

Board of Education Meeting
May 13, 2024
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 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

Approval of April 8, 2024 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the April 8, 2024 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Parsons made the motion to approve the Board minutes as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

Summer Feeding Program - Jennifer Peeler (Information)

Jennifer Peeler, Food and Nutrition Director, presented to the Board regarding the Summer Feeding Program. Ms. Peeler stated that the Child Nutrition department has eight sites set up to provide meals for the summer. She spoke in detail regarding each site scheduled for summer meals. Ms. Peeler also spoke about a feeding program based out of the high school during the summer, one in which parents will stop by and pick up meals for students. She asked if anyone had any questions and there were none. Chairman Ashworth offered the Board's appreciation to Jennifer and her department for their hard work.

Overnight Field Trip Requests - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene went over the attached overnight field trip requests for FFA Camp and Band Camp. Superintendent Greene also went over a request that was not on the agenda for the NC FFA State Convention. Superintendent Greene stated that each one had principal endorsement and met all requirements. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the overnight field trip requests and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The FFA Camp, Band Camp, and the NC FFA State Convention overnight field trip requests were approved 7-0.

Spring Testing - Adrian Hammond (Information)

Ms. Adrian Hammond spoke with the Board regarding Spring Testing. Ms. Hammond briefly went over the shared presentation with the Board. That presentation included a testing calendar, reporting updates, and internal review results.

Infinite Campus Update - Adrian Hammond (Information)

Ms. Adrian Hammond provided an update to the Board regarding Infinite Campus. Ms. Hammond briefly shared information regarding district training meetings, data migration, and on-boarding of site-based teams. There was discussion among the Board regarding Infinite Campus and its features.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Food Service Bids – Jennifer Peeler (Action)

Ms. Jennifer Peeler presented to the Board Food Service Bids that were attached to the electronic agenda. She briefly went over the attached list of submitted renewals for 2024-2025. Maola won the dairy bid instead of Pet as the district has had in the past. Chairman Ashworth asked if there are questions or comments regarding the bids and there were none. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the presented bids and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The 2024-2025 Child Nutrition bids were approved on a vote of 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. 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.

Establish Dates for Summer Board Meetings – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Aaron Greene held discussion with the Board regarding summer Board meeting dates. There was a motion from Ms. Jackson to have the regular meeting scheduled for 6/10 at 6:30, and have the second summer meeting on 6/27/24 at 5:30 pm and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion to schedule the summer board meeting dates and times was approved 7-0.

PCHS Paving Phase 2 Bids – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer spoke to the Board regarding the PCHS Paving Phase 2 Bids. Under the official bidding rules, the district needed a minimum of three bids to unseal and move forward. The district only received two bids, so the bids were not able to be opened and reviewed. Dr. Schweitzer discussed with the Board different options that the district could move forward to with the PCHS Paving project. The three options were to re-bid, reduce scope, or push the project. He described in detail what each option would consist of. Mr. Covil made a motion to go with the option to Re-bid and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. Ms. Jackson recused herself from voting on this matter. The motion was approved 6-0.

Lottery Request – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented to the Board a Needs-based public school capital fund North Carolina Education Lottery distribution request. This request is for \$382,510.71 for the Tryon Elementary PreK Expansion. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve lottery distribution request and the motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The lottery distribution request was approved as presented 7-0.

Local Supplement Adjustment – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene discussed the current local supplement scale with the Board. Mr. Greene distributed information regarding the local supplement adjustments with amounts and cost for 2023-2024. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the presented local supplement adjustment and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The motion was approved 7-0.

Student Transfer Requests – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer discussed student transfer requests. Dr. Schweitzer recommended the student transfer request be discussed in closed session. The Board agreed and the student transfer requests were taken into closed session.

Drivers Education Contract – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented the 2024-2025 Drivers Education Contract. This is the same standard agreement that the district has had with Mountain Professionals in the past. Superintendent Greene recommends the district continue with the agreement. Mr. Greene stated that there is no double payment and the money comes to the district and the

district pays Mountain Professionals. Ms. Gibbs made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Drivers Education Contract and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The 2024-2025 Drivers Education Contract was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Pre-K Addition Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Director of Operations, Dr. Brandon Schweitzer, held discussion with the Board about the TES Pre-K Addition. Dr. Schweitzer shared a presentation with the Board with information about delays and other setbacks. Dr. Schweitzer shared some pictures of the project with the Board.

