

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

4:30 p.m. – Call to Order – Beaucatcher Room

(Work Session Updates / Closed Session)

Thursday, October 6, 2022

5:30 p.m. – Minitorium

Broadcast live on BCS Communications YouTube Account

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Buncombe County Board of Education met in a regular session on October 6, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Minitorium located at 175 Bingham Road, Asheville, North Carolina and streamed live on YouTube, when the following business was transacted.

The following Board members were present:

Ann Franklin, Madam Chair

Peggy Buchanan, Member

Cindy McMahon, Member

Judy Lewis, Member

Pat Bryant, Member

Amanda Simpkins, Member

Amy Churchill, Vice-Chair

Staff present: Dr. Tony Baldwin, Superintendent; Jennifer Reed, Interim Assistant Superintendent; Joseph Hough, Assistant Superintendent; Tonya Robinson, Director of Secondary Education; Shane Cassida, Director of Student Services; Robert Frisby, Director of Technology; Stacia Harris, Director of Communications; Clark Wyatt, Director of Maintenance; Tim Fierle, Director of Facilities; Steve Earwood, Director of Testing; Amy Dupree, Director of Special Services; Paula Pinkerton, Interim Director of Elementary & Intermediate Education; Taylor Baldwin, Director of CTE; Jeremy Stowe, Director of Transportation; Tim Reaves, Assistant Director of Communications; Hann Henson, Digital Communications Specialist; Jennifer Hand, Scott Emory and Joshua Ponder, Technology Support Specialists; Lisa Sharpe, Purchasing & Risk Control Officer; Chris Campbell, Attorney and Kim Matthews, Executive Administrative Assistant

MOTION TO CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Churchill made a motion to enter into closed session at 4:35 p.m. and Ms. McMahon seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

The Madam Chair will entertain a motion for the Board of Education to enter into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 for the following purposes:

- Under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged and confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321;
- Under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged and confidential student information pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232g (FERPA);
- Under subsection (a)(3) to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:15 p.m. Ms. McMahon made a motion to adjourn the closed session and Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

WORK SESSION UPDATES

The Black Mountain Primary School's walk to school issue was reviewed with the Board. Ms. Reed and Mr. Hough shared information on what had been done to help put safety procedures in place for parents and students.

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENTATION OF COLORS / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / OWEN HIGH SCHOOL Instructed by Lieutenant Colonel Brook King, United States Army (retired) and Sergeant First Class Jeffrey L. Garland, United States Army (retired)

MOMENT OF SILENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Simpkins made a motion to approve the agenda and Mr. Bryant seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

- Dr. Baldwin referenced the presentation on the agenda from Dr. Donna Lanahan, principal of BCS' Early and Middle College located on the AB Tech campus. Dr. Lanahan will outline the potential for a future revision to the Middle College program that aligns with many of the key traits associated with the State's newly released "Portrait of a Graduate". At the portrait's core is a well prepared graduate that is college and career ready. The Career Center for Innovation represents a model for connecting a high school diploma; a college-based certificate or license; and internships/apprenticeships for students in their desired career pathways. The most exciting component of the student's journey would be a commitment for employment as part of their graduation ceremony!
- Dr. Baldwin noted that tomorrow, one hundred and fifty high school students will be visiting Borg Warner Turbo as a part of "Manufacturing Day". Students will tour the facility and hear from area employers and leaders in advanced manufacturing. And on October 17th, our Career Tech Education Department will be hosting their second annual "Careers on Wheels". This will include all 5th graders district-wide who will travel to the Biltmore Church-Arden campus to meet and talk to over one hundred businesses that use vehicles in some form or fashion as a part of their work! Dr. Baldwin said that it would be an exciting hands- and eyes-on career exploration event!
- Dr. Baldwin reminded all that on October 11th, Roberson High School will be hosting the annual County-Wide Advisory Council session beginning at 6:00 p.m. The central topic will be School Safety introduced by Mr. Hough and include information regarding our School Resource Officer program and efforts toward enhancing student Social and Emotional Wellness.
- Dr. Baldwin closed his statements by congratulating Dr. Jamie Johnson for being selected by her peers as the 2022-23 Principal of the Year. An extremely well-deserved honor!

GOOD NEWS

- Special Recognition – Dr. Tony Baldwin, Superintendent Buncombe County Schools

Dr. Baldwin was recognized for his distinguished career as Superintendent for thirteen years and his close to forty years in education. Mr. Hough thanked Dr. Baldwin on behalf of the administration, teachers and staff of Buncombe County schools for his leadership and selfless service to the students, staff and community of Buncombe County. Dr. Baldwin was presented with a plaque of gratitude that represented all districts of BCS. Dr. Baldwin spoke and stated that it had been an honor and joy to be an administrator in Buncombe County Schools. He also recognized his family and thanked them for their support as well as thanking his BCS family too. Board members took time to personally thank Dr. Baldwin for his leadership, steadfastness, compassion, friendship and dedication to the school system and the community.

