

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**December 12, 2022**  
**6:30 PM, at Stearns Education Center Boardroom**

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Others:** Superintendent Aaron Greene, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jan Crump, Director of Operations Brandon Schweitzer, 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**

**Recognition of the 2022 Christmas Card Artists**

Chairman Ashworth recognized the five student Christmas card artists whose artwork was chosen for the 2022 Polk County Schools' Christmas cards. They included: Madison Haggard, Bianca Mowers, Grant Roush, Grace Hagan, and Jada Foster. Mr. Ashworth presented each artist with a Christmas ornament gift and a box of their own Christmas cards. Superintendent Greene thanked Mr. Thomas, the students, and their families for attending the meeting and for the contribution of their artwork.

**PCMS Student Presentation**

The Board recognized Polk County Middle School Principal Todd Murphy to introduce PCMS students Pixie Moore, Addison Queen, Charlie Wagoner, and Gabriella Betancourt. Each student spoke briefly regarding different activities that PCMS are engaged in such as Holiday Cards, Amazing Race, Science Olympiad, Pep Rallies, and Spirit Week. The Board applauded the students for their work and thanked them for coming to present.

**Approval of November 14, 2022 Board Minutes (Action)**

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the November 14, 2022 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Ms. Gibbs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Swearing in of the Elected and Re-Elected Board Members: Michael Ashworth, Danielle Gibbs, Judy Jackson, Robert Parsons, and Sherry Page (Action)**

The Polk County Clerk of Court, Pam Hyder, administered the oath of office to Mr. Michael Ashworth, Ms. Danielle Gibbs, Ms. Judy Jackson, Mr. Robert Parsons, and Ms. Sherry Page. Each of the elected members took the oath of office individually and all swore to fulfill the constitutional and statutory obligations contained in their oath of office.

**Annual Election of Board Chairman & Vice-Chair (Action)**

Chairman Ashworth turned the gavel over to Superintendent Greene for the annual election of the Board Chairman. Mr. Greene asked for nominations. Ms. Allen made a recommendation to re-elect Mr. Ashworth as the Board Chairman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion carried 7-0. Ms. Allen made a motion to re-elect Mr.

Covil as the Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The motion carried 7-0. Superintendent Greene turned the meeting back over to Chairman Ashworth.

## I. INSTRUCTIONAL

### **Fall 2022-2023 Testing Schedule – Adrian Hammond (Information)**

Ms. Adrian Hammond, Accountability Director, made a presentation to the Board regarding the Fall 2022-2023 testing schedule. She went over in detail the schedule that was attached to the electronic agenda.

### **EC Annual Report - Toni Haley (Information)**

Chairman Ashworth recognized Student Services Director Toni Haley who covered Polk County's Annual Report for Students with Disabilities (available to the public online). Ms. Haley pointed out areas in which Polk County met or did not meet state goals and / or required targets. Ms. Haley discussed all of the indicators, specifying whether or not the district had met each target. She also explained why the district did not meet a particular indicator, and she highlighted areas in which the district had made growth.

### **2023-2024 Calendar Options – Aaron Greene (Action)**

Superintendent Aaron Greene was instructed to present 2023-2024 calendar options to the Board. Mr. Greene presented two options to the Board. One having two weeks of holiday break and one with a shorter holiday break. There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the two different versions. Mr. Covil made a motion to adopt Calendar 2023-2024 version 2 and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. Version 2 of the 2023-2024 presented calendar was adopted on a vote of 7-0.

### **Athletic Training Contract – Aaron Greene (Action)**

Superintendent Greene presented to the Board regarding the District's athletic training services and current contract. Mr. Greene stated that St. Luke's Hospital is proposing to offer a training operation to Polk County Schools virtually identical to the current agreement Polk County Schools has with Southeastern Sports Medicine. This agreement would provide athletic training services to Polk County High School. Mr. Covil asked about a start date should the agreement with St. Luke's be selected. Mr. Greene stated that the new agreement would begin January 1, 2023. Ms. Allen asked if the agreement provided the same services. Mr. Greene stated that it would be the same set of personnel coverage and services that Southeastern Sports Medicine offers currently. Mr. Ashworth asked if all the details had been worked out. Mr. Greene stated that himself and Attorney Feagan are still going through the agreement and making some minor changes. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Athletic Training Contract with St. Luke's Hospital. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approved the Athletic Training Contract with St. Luke's Hospital as long as it has the same service provisions as the one used currently. The motion was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion passed 7-0.

