

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

**April 24, 2023**

The Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees met in session on Monday, April 24, 2023, 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. Johnny Sarratt, 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 Academics Dr. Meredith Rose, Executive Director of Student Services Mrs. Bessie D. Westmoreland, Executive Director of Finance Sherri Morgan, and Executive Director of Operations Mr. Todd Hughes. Media Present: Mr. Scott Powell from *The Gaffney Ledger*.

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*, radio stations WZZQ-AM and WFGN, and television stations WSPA-TV, and WYFF4-TV.

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

Dr. Nix recognized the students graduating from the Cherokee Early College Program: Joao Duarte, Alan Marroquin, Kensley Parker, and Breanna Russell. He informed everyone of a Drop-in at SCC Gaffney Campus on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Dr. Nix asked everyone to take a moment of silence in memory of Blacksburg Primary School Teacher, Mrs. Susan Padgett.

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

Budget Workshop - General Fund and Capital Projects was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Fall opened the workshop meeting and informed members this was their opportunity to give input for the proposed budget. The budget for the 2023/2024 must be approved by June 30, 2023, and will require two readings, and one community meeting. He turned the meeting over to Mrs. Sherri Morgan, Executive Director of Finance, for her presentation.

Mrs. Sherri Morgan, Executive Director of Finance, convened the workshop with an overview of the budget process. Mrs. Morgan presented the Trustees with the 2023/2024 Preliminary General Fund Budget and the factors that affect this year's budget. She discussed student enrollment, the new funding formula, and SCDE roll-up of funding lines for the state. The employer cost for SC Retirement is increasing by 1% and the employer cost for PEBA insurance is increasing by 3.7%. The new Parental Leave Act will provide six weeks of pay for the birth or adoption of a child. She discussed coverage of

the Weapons Detection System. She told board members the new FTE requests were not included in the proposed budget. She reminded members the budget numbers were still not final with the state. She provided information regarding local and state revenue. General Fund revenue and expenditures were the next items in the overview. Mrs. Morgan gave a preliminary budget consideration for 2023/2024 and concluded the discussion by going over possible ways to fund any additional considerations. She provided a detailed report of options to balance the budget with the millage amounts allowed this year. The remaining balance would need to come from the fund balance.

Mrs. Morgan continued by providing an overview of the capital project budget. She provided the amount of funding available from the annual bond financing. She provided information regarding the millage rate allowed for school boards for the 2023/2024 school year and a detailed report of capital requests for each school and department.

Mrs. Morgan discussed the budgets for the athletic departments for Gaffney and Blacksburg. The stipend schedule for athletic coaches has been updated to align with other school districts within our area. Upon reviewing the proposed budget detail in the packet, Dr. Fall informed the board there was an updated budget for both departments and will provide both at the next board meeting.

**Mrs. Gallman made a motion to approve the FTE positions, except for the custodian position at Gaffney High School, for the 2023/2024 school year, seconded by Mr. Sarratt.** Those voting in favor of the motion: Mr. Cash, Mrs. Gallman, Ms. Dawkins, Mrs. Shackelford, and Mrs. Shippy. Those opposed to the motion: Mr. Blackwell, Dr. Nix, and Mr. Wilkins. The motion passed with a majority vote.

Dr. Nix called for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Shackelford made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Dawkins. Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

  
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Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Secretary

APPROVED BY:

  
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Dr. Mark Nix, Chairman