CURRICULUM FEATURE

- 2021-2022 School Performance Data and Accountability Measures – Steve Earwood, Director of Testing and Accountability

Mr. Earwood began his report of BCS' School Performance Data by reviewing the system's steady increase in Cohort Graduation Rate. He also shared information on BCS' ACT scores. Information on the ESSA act and indicators used to give schools performance grades. Mr. Earwood shared the results of the individual school's grades. He also reviewed those schools that were designated as a low performing school. Mr. Earwood stated that what we are seeing in our schools has been mirrored across the state. He then turned attention to the results of school growth and the differences between achievement and proficiency. Ms. Reed described the school improvement process and district improvement process that BCS will focus on. She also shared information on the NCSTAR process to help support those schools designated as low performing. These plans will be presented to the Board for approval.

REPORTS

- Buncombe County Center for Career Innovation (BCCI) – Dr. Donna Lanahan, Principal BCS Early & Middle College

Dr. Lanahan presented information on the proposed Center for Career Innovation. This would provide an innovative approach to workforce development. She shared the program's vision and reasons for reimagining the Middle College approach. Dr. Lanahan also shared the "NC Portrait of a Graduate" and how this program would support this vision. Dr. Lanahan described the targeted career pathways and BCCI opportunities that would be available to the students. She also shared information on student's personalized learning pathways.

Board members asked questions about the various aspects of the proposed BCCI. They also asked if this would need to be a vote from the Board to proceed with this new direction for the Middle College. Mr. Campbell stated that it would not need to vote on this change, but could do so if desired to show their support for the program.

Open Session Minutes – October 6, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melanie White, parent of an Early College student, expressed her concern over the strictness of school dress codes.

Greg Parks, an Erwin district parent, thanked Mr. Earwood and Dr. Lanahan for their presentations this evening. He stated that he liked the idea that BCS was focusing on the opportunity to expand into career center innovation.

Superintendent Ronald Gates, pastor at of Greater Works Church of God, shared concerns on sex education curriculum in public schools.

ACTION AGENDA

- Budget Amendment #10

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #10 as presented and Ms. McMahon seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

- C.A. Erwin Middle School-Based Health Clinic: Authorization to Award Contract

Mr. Wyatt answered questions concerning the funding source for this project, technology updates, parking and security measures for the new area. Ms. Reed described the partnership with Blue Ridge Health and MAHEC to implement this project.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to award a contract for construction of the Erwin Middle School, school-based health clinic in the amount of \$433,333.00 to B. Allen Construction and Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

- A.C. Reynolds Middle School Switchgear: Request to Approve Change Order

Mr. Wyatt answered questions from the Board concerning the project's funding source, budget and bid tab.

Ms. McMahon made a motion to approve the proposed change order for additional work in the amount of \$49,008.67 for the Reynolds Middle School Switch Gear Replacement project and Ms. Simpkins seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

- Avery's Creek Elementary School – Dedicated Outside Air System (DOAS) Replacement: Authorization to Award Contract

Mr. Wyatt answered questions concerning the funding source for this project.

Ms. Simpkins made a motion to award a contract for construction of Avery's Creek Elementary School – Dedicated Outside Air System Replacement in the amount of \$821,636.00 to Bolton Construction and Ms. Churchill seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

- A.C. Reynolds High School: Use of Capital Outlay Allotment

Ms. Sharpe answered questions concerning the use of funding on the project. She said the supplemental athletic funds would come from the school's general athletic fund account.

Ms. McMahon made a motion to approve the request from ACRHS for the use of their Athletic Capital Outlay Allotment for the purchase of eighty new track hurdles and Ms. Lewis seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes: September 1, 2022 – Regular Meeting Open Session
- Minutes: September 22, 2022 – Special Called Meeting Open Session
- Personnel Report
- Sole Source Procurement Request: Coherent Math Consulting
- Sole Source Procurement Request: IXL Learning
- Sole Source Procurement Request: DreamBox Learning – ESSER Funding
- Sole Source Procurement Request: DreamBox Learning – Title I Funding
- Sole Source Request: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- North Buncombe Elementary School Request to Change Banking Institution
- Estes Elementary School Request to Change Banking Institution
- Weaverville Primary School Request to Change Banking Institution
- Approval of Board Member Training Credits
- Advisory Council Members for 2022-2023
- **POLICIES FOR SECOND READING**
 - Policy 2440 Policy Review and Evaluation
 - Policy 3300 School Calendars and Time for Learning
 - Policy 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements
 - Policy 6220 Operation of Student Nutrition Services
 - Policy 7720 Employee Political Activities

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda and Ms. Churchill seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

- **POLICIES FOR FIRST READING**
Policy 3100 Curriculum Development
Policy 3102 Online Instruction
Policy 4260 Student Sex Offenders
Policy 4302 R Administrative Regulation Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools
Policy 4316 Student Dress Code
Policy 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)
Policy 6120 Student Health Services

ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE MEETINGS

- The BCS County-Wide Advisory Council meeting will be held on October 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at Roberson High School Auditorium.
- The next Board of Education Regular Meeting will be held on November 3, 2022, with Work Session Updates, and Closed Session beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room and the Open Session beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Minitorium at 175 Bingham Road, Asheville, NC 28806.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bryant made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. and Ms. Simpkins seconded the motion – the motion was approved unanimously.

Rob Jackson, Superintendent &
Ex Officio Secretary

Ann B. Franklin, Madam Chair

Minutes for Approval: November 3, 2022
klm