

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**April 3, 2023**  
**6:00 PM, at Stearns Education Center Boardroom**

**There was Board Member training prior to the Board Meeting from 3:30-5:30.**

**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.

**Western Region Superintendent of the Year - Jan Webster**

Jan Webster presented the Western Region Superintendent of the Year Award to Superintendent Aaron Greene. This award is voted on by all the superintendents in the western region. Superintendent Greene will represent the western region in the running for the State Superintendent of the Year. Superintendent Greene stated that he was humbled and honored by this recognition.

**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**

**PCHS Agriculture Presentation**

Michelle Bean, Principal of Polk County High School, introduced Chauncey Barber, teacher at Polk County High School. Mr. Barber explained that three students, Brooklyn Lewis, Lily Gosnell, and Banks Barber would speak about some aspects of the agriculture program at PCHS. Brooklyn Lewis spoke about the Vet Science Team, Lily Gosnell spoke regarding the National FFA Convention, and Banks Barber spoke regarding the Land Judging Team. They shared a slide presentation and gave details about each topic. The Board congratulated the students on their work and shared the Board's appreciation for the student presentations.

**Approval of March 13, 2023 Board Minutes (Action)**

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the March 13, 2023 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections. Superintendent Greene stated that that the minutes initially presented did not state that there was action taken on a safety item and there was, and that this correction had been made. Mr. Parsons made the motion to approve the amended Board minutes and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion carried unanimously.

**I. INSTRUCTIONAL**

**School Social Work - Linley Foster (Information)**

Linley Foster, Lead School Social Worker gave a presentation to the Board about Social Work services in the District. She started in August 2022 as the Lead Social Worker. Since then the district has added one and a half additional social worker positions. Ms. Foster discussed the priorities of the School Social work team, including finding and sharing resources with families, counseling for students, case management, truancy mediation, acute mental health referrals, and more. Ms. Foster currently has over 200 students on the case load. There are approximately 30 children in the foster care system and approximately 15 homeless children enrolled in the district. The Board asked for Ms.

Foster to explain “homeless.” Ms. Foster explained that the school definition for “homeless” does not mean living on the street; the student could be living with a friend, couch hopping, two families in one, etc. She provided further clarification about the “homeless” definition used by the state, and what types of resources and intervention the District provides. The Board thanked her for her presentation and the work she does on behalf of student and families.

**Spring Testing Update – Adrian Hammond (Information)**

Adrian Hammond, Accountability Coordinator, spoke with the Board regarding an update on Spring Testing. Ms. Hammond went over the schedules for PCEC and PCHS, and the elementary and middle schools. She covered NC Extend 1, Remediation and Second Administrations, and Read to Achieve testing, and details and requirements for these tests. She called for questions from the Board and there were none.

**Overnight Field Trip Requests - Aaron Greene (Action)**

Superintendent Greene went over the attached overnight field trip requests for Science Olympiad, Bridge Building, and FFA Land Judging. Superintendent Greene stated that each one had a principal endorsement and met all requirements. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the overnight field trip requests and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Science Olympiad, Bridge Building, and FFA Land Judging overnight field trip requests were approved 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

**Head Start COLA & Quality Improvement Application Approval - Kathy Harding (Action)**

Kathy Harding presented to the Board regarding the Head Start Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and the Quality Improvement. The COLA request is \$39,746. COLA funds will be used to offset the rising costs of employee salaries and fringe benefits. Quality Improvement funds of \$22,64 will be used to support the implementation of curriculum changes that improve alignment with North Carolina Office of Early Learning recommendations. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the applications for COLA funds and the Quality Improvement Funds. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the submission of applications for COLA funds and the Quality Improvement Funds and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion was approved 7-0.

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

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

**CIPA Training - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)**

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented information regarding how our district maintains compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). He detailed the steps in how the district filters and restricts inappropriate content for students and staff, and how monitoring takes place in order to alert appropriate parties of unsafe online behavior from students or staff. Dr. Schweitzer also reviewed the district's Technology Responsible Use (3225) board policy along with the Internet Safety (3226) policy. No changes were made to either policy.

**Proposed 2023-2024 Budget - Debbie Lovelace (Action)**

The 2023-2024 Proposed Operations Budget and Capital Outlay for submission to Commissioners were attached to the electronic agenda with total expenditures at \$6,809,441 and Capital at \$312,000. Superintendent Greene will be asking for an additional \$1 million for project-based capital funding from the county. Chairman Ashworth called for any questions or comments from the Board and there were none. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 proposed budget and capital outlay as presented and with the understanding that Superintendent Greene will request the \$1 million for project-based capital funding from the county. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The 2023-2024 proposed local budget and capital outlay budget were approved 7-0.

**Food Service Bids - Aaron Greene (Action)**

Superintendent Greene covered the latest Child Nutrition bids with the Board. He briefly went over the attached list of submitted renewals for 2023-2024. Chairman Ashworth asked if there are questions or comments regarding the bids and there were none. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the presented bids and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The 2023-2024 Child Nutrition bids were approved on a vote of 7-0.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **TES Pre-K Addition Contract Agreement - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)**

Director of Operations, Dr. Brandon Schweitzer, held discussion with the Board regarding the TES Pre-K Addition Contract Agreement. Dr. Schweitzer went over some of the changes that were in the contract with the Board. Dr. Schweitzer stated that the Board needs agree and accept the draft form of the contract. Once that is done, the contract will go to the contractor for his approval. Once it is approved by the contractor, if there are no changes, Mr. Ashworth will sign and the contract will be complete. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the TES Pre-K Contract Agreement and it was seconded by Ms. Page and Ms. Gibbs. The TES Pre-K Contract Agreement was approved 7-0.

#### **Construction Update – Brandon Schweitzer**

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer stated that the Polk Central security modifications will begin next week. These modifications will include an entrance modification that will require visitors to flow through the office. A student “buzz-in” system will be installed at PCHS within the next week as well.

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Superintendent Greene reminded the Board of their consideration of a potential Board resolution opposing proposed House Bill 219. He stated that if the Board chose to pass the HB 219 resolution he will submit it to the appropriate entities. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the HB219 resolution and it was seconded by Ms. Page/Gibbs. The Board Opposition to HB 219 was approved 7-0.

### **V. INFORMATION**

March Head Start Policy Council Minutes

Pre-K Financial Report

Monthly Financial Report

Month to Date Credit Card Report

Holiday 4/7/2023

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

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

Summer Leadership Conference/June 12-16/Wrightsville Beach

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

### **VI. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **VII. CLOSED SESSION**

#### **Closed Session**

At 7:07 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel. 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 7:50 pm, Mr. Parsons 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.

**Information:**

Name	Position	School	
Libby Justice	Title I Tutor	Tryon	Resigning
Emma Earnest	Teacher	PCHS	Resigning
Olivia Evans	Teacher	PCMS	Resigning

**Action:**

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Kimberly Benson	Transfer from PCMS Band Director to PCHS Band Director	PCHS	Mills River	UNC Greensboro	Music K-12	16
Krista Ramirez	Custodian/Bus Driver	Sunny View	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	years
Lauren Dotson	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Mill Spring	NC A&T	N/A	0
Melanie Aguirre	Afterschool Group Leader	Tryon	Tryon	N/A	N/A	N/A
George Alley	Head Men's Soccer Coach	PCHS	Columbus	N/A	N/A	N/A

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

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Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

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Aaron Greene, Board Secretary  
AG/TO