

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING**

November 14, 2022

The Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees met in session on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 6:00 PM in the District Office Boardroom. Board members present were Chair Dr. Mark Nix, Vice Chair Ms. Shanese Dawkins, Mr. Billy Blackwell, Mr. Cody Cash, Mrs. Carol Gallman, Mrs. Lynne Shackelford, and Mr. Peter Wilkins. Mrs. Crystal Shippy participated by phone. Administrators present were Superintendent Dr. Dana Fall, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Carl Carpenter, Executive Director of Finance Mrs. Sherri Morgan, Executive Director of Academics Dr. Meredith Rose, Executive Director of Student Services Bessie D. Westmoreland and Executive Director of Operations Mr. Todd Hughes. Media Present: Mr. Scott Powell, The Gaffney Ledger and Mr. Brock Hamrick, WZZQ.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 30-40-80(d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, and agenda of this meeting: The Cherokee Chronicle, The Gaffney Ledger, The Shelby Star, The Spartanburg Herald-Journal, Radio Stations WZZQ-AM AND WFGN, WSPA-TV, and WYFF4-TV.

Dr. Mark Nix called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led everyone for the Pledge of Allegiance. He recognized the media members present, Mr. Scott Powell with The Gaffney Ledger and Mr. Brock Hamrick with WZZQ, and thanked them for coming.

Approval of the Board meeting agenda was the next item on the agenda. **Mrs. Gallman made the motion to approve the Board meeting agenda, seconded by Mrs. Shackelford. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Approval of the Board meeting minutes dated October 10, 2022 was the next item on the agenda. **Ms. Dawkins made the motion to approve Board meeting minutes dated October 10, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Honors/Accomplishments/Commendations was the next item on the agenda.

- **Blacksburg High School Band**
- **WorkKeys – Platinum Students**
- **Girls Golf Team – Gaffney High School**
- **Crystal Apple Awards Recipients – October**
 - Administrator – Amie Sullivan – Draytonville Elementary School
 - Classified – Madalyn Sprouse – Gaffney Middle School
 - Certified – Catherine Allen – Institute of Innovation
 - Substitute – Logan Motts – Limestone Central Elementary School/District wide
- **Adult Education State Recognition – Beth Martin**

School Board Policy BCBI – Public Participation was the next item on the agenda. No requests were made to speak in from of the Trustees for this meeting.

Blacksburg Elementary Presentation – Mrs. Shelton Kimble, Principal, was the next item on the agenda. Mrs. Kimble started by sharing how many students and staff members were at Blacksburg Elementary School. She spoke about how Blacksburg Elementary School had won the Superintendent Award of Excellence-School of Distinction and the Superintendent Award of Excellence-Cleanliness and how proud they were of these awards. She also mentioned how her school progressed from Unsatisfactory to Average and was very excited about this improvement. Mrs. Kimble told the Trustees about programs her school participates in. Those mentioned were One School, One Book, First Responder Career Day, Fun Fridays, and Pumpkin Decorating Contest. She also spoke about the Blacksburg Elementary School mission and their focus on AVID. Through AVID, students work on goals for organization through binders and agendas and AVID’s College and Career Readiness focus. The school has College Focus each month and this month’s college focus is Limestone University. Mrs. Kimble spoke about the Backpack Buddies program and how the Student Council has worked with students, parents and staff to collect 6,048 items for this program. She invited the Student Body President to come tonight but he was not able to attend but did write a letter that Mrs. Kimble read to the Trustees. To end her presentation Mrs. Kimble told the Trustees about the Plus 1 program they are implementing. The school received a grant for this program and it Promotes Learning by unifying students at Blacksburg Elementary. The school has different clubs such as games, experiments, physical activity, crafting, art and music, time is allowed on Fridays for club presentations. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Cabinet Departmental Updates was the next item on the agenda.

- Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Meredith Rose
- Finance – Mrs. Sherri Morgan
- Human Resources – Dr. Carl Carpenter
- Operations – Mr. Todd Hughes
- Student Services – Mrs. Bessie Westmoreland

All Cabinet members presented an in-depth presentation of their department to include staffing, what they are currently doing in the department and what they are working on in the future. After the presentation the Trustees were able to ask questions of each Cabinet member. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Millage update was the next item on the agenda. Mrs. Sherri Morgan, Director of Finance informed the Board of the new millage rate. This year is a property reassessment year and based on information received from the County Auditor’s office we will have a millage rollback. Our previously approved millage rate of 189.5 for operating will rollback to 188.3 and the debt service millage that was previously 30.0 will rollback to 28.9. It was reported by Mrs. Morgan that this is standard about every 5 years when they do a reassessment. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Executive Session – Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Nix called for a motion to go into Executive Session. **Ms. Dawkins made a motion that the**

Board enter into Executive Session for Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees votes unanimously for the motion. The Executive Session began at 8:26 PM and ended at 9:56 PM. Dr. Nix said the Board had been in Executive Session for Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters. **Ms. Dawkins made the motion to return to regular session, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Action as needed from Executive Session was the next item on the agenda. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to read the statement on board orientation, seconded by Ms. Dawkins.** Dr. Nix read the following statement:

South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 59 – Education, Chapter 19 School Trustees Article 1, General Provisions Section 59-19-45 (A) States:

Within one year of taking office, all persons elected or appointed as members of a school district board of trustees after July 1, 1997, shall complete successfully an orientation program in the powers, duties, and responsibilities of a board member including, but not limited to, topics on policy development, personnel, superintendent and board relations, instructional programs, district finance, school law, ethics and community relations.

One board member's failure to complete the required training within the one-year time frame does not reflect the Board as a whole. **No other action was taken.**

Superintendent Recommendation to sell Goucher was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Fall recommended we accept the offer of \$710,000 from Goucher Charter Academy and gave him authorization to finalize the sale. Mr. Blackwell stated we needed to do a thorough walk through to make sure anything we need for our schools is moved out before the sale is finalized. **Ms. Dawkins made the motion to approve the sale of Goucher Elementary School to Goucher Charter Academy for \$710,000 with the contingency that we have an opportunity to move out anything we need for our district, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Superintendent's Report was the next item on the agenda.

Personnel Recommendations was the next item on the agenda under the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Nix called for a motion to approve the Personnel Recommendations. **Mrs. Shackelford made a motion that the Board accept the Superintendent's Personnel Recommendation, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Legislative Advocacy Conference on December 3-4 was the next item on the agenda under the Superintendent's Report. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Board Newsletter was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Fall provided the November newsletter to each Trustee that contains valuable Board information for their review. **This was presented for information only, no action was necessary.**

Announcements was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Fall shared that he reached out to Gaffney High School Head Football Coach and congratulated him on his 120th win and on becoming the All-time winningest football coach at Gaffney High School. Dr. Fall plans to recognize him at a future board meeting. **This item was received for information only; no action was taken.**

Mr. Blackwell congratulated all of those honored tonight for their accomplishments and also thanked the Cabinet for all of the information they presented as well. He would like us to be able to go through the information in more detail at some point.

Mr. Cash appreciates the cabinet members presentations and was happy to see all of the awards and recognition of staff and students. He also enjoyed the presentation on Blacksburg Elementary School presentation by Mrs. Kimble.

Mrs. Gallman was amazed by the 26 Platinum WorkKeys students recognized tonight. She also thanked all of those who presented information tonight. She mentioned this is American Education Week and she attended Northwest Elementary School to read to the students and is also helping with a Career Fair at Blacksburg High School this week.

Mr. Wilkins congratulated Mr. Dixon and the Blacksburg High School band and their accomplishments and congratulated the 26 Platinum WorkKeys students.

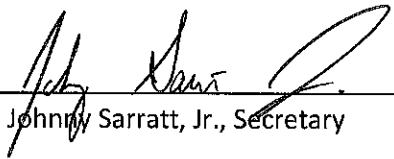
Mrs. Shackleford echoed the sentiments of her colleagues and said it was a great night seeing so many awards. She also let the Cabinet know they did a great job on their presentations as well. She congratulated the Goucher community on being able to purchase Goucher Elementary School.

Ms. Dawkins said it was a wonderful night. She is proud of the Blacksburg High School Band. She congratulated all of the support staff and award winners especially Mrs. Amie Sullivan who is a 1st year Principal and is doing great things at her school. She thanked the different presenters and said she is grateful for them. Ms. Dawkins said she texted Dr. Fall on Veteran's Day to thank him for his service and she wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Cabinet for all they do for our students.

Dr. Fall let the Board members know he had placed a book titled *Everything Follows Attitude* at their seat tonight. The book was written by Sam Glenn who did the presentation at our Opening of School Welcome Back Session in August. He thought they would enjoy reading this book.

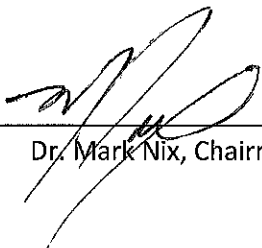
Dr. Nix echoed the same congratulations and thanked the other board members for their comments. He also said it was great to work with this Board.

Dr. Nix called for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Gallman made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Dawkins. Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 10:09 PM.



Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Dr. Mark Nix, Chairman