

Board of Education Meeting
March 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

RootEd Student Presentation

Andrea Walter and several teachers from Polk Central Elementary presented to the Board regarding the RootEd Program. They each gave an overview of the program and regarding the four different projects they are completing. They shared a presentation with students speaking regarding their efforts on projects and what they have learned from being involved in the program.

Approval of February 13, 2023 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the February 13, 2023 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve the Board minutes as presented. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

Head Start Continuation Grant – Kathy Harding (Action)

Chairman Ashworth recognized Kathy Harding, Preschool Director, for the Head Start Grant continuation application. Ms. Harding reviewed the documents attached to the Board Agenda including the Head Start proposed budget, the Self-Assessment Summary and Improvement Plan, the Training and Assistance Plan, and Program Goals Progress Update. The Head Start grant budget total will be \$722,584 which includes \$12,827 of restricted money for technical assistance and training of staff. Mr. Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the Head Start Continuation Grant and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. 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 Ashworth asked for a motion that the budget amendment be approved as submitted. Mr. Parsons made the motion, which Ms. Allen seconded. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. The motion was approved 7-0.

Policy Updates Second Reading - Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented to the Board the second reading, either adopting new or changing 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 these were the policies that were discussed in the previous meeting with no changes. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the policies. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the policies on second reading and it was seconded by Mr. Page. The aforementioned policies were approved on second reading with a vote of 7-0.

Pre-K Addition Construction Bid – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer spoke with the Board regarding the Pre-K Addition Construction Bid. There were four companies that attended the bidding; T.C. Strickland, Champion Construction, Hickory Construction, and Hoke Enterprises. The low bidder and the presented bid is Champion Construction. Dr. Schweitzer went over the bid sheet that was attached to the Board Agenda. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the low Pre-K Addition Construction Bid that was presented. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the presented bid from Champion Construction, and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion to approve Champion Construction was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Construction Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Director of Operations, Brandon Schweitzer state that the PCHS HVAC process has been completed and the final retainage has been released. All problems and issues related directly to the project have been resolved.

Spring Budget Workshop – Aaron Greene

Superintendent Greene clarified that the Spring Budget workshop will be on 4/3/23 from 3:30-5:30 with the Board meeting beginning at 6:00.

Student Transfer Request – Aaron Greene

Superintendent Greene stated that there is a student transfer request that will need to be added to the agenda before it can be released. Mr. Covil made a motion to add the Student Transfer Request to the agenda and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion was approved 7-0. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Student Transfer request as presented. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the Student Transfer Request and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The Student Transfer Request was approved 7-0.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

House Bill 219

Chairman Ashworth held discussion with the Board regarding House Bill 219(HB219) and stated that he had asked Superintendent Greene to present information regarding HB 219. Mr. Greene spoke to the Board regarding concerns and issues that seem to be arising with the HB219. There was discussion among the Board regarding HB 219.

V. INFORMATION

February Head Start Policy Council Minutes
February Pre-School Monthly Report
Pre-K Financial Report
Monthly Financial Report
Month to Date Credit Card Report

Board Minutes

March 13, 2023

Page 3

Optional Teacher Workday-3/17/23

Spring Budget Workshop - 4/3/2023 @ 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

April Board Meeting 4/3/2023 @ 6:00 pm

Holiday 4/7/2023

Spring Break 4/10/2023-4/14/2023

OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

Virtual Spring Law Conference/March 23-24, 2023

NCSBA Annual Conference/November 13-15, 2023/Greensboro

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 7:20 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel and safety Procedures. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. 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 8:30 pm, Ms. Page made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Allen 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. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

There was also discussion among the Board regarding the Safe Schools Plan and a safety procedure.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Deanna Durham	CTE Teacher	PCMS	Retiring
Amanda VanDuyne	Family Services Specialist	Stearns	Retiring
Xan Morse	Director of Family Services	Stearns	Retiring
Debra Fowler	Teacher	Saluda	Retiring
Donna Godley	Teacher	Tryon	Retiring
Jennifer Allsbrook	Teacher	PCHS	Retiring
Nancy Higgins	Teacher	PCMS	Retiring
Alishea Scroggs	Behavior Liason	Stearns	Resigned
Jennifer Taylor	Teacher	PCMS	Resigned

Talea Heatherly	Food Service Aide	PCHS	Resigned
Beth Packer	Teacher	Polk Central/ Sunny View	Retiring
Lisa Briere	Teacher	Polk Central	Resigning
Julia Tackett	Teacher	Polk Central	Resigning
Kerri Troutman	Teacher	Tryon	FMLA
Donna Brice	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	FMLA
Markiesha Jackson	Teacher	PCHS	FMLA

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Amy Runyon	Full-Time EC Teacher Assistant	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Michelle Loeza	Part-Time Food Service Aide	PCHS	Rutherfordton	N/A	N/A	0
Kayla Ashley	Move from Substitute Food Service Aide to Part-Time Food Service Aide	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vickie Richardson	Move from Substitute Food Service Aide to Part-Time Food Service Aide	PCHS	Columbus	N/A	N/A	N/A
Olivia Bragdon	Afterschool Group Leader	Sunny View	Lake Lure	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vinca Hebbard	Afterschool Group Leader	Polk Central	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A
George Alley	Part-Time Temporary Athletic Director Assistant	PCHS	Columbus	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alexis McCraw	Add Substitute Teacher to job duties	All Schools	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Gaboda	Substitute Teacher	PCHS/PCEC	Rutherfordton	Southern Hampshire University	N/A	3
Lisa Matthys	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Forest City	N/A	N/A	0
Megan Ward	Substitute in all areas	All Schools	Saluda	N/A	N/A	1
Dina Patrick	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Landrum SC	Gardner-Webb	N/A	30
Amanda Doornbos	EC Teacher Assistant	PCMS	Campobello, SC	N/A	N/A	N/A

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO