

Board of Education Meeting
February 10, 2025
6:30 PM, at Stearns Education Center Boardroom
There was Board member training at 4:00

Members Present: Chairman Ashworth, Vice-Chairman Mr. Covil, Ms. Allen, Ms. Gibbs, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Page, Mr. Stich(Virtual)

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 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 January 13, 2025 Board Minutes (Action)

Chairman Ashworth called the Board's attention to a copy of the January 13, 2025 Board Minutes. Mr. Ashworth asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to approve minutes as presented. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. INSTRUCTIONAL

The Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Recipient – George Alley (Information)

George Alley presented the Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Award to this year's recipient. This educational grant fund was established by the family of Janice Anderson Brumley. Ms. Brumley was a teacher in Polk County for years and strived to be the best educator she could. This grant fund will award up to \$1,000 each year to educators who share Ms. Brumley's dedication. Mr. Alley presented Ms. Jeanne Ferran, ELA Teacher, with The Janice Anderson Brumley Educational Grant Award. Ms. Ferran was not able to attend the meeting so Mr. Alley read some remarks that she had sent. Ms. Ferran plans to use this grant to help get her get her National Board Certification. Mr. Alley gave the Board a Grants and Community Partnership update regarding grants that he is currently working on through the Community Foundation.

NC School Report Cards - Angela Dufford (Information)

Ms. Angela Dufford showed the Board the NC School Report Card Website. She briefly went over the site and the reports that are available showing the comparison of Polk County Schools and other school systems in North Carolina. Chairman Ashworth asked if the Board had any questions for Ms. Dufford and there were none. Superintendent Greene added where the public could gain access and briefly discussed results from District Report Card.

Overnight Field Trip Requests - Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene requested approval from the Board to approve the overnight field trip requests for the 2025 NC HOSA State Leadership Conference and the PCEC Trailblazers Outdoor Club. Superintendent Greene commented that the chaperones for the PCEC Trailblazers Outdoor Club will be in ratio before the trip. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the presented overnight field trip requests. Ms. Jackson made a motion to approve both requests

with the chaperones at ration and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The overnight field trip request for the 2025 NC HOSA State Leadership Conference and the PCEC Trailblazers Outdoor Club were approved 7-0.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget Amendment – Aaron Greene (Action)

Superintendent Greene reviewed the budget amendment included with the agenda. Chairman Ashworth asked for a motion that the budget amendment be approved. Ms. Allen made the motion to approve the Budget Amendment and it was seconded Mr. Covil. Chairman Ashworth called for questions or comments and there were none. The motion was approved 7-0.

Head Start Continuation Grant 2025-2026 - Kathy Harding (Action)

Chairman Ashworth recognized Kathy Harding, Preschool Director, for presentation of 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 \$803,117 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. Ms. Gibbs made a motion to approve the Head Start Continuation Grant and it was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The Head Start Continuation Grant was approved on a vote of 7-0.

Student Transfer Request – Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

The Board agreed that there was no need to discuss the student transfer request further in closed session. Chairman Ashworth called for a motion to approve the student transfer request. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the student transfer request as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The student transfer request was approved 7-0.

Saluda Storm Drain Project Repair - Brandon Schweitzer (Action)

Dr. Brandon Schweitzer addressed the Board regarding the Saluda Storm Drain Project Repair. Dr. Schweitzer explained the need of repair and briefly went over the bids that were submitted. The winning bid was Champion Constuction Group for \$64,5000. Mr. Covil made the motion to accept the bid from Champion Construction and it was seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion was approved 7-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene expressed his appreciation to the members of the Board, Advent Health, Polk County Community Foundation, Polk County Schools Staff, and Amy Ashworth for the work and time put into the PC4K event. He confirmed the event was a success and remarked about the high level of community support.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Greene asked the Board's pleasure in having the Budget workshop in April. The Board agreed and Mr. Greene will confirm the April date and time.

V. INFORMATION

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

NCSBA OFFERED OPTIONAL BOARD TRAINING

Western Leadership Education and Training - March 3 - WRESA
Spring Law Conference - Virtual Event - April 3 - April 4
Summer Leadership Conference-Wrightsville Beach/June 16-June20

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session

At 6:54 PM Mr. Ashworth entertained a motion to go into closed session for the purposes of discussing personnel, Attorney Client Matter, and a Student Matter. Ms. Jackson made the motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Ms. Page. 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 7:34 pm, Ms. Jackson 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. Ms. Allen 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	
Jamie Thompson	SS Teacher	PCHS	Retiring
Donna Hall	ELA Teacher	PCMS	Retiring
Meredith Carter	Food Service Aide	Tryon	Resigned
Alaina Waters	Food Service Aide	Polk Central	Resigned
Brittany Hardy	EC Teacher Assistant	Polk Central	Resigned
Dianne Holt	Math Teacher	PCMS	Retiring

Action:

Name	Position	School	Hometown	College	Licensure Area	Years Exp
Maureen Hankala	OCS Teacher	PCHS	Hendersonville	Western Carolina	EC	18
Marsha Cunningham	Food Service Aide	Polk Central	Columbus	N/A	N/A	0
Sacia Washington	Food Service Aide	Tryon	Columbus	N/A	N/A	Years
Melissa Clayton	Food Service Aide	PCHS	Rutherfordton	N/A	N/A	Years

Amber Preslar	Substitute Teacher/Food Service Aide	All Schools	Columbus	N/A	N/A	2
Seth Trottier	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Rutherfordton	Appalachian State	Secondary SS	Student Taught
Misty Davis	Substitute Teacher	All Schools	Saluda	Brigham Young University	N/A	Years

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to come before the Board, Mr. Ashworth declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Mr. Ashworth, Board Chair

Aaron Greene, Board Secretary
AG/TO