## II. ADMINISTRATIVE

### **Budget Amendment - Debbie Lovelace (Action)**

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

### **Policy Update (Second Reading) – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)**

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer spoke to the Board regarding the second reading of Policies 1310/4002 Parental Involvement, 1510/4200/7270 School Safety, 1710 Discrimination and harassment Prohibited by Federal Law, 1720/4030/7235 Title IX nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex, 2121 Board Member Conflict of Interest, 2125/7315 Confidential Information, 2210 Duties of Officers, 2302 Remote Participation in Board Meetings, 2310 Public Participation in Board Meetings, 2400 Board Policies, 2410 Policy Development, 2430 Dissemination and Preservation of Policies,

2600 Consultants to the Board, 3100 Curriculum Development, 3102 Online Instruction, 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use, 3410 Testing and Assessment Program, 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability, 3430 School Improvement Plan, 3460 Graduation Requirements, 4050 Children of Military Families, 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission, 4120 Domicile or Residence Requirements, 4150 School Assignment, 4152 Unsafe School Choice Transfer, 4240/7312 Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety, 4260 Student Sex Offenders, 4300 Student Behaviors Policies, 4302-R Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools, 4316 Student Dress Code, 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones), 4700 Student Records, 4720 Surveys of Students, 5022 Registered Sex Offenders, 5030 Community Use of Facilities, 5071/7351 Electronically Stored Information Retention, 5210 Distribution and Display of Non-School Material, 5210 Distribution and Display of Non-School Material, 5240 Advertising in the Schools, 6220 Operation of School Nutrition Services, 6320 Use of Student Transportation Services, 6340 Transportation Service/Vehicle Contracts, 6560 Disposal of Surplus Property, 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel, 7130 Licensure, 7262 Communicable Diseases-Employees, 7340 Employee Dress and Appearance, 7510 Leave, 7520 Family and Medical Leave, 7530 Military Leave, 7540 Voluntary Shared Leave, 7541 Sick Leave Bank, 7550 Absences Due to Inclement Weather, 7620 Payroll Deductions, 7810 Evaluation of Licensed Employees, 7815 Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees, 7820 Personnel Files, 8305 Federal Grant Administration, 8310 Annual Independent Audit, Depositories, 9000 Planning to Address Facility Needs, 9400 Sale, Disposal, and Leave of Board-Owned Real Property, 1200 Governing Principle-Student Success, 1300 Governing Principle-Parental Involvement, Governing Principle-School Initiatives, 1500 Governing Principle-Safe, Orderly, and Inviting Environment, 1600 Governing Principle-Professional Development, 1700Governing Principle-Removal of Barriers, 1725/4035/7236 Title IX Sexual Harassment-Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process, 1726/4036/7237 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process, 1800 Governing Principle-Stewardship of Resources, 4329/7311 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited, 5070/7350 Public Records-Retention, Release, and Disposition, 7110 Information Provided by Applicant or Employee, 7400 Job Descriptions, 7430 Substitute Teachers, and 9020 Facility Design. Dr. Schweitzer stated that changes that were spoken of during the first reading have been made to the policies. Chairman Ashworth entertained a motion to approve the afore mentioned policies. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the policies on second reading and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. Policies 1310/4002 Parental Involvement, 1510/4200/7270 School Safety, 1710 Discrimination and harassment Prohibited by Federal Law, 1720/4030/7235 Title IX nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex, 2121 Board Member Conflict of Interest, 2125/7315 Confidential Information, 2210 Duties of Officers, 2302 Remote Participation in Board Meetings, 2310 Public Participation in Board Meetings, 2400 Board Policies, 2410 Policy Development, 2430 Dissemination and Preservation of Policies, 2600 Consultants to the Board, 3100 Curriculum Development, 3102 Online Instruction, 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use, 3410 Testing and Assessment Program, 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability, 3430 School Improvement Plan, 3460 Graduation Requirements, 4050 Children of Military Families, 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission, 4120 Domicile or Residence Requirements, 4150 School Assignment, 4152 Unsafe School Choice Transfer, 4240/7312 Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety, 4260 Student Sex Offenders, 4300 Student Behaviors Policies, 4302-R Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools, 4316 Student Dress Code, 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones), 4700 Student Records, 4720 Surveys of Students, 5022 Registered Sex Offenders, 5030 Community Use of Facilities, 5071/7351 Electronically Stored Information Retention, 5210 Distribution and Display of Non-School Material, 5210 Distribution and Display of Non-School Material, 5240 Advertising in the Schools, 6220 Operation of School Nutrition Services, 6320 Use of Student Transportation Services, 6340 Transportation Service/Vehicle Contracts, 6560 Disposal of Surplus Property, 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel, 7130 Licensure, 7262 Communicable Diseases-Employees, 7340 Employee Dress and Appearance, 7510 Leave, 7520 Family and Medical Leave, 7530 Military Leave, 7540 Voluntary Shared Leave, 7541 Sick Leave Bank, 7550 Absences Due to Inclement Weather, 7620 Payroll Deductions, 7810 Evaluation of Licensed Employees, 7815 Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees, 7820 Personnel Files, 8305 Federal Grant Administration, 8310 Annual Independent Audit, Depositories, 9000 Planning to Address Facility Needs, 9400 Sale, Disposal, and Leave of Board-Owned Real Property, 1200 Governing Principle-Student Success, 1300 Governing Principle-Parental Involvement, Governing Principle-School Initiatives, 1500 Governing Principle-Safe, Orderly, and Inviting Environment, 1600 Governing Principle-Professional Development, 1700Governing Principle-Removal of Barriers, 1725/4035/7236 Title IX Sexual Harassment-Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process, 1726/4036/7237

Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process, 1800 Governing Principle-Stewardship of Resources, 4329/7311 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited, 5070/7350 Public Records-Retention, Release, and Disposition, 7110 Information Provided by Applicant or Employee, 7400 Job Descriptions, 7430 Substitute Teachers, and 9020 Facility Design were approved on second reading by a vote of 7-0.

### **Construction Update – Brandon Schweitzer (Information)**

Director of Operations Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented to the Board regarding the PCHS HVAC project and Tryon Elementary School Pre-K Construction. The PCHS HVAC project is down to its final stages. Brady Contracting will be replacing nearly 75 square feet of roofing to correct an issue with water leaking. The final payment is still being withheld until issues are corrected. Dr. Schweitzer stated some changes were made to the floor plan of the Tryon Elementary School Pre-K Building. Given favorable conditions this should take eight or nine months for completion. Ms. Jackson asked if there was any damage to the gym floor from the leakage. Dr. Schweitzer stated that the leakage has to be corrected and then the floor must dry to be assessed for damage. If the floors are not returned to normal status, Brady contracting will fix the floor as well.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Superintendent Aaron Greene presented an overnight trip proposal from the FFA Poultry Judging Team. Mr. Greene went over the proposal that was handed out to the Board Members. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approved the presented trip proposal. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approved the presented FFA Poultry Judging Team trip proposal and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The overnight trip proposal was approved 7-0.

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding upcoming Ethics Training. Campbell-Shatley is available on 1/5/2023 at 5:30. The Board agreed to having a work session for this training on January 5, 2023 at 5:30.

Chairman Ashworth spoke his appreciation of Mr. Greene for his trip to Chapel Hill to successfully advocate for Polk County Schools to return back to 1A classification in athletics.

### **V. INFORMATION**

November Head Start Policy Council Minutes Presented to the Board

November Pre-School Monthly Report Presented to the Board

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

Christmas Break for Students: December 21, 2022 (1/2 Day)- January 2, 2023 - students return to school on January 3, 2023

### **OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING**

None

**VI. PUBLIC INPUT**

There was no need to amend the time limit for Public Input. Several Polk County residents attended the meeting and offered public input to the Board. A verbatim account of public input and all open meeting Board discussion is available via digital audio recording.

**VII. CLOSED SESSION**

**Closed Session**

At 7:19 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel, and an attorney client matter. Ms. Gibbs 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, Mr. Ashworth called for a motion to return to open session. At 8:46 pm, Ms. Gibbs 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. Mr. Parsons made the motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

**Information:**

Name	Position	School	
John "Brian" Taylor	Teacher	PCHS	Conditional Separation
Megan Williams	Teacher	Tryon	Resigned
Diana Martin	Teacher	Polk Central	Resigned
Bruce Ollis	Head Football Coach	PCHS	Resigned
Lisa Wessell	Afterschool Group Leader	Tryon	Resigned

**Action:**

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Margaret Conner	Temporary Occupational Therapist	Stearns	Greer, SC	University of New Hampshire	Occupational Therapist	21
Sophie Hebbard	Job Coach EC Assistant	PCHS	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	0
Amanda Doornbos	Temporary EC Teacher Assistant	PCMS	Tryon	N/A	N/A	Years
Jasmin Roman	Afterschool Group Leader	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years

Alisha Richardson	Afterschool Group Leader	Saluda	Saluda	N/A	N/A	0
Savanna Searcy	Afterschool Group Leader	Sunny View	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	0
Melissa Henderson	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Mill Spring	Blue Ridge	N/A	Years

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

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Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

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Aaron Greene, Board Secretary  
AG/TO