

Board of Education Meeting
February 13, 2023
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

Honored Educator Scholarship Presentation

Superintendent Greene turned the meeting over to Dr. Brock Womble, the executive director of the NCCAT for the special recognition. The William J. Miller Honored Educator Scholarship was established by the Stuart and Margaret L. Forbes Foundation and the Ann L. Turner and Geoffrey M. Tennant Foundation. Dr. Womble along with several others spoke regarding Mr. William Millers accomplishments and his impacts on students and teachers. Superintendent Greene requested the Board take action to officially recognize this scholarship and to affirm that Polk County Schools will allow the Beginning Teacher, that is chosen for this scholarship, to attend NCCAT and have leave to cover the absence. Mr. Covil made a motion to allow this to happen and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion was approved 7-0. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to have a short recess for a reception in honor of Mr. Miller. Ms. Gibbs made a motion for the Board to recess, it was seconded by Ms. Allen and approved 7-0.

Resumption of Regular Session: After the reception for Mr. Miller, Mr. Ashworth called for a motion to return to open session. At 7:05 pm, Mr. Parsons made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Gibbs seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Approval of January 9, 2023 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the January 9, 2023 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections. Chairman Ashworth clarified the closed session description from the last meeting should include the discussion of the safety portion of the MOU and requested this change be made. Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the Board minutes with the correction. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

The Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Recipient – Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene presented The Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Award to this year's recipient. This educational grant fund was established by the family of Janice Anderson Brumley. Ms. Brumley was a teacher in Polk County for years and strived to be the best educator she could. This grant fund will award up to \$1,000 each year to educators who share Ms. Brumley's goal. Mr. Greene presented Ms. Kimberley Benson, Band Teacher at PCMS, with The Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Award. Ms. Benson plans to attend the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference.

2022-2023 Fall Semester Update - Jan Crump (Information)

Ms. Jan Crump gave a report to the Board regarding mCLASS. She went over data comparing beginning of the year and middle of the year measures. Chairman Ashworth asked for further explanation of the program Heggerty's. Ms. Crump explained that Heggerty's deals with phonemic awareness and sounds and that all four elementary schools are using it currently.

Summer Learning Program - Jan Crump (Action)

Ms. Jan Crump provided the Board information regarding the Summer Learning Program. Ms. Crump went over the attached document that she had shared with the Board. Ms. Adrian Hammond spoke with the Board regarding the testing portion of the Summer Learning Program. The plan is to offer EOG testing for grades three through five in math and reading. There is no plan to retest middle school students but the district is still submitting a request to be able to retest in case of changes in process. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Summer Learning Program. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the plan as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The Summer Learning Program was approved 7-0.

Overnight Field Trip Request - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene requested approval from the Board to allow two students to attend the FFA Legislative Conference. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the presented overnight field trip request. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the request and it was seconded by MS. Gibbs and Ms. Page. The overnight field trip request for the FFA Legislative Conference was approved 7-0.

Polk County Early College 2023-2024 Calendar - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene discussed a calendar change with the Board for the PCEC 2023-2024 calendar. The change requested is to move spring break for the 2023-2024 school year to match the other schools in the district. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the PCEC 2023-2024 Calendar. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the presented calendar and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The PCEC 2023-2024 Calendar revision was approved 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Policy Updates - Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented to the Board the first reading, either adopting new or changing the current policy, of Policies 2120 Code of Ethics for School Board Members, 2130 Board member Compensation and Expenses, 2123 Board Member Opportunities for Development, 3220 Technology in the Educational Program, 4100 Age Requirements for Initial Entry, 4130 Discretionary Admission, 4155 Assignment to Classes, 4220 Student Insurance Program, 4125 Homeless Students, 4400 Attendance, 6125 Administering Medicines to Students, 6140 Student Wellness, 7241 Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial motor Vehicle Operators, 7360/8225 Crowdfunding on Behalf of the School System, 3102 Online Instruction, 4270/6145 Concussion and Head Injury, 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones), and 5230 School Meal and Competitive Food Standards. Dr. Schweitzer stated that some of the policies have significant changes, and some have only minor changes in wording or references. He went over in more detail those policies that had significant changes. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the policies. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the policies on first reading and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The aforementioned policies were approved on first reading with a vote of 7-0.

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. Mr. Parsons made the motion, which Ms. Page seconded. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. The motion was approved 7-0.

Audit Contract - (Action) Aaron Greene

Superintendent Greene requested the Board approve the annual Audit Contract with Anderson, Smith, & Wyke, LLC. This will approve them to continue with the contract for the 2022-2023 school year. Chairman Ashworth called for a

motion to approve the audit contract. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the audit contract with Anderson, Smith, and Wyke, LLC and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The 2022-2023 Audit Contract was approved 7-0.

