leader		PCMS	Resigning
Evan Lazer	Afterschool Group Leader		Tryon	Resigning
Christian Etherson	Afterschool Group Leader		PCMS	Resigning
Shanae Tingling	Afterschool Group Leader		Tryon	Resigning
Bailey Lowman	Afterschool Group Leader		Sunny View	Resigning
Morgan Brooks	Afterschool Group Leader		PCES	Resigning
Sadie Allen	Afterschool Group Leader		Saluda	Resigning
Teresa Edwards	Food Service		PCHS	Resigning
Ashley Gilbert	FMLA	PCHS	Teacher	
Jacob Gibson	FMLA	Central Office	Maintenance	

ACTION:

Seth Taylor	Speech Pathologist	PCMS	Western Carolina University	Hendersonville		Clinical/ Internship
Kalie Deaton	Speech Pathologist	PCES	Western Carolina University	Zirconia	Speech Pathology	2
Jonathan Hyder	Custodian/Bus Driver	Tryon		Rutherfordton		5
Savanna Bowyer	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Gardner-Webb University	Tryon		
David Burnett	Substitute Teacher/Substitute Afterschool Group Leader	All Schools	Gardner-Webb University	Forest City		

Amanda Huddleston	Professional Leave	Saluda	Pre K Teacher Assistant
Kelly Dailey	Medical Leave Without Pay	Tryon	Speech Pathologist

At 9:23PM Chairman Tennant entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's Contract. Ms. Allen made a motion and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion carried 7-0.

Resumption of Regular Session: With all discussion concluded in closed session, Chairman Tennant called for a motion to return to open session. At 9:44 pm, Ms. Jackson made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Page seconded the motion and it carried 7 to 0.

Chairman Tennant asked the Board pleasure regarding the Superintendent's Contract. Mr. Covil made motion to approve the Superintendents contract and Mr. Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Chairman Tennant declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Geoffrey M. Tennant, Board Chairman

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary

AG/TO