CEP – Jennifer Peeler (Action)

CEP was discussed at the April 8, 2024 Board meeting and was tabled for the May 13 meeting. Members were reminded of the amount of local money that would be needed to cover losses for each variation of CEP participation. Chairman Ashworth called for questions and there were none. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve CEP for the entire district. It was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion was approved 7-0. There was discussion among the Board on how this will be funded.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. INFORMATION

April Preschool Monthly Report

April Head Start Policy Council Minutes

Pre-K Financial Report

Monthly Financial Report

Month to Date Credit Card Report

PCEC Graduation - May 18, 2024 @ 10am at the PCHS Auditorium

PCHS Graduation - May 24, 2024 @ 7pm at PCHS

Last Day of School for Students - May 24, 2024 (1/2 Day)

Last Day of School for Staff - May 31, 2024

OPTIONAL NCSBA OFFERED BOARD TRAINING

Summer Leadership Conference/June 10-14/Wrightsville Beach

CORE Training/July 15-16/NCSBA Office in Raleigh

Fall Law Conference/October 16-18/Asheville

NCSBA Annual Conference/November 18-20/Greensboro

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 7:32 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel, an attorney client privilege, and a student 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 8:44 pm, Ms. Gibbs made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Jackson 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 to the personnel agenda that required action. Ms. Jackson made the motion to approve the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer on the personnel agenda. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The personnel agenda motion carried 7-0.

There was discussion among the Board regarding the three student admission/release requests. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the requests. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the requests and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The three student requests were approved 7-0.

Information:

| Name | Position | School | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Rhonda Hill | EC Teacher | PCHS | Retiring | |
| Kevin Burnett | Media/AIG/STEM Teacher | Saluda Elementary | Retiring | |
| Lindsey Edwards | CTE Curriculum Instructional Management Coordinator | PCHS | Resigning | |
| Makayla Earl | Social Studies Teacher | PCMS | Resigning | |
| Megan Witte | Science Teacher | PCHS | Resigning | |
| LaNora McIntyre | ELA Teacher | PCMS | Resigning | |
| Ashlyn Searcy | Teacher | Polk Central | Resigning | |
| Amanda Huddleston | EC Teacher Assistant | Saluda Elementary | Resigning | |
| James Thomas | Custodian | Tryon Elementary | Resigning | |
| Wes Curry | Custodian/Bus Driver | Polk Central | Rescinded Resignation | |
| Jennifer Schweitzer | Transferring from classroom teacher to Title I Teacher | Tryon Elementary | | |
| Christen Smith | Transferring from Pre K Teacher to PE Teacher | Tryon Elementary | | |
| Brandy Quay | Teacher Assistant | Transfer from Tryon to Polk Central | | |
| Katie Geisler | Teacher Assistant | Transfer from Tryon to Polk Central | | |
| Matthew Pilgrim | Groundskeeper | Maintenance | Rescinded offer | |
| Cassidy Page | Occupational Therapist | Central Office | FMLA | |
| Betty Jo Owensby | Food Service Manager | PCHS | FMLA | |

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|-----------------|---|--------------|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Stacy Harris | Teacher Assistant | PCHS | FMLA | | | |
| Leann Wilson | Teacher | Polk Central | Resigning | | | |
| Adyson Goss | Teacher | Polk Central | Resigning | | | |
| DeShane Briscoe | Teacher/Athletic Director | PCHS | Resigning | | | |
| Ida Szendrodi | Bus Driver/Substitute Teacher | PCHS | Resigning Bus Driver position | | | |
| Andrea Walter | Transferring from 5th grade science teacher at Polk Central to District AIG Teacher | | | | | |

Action:

| Name | Position | School | Hometown | College | Licensure Area | Years Exp |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Jen Doten | Teacher | Saluda | Tryon | College of Charleston | Will Apply | |
| Kennedy Eckard | Teacher | Saluda | Columbus | Western Carolina University | Elementary Grades | 3 |
| Francesca Womick | Teacher | Polk Central | Forest City | Appalachian State University | Elementary Grades | 26 |
| Elijah Edwards | Custodian | Polk Central | Mill Spring | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Mark Smith | Temporary Part-Time Groundskeeper | Maintenance | Mill Spring | Franklin University | N/A | 0 |
| Curtis Crist | Substitute Teacher | All Schools | Mill Spring | University of South FL | N/A | 30 |
| Riley Johnson | Substitute Teacher | All Schools | Rutherfordton | Gardner-Webb University | N/A | N/A |
| Xan Morse | Substitute Teacher | All Elementary Schools | Tryon | | | |
| John Mauldin | Principal | Tryon | Columbus | North Greenville | Principal | 5 |
| Jerry Cox | Social Studies Teacher | PCMS | Rutherfordton | Appalachian | Social Studies | 0 |
| Mark Emory | ISS Coordinator | PCMS | Forest City | UNC | N/A | 0 |
| Teresa Wilson | Substitute Teacher | All Schools | Saluda | UNC | N/A | 0 |

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO