

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**March 11, 2024**  
**6:00 PM, at Stearns Education Center Boardroom**  
**Board Member Training before the meeting at 3:30**

**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 Human Resources Todd Murphy, Director of Operations Brandon Schweitzer, and Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace

**Call to Order and Welcome**

Mr. Ashworth called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Student Presentation**

Saluda Elementary School Principal Erika Stronach introduced Ginger Rackley (4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher), Pam McNeil (music teacher), and Casey Marshall (PE Teacher). Ms. Rackley spoke to the Board regarding Saluda Elementary School being an A+ school and the integration of arts into their curriculum. Ms. McNeil had several 4<sup>th</sup> grade students perform a song while learning about rotating and revolving. Mr. Marshall had several 4<sup>th</sup> grade students do basketball drills in time with different music notes. The Board was please with the performance of the students and shared their appreciation with the teachers and students for their hard work and performance.

**Approval of February 12, 2024 Board Minutes (Action)**

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the February 12, 2024 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. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**I. INSTRUCTIONAL**

**McKinney-Vento - Linley Foster (Information)**

Ms. Linley Foster, School Social Worker, gave a brief presentation to the Board regarding McKinney-Vento students. Ms. Foster explained the McKinney-Vento law as providing the definition for "homeless" in public schools. Ms. Foster explained that the definition is "they lack a fixed regular and adequate nighttime residence." She explained many different situations that could fit this definition. Last year the District identified 22 homeless students and that increased to 38 for this current year. Ms. Foster describes the ways that the district tries to help and connect these families with resources. The district does not receive any Federal funding for homeless students, so any resources that are given are given locally. There was discussion amongst the Board regarding resources and what can or cannot be done to help these families. The Board thanked Ms. Foster for her efforts.

**FFA Overnight Field Trip Request - Aaron Greene (Action)**

Superintendent Greene requested approval from the Board to approve the FFA National Land Judging Competition. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the presented overnight field trip request. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the request and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The overnight field trip requests were approved 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. Page seconded. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. The motion was approved 7-0.

### **Audit Contract – Debbie Lovelace (Action)**

Debbie Lovelace presented to the Board regarding the Audit Contract with Anderson, Smith, and Wyke, LLC. Taking action at this meeting will approve them to continue with the audit contract for the 2024-2025 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. Allen. The 2024-2025 Audit Contract was approved 7-0.

### **NBPSCF Request - Brandon Schweitzer (Action)**

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer sought approval from the board for the most recent Needs Based Public Schools Capital Funds Request (NBPSCF). Dr. Schweitzer went over the request in detail. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the NBPSCF request. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the NBPSCF request and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The NBPSCF request was approved 7-0.

### **PCHS Paving Phase 2 - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)**

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer discussed a PCHS Paving Phase 2 project with the Board. He discussed in detail the plans that were attached to the agenda. He went over each of the options and explained reasoning behind each one. The Board asked when this would be done. If the project is to be completed the summer of 2024, the Board must approve the phase soon and get the process started. This will be brought back to the Board at the April meeting for approval.

## III. OLD BUSINESS

### **Facilities Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)**

Director of Operations, Brandon Schweitzer, updated the Board on the Tryon Elementary School Pre K Addition. He went over a broad overview of the different parts of the project that are being completed. April 25 – April 26 will be the official move in dates for the addition. There will be no Pre K classes for Tryon Elementary those two days. There is a tentative open house scheduled for April 26. The first day of Pre K in the new Pre K addition will be April 29.

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene informed the Board that Polk Central Elementary will be honoring Ms. Cindy Allen for her contribution to the PCES Library and all is invited.

## 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  
Optional Teacher Workday-3/29/24  
Spring Break 4/1/2024-4/5/2024  
Special Olympics 5/2/2024

## OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

NCSBA Legislative Short Session Preview Webinar/3-20-24/12:00-1:00  
2024 Spring LEAD Training Session/WRESA/4-29-24/11:00-2:00  
Summer Leadership Conference/Jun 10-Jun 14  
Core Training/NCSBA/Jul 15-Jul 16

**VI. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**VII. CLOSED SESSION****Closed Session**

At 6:55 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. 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 7:08 pm, Ms. Allen made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Gibbs 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	
Deborah Fagan	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	Retiring
Donna Brice	Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	Retiring
Heather Thompson	Payroll Clerk	Central Office	Resigned
Meghan Cantu	Occupational Therapist	Central Office	Resigned
Amanda Doornbos	EC Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	Resigned
Betty Jo Owensby	Food Service Manager	PCHS	FMLA
Jeffrey Jones	Head Custodian	PCMS	FMLA

**Action:**

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Kayla "Jasmine" Ashley	Transfer from Substitute to EC TA	Polk Central	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Halie Greer	Food Service Substitute	All Schools	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	12
Lynn Hensley	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Mill Spring	Queens University of Charlotte	N/A	0
Anita Bowyer	Part-Time Custodian	Polk Central	Tryon	N/A	N/A	Years
Elyse Noland	Food Service Aide	Tryon	Unpaid Leave			

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

---

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

---

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary  
AG/TO