Health and Human Services SHAC and Testing Nurse Contract - Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding the Health and Human Services SHAC and Testing Nurse Contract. He stated that this item needed to be an actionable item. Ms. Kathy Harding presented the Health and Human Services SHAC and Testing Nurse Contract to the Board. Ms. Harding stated that DHHS has given \$60,000 to be used for mental health initiatives. One of the focuses that DHHS suggested was staff wellness and staff mental health. A committee decided that this money would be used for wellness initiative for each school, the district sent the school counselors to the state conference, and a meditation garden at PCMS. Superintendent Greene stated that the Board had to approve the district is willing to receive this additional funding from DHHS. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the additional funding from DHHS. Ms. Gibbs made a motion that the district accept the funding of \$60,000 from DHHS and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion was approved 7-0.

Spring Budget Workshop - (Information) Aaron Greene

Superintendent Greene spoke with the Board regarding the scheduling of the Spring Budget workshop. The Board agreed to have the Spring Budget Workshop on April 3 at 3:00.

April Board of Education Meeting Date - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene offered the Board consider moving the regular April Board meeting due to the meeting date falling during Spring Break. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to change the date of the April Board meeting. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to move the April board meeting to April 3 and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Construction Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Director of Operations, Brandon Schweitzer, updated the Board regarding the PCHS HVAC project and the Tryon Elementary addition. Dr. Schweitzer stated that the project is almost finished. Dr. Schweitzer if making sure that all is well with the roof before the final payment is released. Dr. Schweitzer stated that the Tryon Elementary addition project bids are scheduled for February 14. The committee to evaluate the bids will be in place. If all goes as planned groundbreaking will be in March.

Alan Peoples Recognition – Aaron Green (Information)

Superintendent Greene spoke with the Board regarding the Alan Peoples Recognition. Mr. Greene attended the ceremony for Mr. Peoples when he was inducted into the Track and Field Hall of Fame. Mr. Greene described the impact Mr. Peoples has had in the track community locally but also statewide. Superintendent Greene proposes that the portion of track surface near the high jump pit in front of the concession stand be painted with the phrase, “Alan Peoples Track”. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve this action. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the naming of the track and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion was approved 7-0.

Chocolate Drop – Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene held discussion with the Board regarding the request for trail access for Chocolate Drop. There was in depth discussion among the Board regarding access, times, parking, etc. The Board agreed to have Mr. Williams and the committee return with additional information and to have a discussion with the Board before a final decision is made.

Superintendent Greene spoke to the Board regarding a turnaround day for PCHS on the 2023-2024 calendar. Mr. Greene stated that they would like to move the PCHS retesting day to the day students come back to school after Christmas Break, but not to have an additional day off for other schools. The Board agreed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene informed the Board that a rough estimate of the PC4K event is that the district grossed \$67,000. There are expenses to be paid out but at the end Polk County Schools raised a possible net amount of \$50,000. Superintendent Greene invited the Board to the retirement celebration for Lambert Ridings on February 28 from 5:30-7:00.

V. INFORMATION

- January Head Start Policy Council Minutes
- January 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
- Optional Teacher Workday-February 17, 2023

OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

Spring Law Conference - Virtual Event - March 23, 2023 - March 24, 2023

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 8:02 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. 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 8:42 pm, Mr. Parsons 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. Gibbs 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.

There was discussion among the Board regarding an Attorney Client matter.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Kimberly Wilson	Guidance Office Administrative Assistant	PCHS	Retiring
Cindy Gilbert	Band Director	PCHS	Retiring

Kimberley "Brooke" Laughter	Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Resigned
Deborah Crist	Food Service/Bus Driver	Tryon	Resigning Food Service Portion of Position
Mayleigh Chapman	Afterschool Group Leader	Polk Central	Resigned
Kalie McCrain	Speech Pathologist	Polk Central	FMLA
Betty Jo Owensby	Food Service Assistant Manager	PCHS	FMLA
Caroline Edwards	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	FMLA
Rachel Goettert	ICC Liaison/EC Admin Assistant	PCEC/Stearns	FMLA

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Lisa Jones	Afterschool Group Leader	Saluda	Saluda	N/A	N/A	Years
John Xanthopoulos	Substitute Teacher	PCHS	Tryon	Walden University	N/A	30
Dustin Fry	Head Varsity Football Coach	PCHS	Tryon	Clemson	N/A	10
Kayla Ashley	Substitute Teacher/Food Service	All Schools	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Maritza Hernandez	Afterschool Group Leader	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	0

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
 AG/TO