

Board of Education Meeting
June 10, 2024
6:30 PM, Stearns Education Center Boardroom

Members Present: Chairman Mr. Ashworth, Vice-Chairman Mr. Covil, Ms. Page, Ms. Allen, Ms. Gibbs, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Parsons

Members Absent: None

Others: Superintendent Aaron Greene, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jan Crump, Director of Human Resources Todd Murphy, 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

Chairman Ashworth offered appreciation on behalf of the Board for Dave Scherping and his willingness to help out Polk County Schools by serving as Interim Principal of Tryon Elementary. Mr. Scherping thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve in that role.

Approval of May 13, 2024 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the May 13, 2024 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Parsons made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

CTE Plan - Josh Hill (Information)

Mr. Josh Hill presented the District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) Plan to the Board. Mr. Hill provided numerous updates to the Board on CTE programs. Mr. Hill spoke highly of his CTE teachers and their hard work. There were 840 credentials earned in the previous year and 1200 for the current year. The Polk County Schools' CTE program is one of the top performing programs in the west. Mr. Hill explained different course areas and aspects of the overall program, what each has to offer, and how he is working to expand and grow these opportunities. Mr. Hill stated that CTE was awarded a Dogwood grant that purchased a vehicle for transporting students, and that this will hopefully increase the ability to help students with internships, apprenticeships, and students and staff attendance at conferences and competitions. Superintendent Greene offered his appreciation to Josh Hill, Lindsey Edwards, and the entire CTE team for the work that they due for the students. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the CTE plan as presented. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the CTE plan as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The CTE plan was approved 7-0.

AIG Summer Seminars – Jan Crump (Information)

Jan Crump, the Curriculum and Instruction Director, presented to the Board regarding the AIG Summer Seminars. Ms. Crump briefly went over the attached brief of the different seminars that will be offered. Mr. Covil asked how many children were attending summer school. Ms. Crump stated that about 64 students, K-5, were attending Summer School. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none.

Wrestling Overnight Field Trip Request - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene went over the attached overnight field trip requests for Wrestling. Superintendent Greene stated that each request has principal endorsement and has met all requirements. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the overnight field trip requests and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The Wrestling overnight field trip requests were approved 7-0.

PCHS Curriculum Discussion - Aaron Greene (Information)

Superintendent Greene recognized Principal Michelle Bean for a presentation on Polk County High School (PCHS) class ranking, going from six to nine week grading periods, and GPA calculation. She spoke in detail regarding each area and there was robust discussion among the Board. Ms. Bean informed the Board that unless there was an objection from the Board PCHS will move to a nine-week grading period to be consistent with community college courses and Polk Early College. Ms. Bean also discussed reasoning for the request to modify the GPA thresholds currently in policy for honor graduates and move to a percentage grouping instead of discrete GPA numbers. This will be handled via policy modification. Finally, Ms. Bean discussed limiting the number of community college courses that would count towards a student's GPA and that she would finalize changes and share them with the Board when complete. These changes would likely take effect in the 2024-2025 school year.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget Amendment - Debbie Lovelace (Action)

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

Year-End Budget Amendment Resolution - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented a year-end budget amendment resolution to the Board. This resolution will allow the finance officer to make amendments and adjustments up until June 30. All appropriate rules and policies will be followed. This will help the finance officer make sure all state and federal funding is expended before local funding. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments. Mr. Ashworth called for a motion to approve the Year-End Budget Resolution. Ms. Page made a motion to approve the Year-End Budget Resolution and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The Year-End Budget Resolution was approved 7-0.

Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement - Debbie Lovelace (Action)

Debbie Lovelace presented to the Board regarding the attached Errors and Omissions / general Liability Fund agreement. This agreement provides liability protection for the Board. Superintendent Greene and Finance Officer Debbie Lovelace both agreed that there were no changes in the agreement since the previous year. Chairman Ashworth asked the Board's pleasure in adopting the Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund Agreement and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The motion passed 7-0.

Student Transfer Request - Aaron Greene (Action)

Chairman Ashworth stated that the Transfer Request that was included in the confidential closed session packet could be taken in to closed session if the Board desired. Dr. Schweitzer stated that he had nothing to add to the request and it was a straightforward request. The Board agreed to vote on the request in open session. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the Student Transfer Request and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The Student Transfer Request was approved 7-0.

Bid Approvals – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer submitted to the Board requests for several bid approvals. Documentation for each was attached to the electronic agenda. Each bid process was completed according to the appropriate procurement process. Dr. Schweitzer spoke in detail regarding each of the following bid projects, and there was discussion among the board about each of the listed projects: Furniture Quotes, Camera Server, and School Radios. The Board decided to vote on all bids together. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the bids as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion was approved 7-0.

Policy Updates-1st Reading – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer presented to the Board regarding the first reading, either adopting new or changing the current policy, of Policy 3220 Technology in the Educational Program, 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use, 4310 Integrity and Civility, and 3450 Class Rankings. Dr. Schweitzer briefly went over each policy and changes that are within them. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion in regards to the Polices mentions. Mr. Covil made a motion to approve the mentioned policies and it was seconded by Ms. Page. Policy 3220 Technology in the Educational Program, 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use, 4310 Integrity and Civility, and 3450 Class Rankings were approved 7-0.

Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene presented the Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers to the Board. Mr. Greene stated that this is the same agreement the two districts have shared in the past, and he would recommend it for approval. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve the Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers and it was seconded by Mr. Parsons. The Henderson/Polk Agreement for Inter-County Transfers was approved on a vote of 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

PCHS Paving Phase 2 – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer spoke with the Board regarding information on the phase 2 portion of the PCHS Paving project. Dr. Schweitzer went over the details of the project up to this point. The initial bid process only got the district two bids so they were sent back unopened. The Board agreed to have a rebidding which removes the requirement of more that two bids. Dr. Schweitzer went over the two bids that were received during the rebidding process, Tarheel Paving and Site Development Corp. Dr. Schweitzer spoke to the Board regarding other projects that were coming up this summer. There was detailed discussion among the Board regarding the project. Ms. Jackson recused herself from the discussion. The consensus of the Board is to put a hold on the paving project until later. No action was taken.

Construction Update - Brandon Schweitzer (Information)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer spoke to the Board regarding a construction update. He informed the Board that the architecture has complied a final punch list. The District has done a walk through to determine anything that needs corrected.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. INFORMATION

May Preschool Monthly Report

May Head Start Policy Council Minutes

Pre-K Financial Report

Monthly Financial Report

Month to Date Credit Card Report

Board Meeting June 27, 2024 @ 5:30

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

There was no public input.

VII. CLOSED SESSION**Closed Session**

At 8:21 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. 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 9:40 pm, Mr. Covil 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 for the regular personnel agenda. Ms. Jackson recused herself from The Varsity Men's basketball coach vote. Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Varsity Men's Basketball Coach and it was seconded by Ms. Page. The Varsity Men's Basketball Coach was approved 6-0. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the other recommendations of the Superintendent and the Human Resource Officer for the regular portion personnel agenda. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Information:

Name	Position	School	
Cassidy Page	Occupational Therapist	Central Office	Resigning
Kalie McCrain	Speech Language Pathologist	Polk Central	Resigning
Michelle Kennedy	Teacher	Tryon	Resigning
Shannon Hopper	Teacher	PCMS	Resigning
Mackenzie Lewis	Teacher	Tryon	Resigning
Adrian Hammond	Accountability Coordinator	Central Office	Resigning
Hunter Allen	Teacher	PCHS	Resigning
Tobree Mostel	Principal	Polk Central/TES	Contract Nonrenewal
Cindy Dusenbury	CTE Teacher	Transfer from PCMS to PCHS	
Brandi Drake	Transfer from Teacher at Saluda to Math Teacher at PCMS		
Savanna Adams	Transfer from Math Teacher at PCMS to Teacher at Polk Central		

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
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Josh Money	Head Mens Basketball Coach	PCHS	Campobello, SC	UNCC	N/A	Years
Michelle Fagan	Athletic Director	PCHS	Columbus	Queens University	PE	14
Alexis Hubert	Math Teacher	PCHS	Hendersonville	UNCW	Math 9-12	8
Julie Tackett	Teacher	Polk Central	Columbus	UNCA	K-6	Years
Elizabeth Lawson	Teacher	Polk Central	Rutherfordton	Gardner-Webb	Art K-12	4
Shelley Panter-Hayford	Substitute Teacher	PCMS	Columbus	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jayne Hoerner	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Tryon	Columbia College	English 9-12	20
Garrett Pegg	Farm Intern	PCHS	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dalton Dotson	Farm Intern	PCHS		N/A	N/A	N/A
Roanna Green	Teacher	Saluda	Saluda	UNC Greensboro	Will Apply	Years
Jared Searcy	Math Teacher	PCMS	Mill Spring	Gardner-Webb	Pending	Student Taught
Karen Metcalf	English Teacher	PCMS	Spindale	UNC Wilmington	Lang Arts 6-9	3
Barry Feldman	Biology Teacher	PCHS	Murphy	Northern Arizona	Biology 9-12	30
Chase Jackson	1 Year Interim Math Teacher	PCMS	Mill Spring	UNC Charlotte	Will Apply	Years
Joshua Wright	Custodian	Tryon	Bostic	N/A	N/A	Years
Felicia Pegg	Transferring from Food Service to EC TA	Saluda	Mill Spring	N/A	N/A	1

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO