

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

December 12, 2022

The Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees met in session on Monday, December 12, 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, Mrs. Crystal Shippy and Mr. Peter Wilkins. 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 Mrs. Bessie D. Westmoreland and Executive Director of Operations Mr. Todd Hughes. Media Present: Mr. Scott Powell from The Gaffney Ledger and Mr. Brock Hamrick of WZZQ.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 30-40-80(d), as amended, the following media outlets 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 and 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. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to approve the Board meeting agenda, seconded by Mrs. Gallman. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Approval of the Board meeting minutes dated November 14, 2022 was the next item on the agenda. **Ms. Dawkins made the motion to approve Board meeting minutes dated November 14, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Shackelford. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Honors/Accomplishments/Commendations were the next items on the agenda.

- **District Christmas Card Contest Winners**
 - Andie Ammons – Cover Artwork Winner – Blacksburg High School
 - Cassidy Childers – Inside Artwork Winner – Gaffney High School
- **Gaffney High School Athletic Award Recognition - Region and State Qualifiers**
 - Swim – Mary Alice
 - Cheer – Faith Wilkins, Sarah Fowler and Rylee Bell
 - Tennis – Lauren Mathis
 - Volleyball – Arlee Beattie and Jana Price
 - Girls State Strength Qualifiers - Charlie Oglesby, Anna Turner and Hannah Proctor
 - Cheer Coach - Jasmine Smith, Region 2, AAAAA Cheer Coach of the Year

- **Crystal Apple Recognition**
 - Administrator – Brandon Kale – Gaffney High School
 - Certified – Sarah Allen – Corinth Elementary School
 - Classified – Deborah Frady – Draytonville Elementary School
 - Substitute – Brantley Putnam – Corinth Elementary School

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

The Northwest Elementary Presentation made by Mr. Brent Atkins, NWES Principal, was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Atkins introduced his student assistant Breanna Ruffner. Mr. Atkins started by sharing how many students and staff members were at Northwest Elementary School. He spoke about the school motto, “To be better than we were yesterday”. He shared his initiative for the school year. It centers on the three C’s: Communication, Collaboration and Connection. To ensure communication, the school has a Facebook page for the public to view. The teachers, students and parents have access to the Bloomz app, which is private. The goal is to be transparent to gain public and parent trust. Next was collaboration, in an effort to build collaborative ties the Limestone College Football Team volunteered to work on the outside grounds before school started. The school awards the monthly Bobcat Award and hosts a skate night. The students participated in a Walk to School Event. Bretts Bakery came to school for a day for students and families. All staff assist when needed in the classrooms. To create Connection, the faculty and staff take care of the students. The school had a Clemson/Carolina challenge fundraiser to raise funds for a digital sign for outside the school. The students raised \$2,500 in seven days. Mr. Atkins was duct taped to the wall after Clemson lost the game. Students assisted in taping him to the wall. The school hosted Supper with Santa for Literacy Night. Upcoming events are Spring Fling and Rock Rental. The initiative seeks to build relationships and grow engagements among stakeholders. Everyone commended Breanna Ruffner for her participation in the presentation. Shanese Dawkins commends them both on the strides the schools and its members have taken. Lynne Shackelford stated additionally that the relations aspect was a breath of fresh air. Dr. Nix commented on the enthusiasm. He stated that relationships get people engaged. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

The Cherokee County School Ministries policy update was next on the agenda. The policy and liability need to be updated. The Cherokee County School Ministries has requested to start the program again. The program was halted due to Covid. The program is for middle school students. Dr. Rose discussed requested changes to the policy. Middle school students cannot miss core classes to attend events. This is available for grades 6-8th. It is not an elective at this time. CCSD no longer has non-instructional time during the day. Program will be non-core. Parents must sign their child up for the program. Students are responsible for making up their work. Dr. Fall stated the program is covered under a federal and state statute and there is no liability. He did not consult the attorney. **Dr. Nix made the motion to accept the first reading. Mrs. Shackelford made the motion to approve. Ms. Dawkins seconded the motion. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

An Executive Session with 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 voted unanimously for the motion. The Executive Session began at 6:41 PM and ended at 7:50 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. **Mrs. Gallman made the motion to return to regular session, seconded by Mrs. Shackleford. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Action as needed from Executive Session was the next item on the agenda. **No action was necessary.**

There was a correction made concerning the approval of the policy update for Cherokee County School Ministries. The policy name was misquoted. The correct policy name was read and requested to vote again on the policy changes. **Dr. Nix made the motion to accept the first reading. Mrs. Shackleford made the motion to approve. Ms. Dawkins seconded the motion. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

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

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

The Legislative Advocacy Conference on December 3-4 was the next item on the agenda. Conference updates from meeting attendees. Mr. Blackwell stated there were minor changes to the resolution. Only one new resolution was proposed. Dr. Nix gave details about the realignment and re-classification of schools regarding sports. They will take these to legislature for approval. Shanese Dawkins shared items discussed were scholarships for students to help with debt as well as teacher to student ratios. They discussed possibly increasing teacher years from 28 to 31. The option to hold parents responsible as well as students for weapons was discussed. There was a discussion for another possible increase for teachers and bus drivers. Ms. Dawkins was elected the Treasurer for the Black Caucus School Board Members. Dr. Nix congratulated Ms. Dawkins on her post. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

The 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 were the next items on the agenda. Dr. Fall shared that each board member had a gift that went along with the request to wear an ugly sweater to the meeting. **This item was received for information only; no action was necessary.**

Mr. Blackwell wished all a happy holiday and hopes for safety.

Mr. Cash said happy holidays and hopes everyone is recharged over the break.

Mrs. Gallman said that Breanna Ruffner was amazing, the artwork was amazing and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

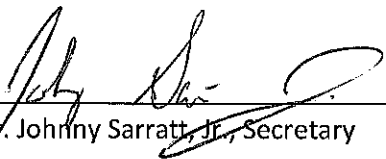
Mr. Wilkins said he hopes everyone recharges over the break.

Mrs. Shippy wished everyone happy holidays.

Mrs. Shackelford said she enjoyed the school presentation and liked the concept of "Be better than we were yesterday". She made several school visits during the month.

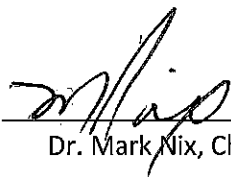
Ms. Dawkins said thank you to all the bus drivers and cafeteria workers and gave thanks to everyone who works the early shift. She said she was appreciative of everyone.

Dr. Nix called for a motion to adjourn. **Ms. Dawkins made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wilkins. Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.



Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Dr. Mark Nix, Chairman