

The Macon County Board of Education held their regular scheduled meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the board room of the Macon County Schools Administrative Offices. Board Members Jim Breedlove, Diedre Breeden, Hilary Wilkes, Melissa Evans and Stephanie Laseter were present. Also present was Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin, Associate Superintendent Josh Lynch, Personnel Director Todd Gibbs, Finance Officer Angie Cook and Board Assistant Renee Burt along with several directors, principals and members of the media. The meeting was live-streamed at www.macon.k12.nc.us

Board Chairman Jim Breedlove called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the March meeting of the Macon County Board of Education.

Board Chairman Jim Breedlove led the moment of silence. Once the moment of silence concluded, Board Member Stephanie Laseter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion made by Melissa Evans and seconded by Hilary Wilkes, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote minutes from the following:

- Regular Scheduled Meeting- February 27, 2023
- Special Called Meeting/Budget Work Session- March 14, 2023

On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Diedre Breeden, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote to amend the agenda to include a bullying and mental health presentation by South Macon Elementary 4th grade students Gracie Parker and Kennedy Carrion.

There were no **Recognitions** at this time.

Under the **Presentations** section, (1) An Art Show invitation video was shown. (2) Union Academy SRO Lydia Bellavance spoke to Board Members and highlighted SK8- a Union Academy afterschool club that will be sponsored by a local skate shop as well as Deputy Bellavance. (3) South Macon Elementary School 4th grade students Gracie Parker and Kennedy Carrion presented an invitation to attend an upcoming Youth Mental Health Rally.

Chairman Jim Breedlove opened the floor for **Public Comment**. No one chose to speak at this time.

3) Under the **Informational Items** section of the board agenda, on a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Stephanie Laseter, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following **Overnight/Out of District Trip Requests:**

- **Ryan Danehy**, on behalf of Union Academy, to accompany forty (40) students to Foxfire Museum, Mountain City, GA, March 30, 2023 and March 31, 2023 to explore Appalachian Heritage. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Amy Demont**, on behalf of Cartoogechaye Elementary School, to accompany thirty-six (36) students to Goats on the Roof, Tiger, GA, May 18, 2023 to observe and describe the similarities and differences among animals including structure, growth, change and movement. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Allison Hedman**, on behalf of Highlands School, to accompany ninety-eight (98) students to Greenville Zoo, Greenville, SC, May 22, 2023 to help understand the importance of taking care of the environment as it has a significant impact on the lives and welfare of animals. One (1) school day will be missed.

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- **Meg Mileti**, on behalf of Franklin High School OCS Summer Camp, to accompany twenty-five (25) students to Titanic Museum, Pigeon Forge, TN, July 27, 2023 to participate in the OCS Summer School Project. No school days will be missed.
- **Brian Moffitt**, on behalf of Macon Early College, to accompany thirty-four (34) students to Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville, GA, April 11, 2023 to offer freshman a tour of the campus as they offer in-state tuition. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Miranda Shepherd**, on behalf of Mountain View Intermediate School, to accompany forty-five (45) students to Young Harris College Planetarium, Young Harris, GA, April 14, 2023. One (1) school day will be missed.

On a motion made by Melissa Evans and seconded by Diedre Breeden, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following **Fundraising Requests**:

- Highlands Middle School Student Government to conduct a raffle to raise funds for middle school activities; Highlands Freshman & Sophomore Class to host a color run.
- Macon Middle School Tri-M Music Honor Society to host a car wash.
- Mountain View Intermediate School to host an art program that involves the creation of art work and transferring that art work to various items such as mugs, canvas totes, bookmarks, etc.
- Union Academy to host their annual Badger Bash.

- 4) Under the **Policy** section, (1) On a motion made by Melissa Evans and seconded by Stephanie Laseter, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Mountain Wise Tobacco Prevention Tobacco 21 Law Resolution as presented by Associate Superintendent Josh Lynch. (2) On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board approved the TITAN Nutrition Software program as presented by School Nutrition Director David Lightner. (3) On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Diedre Breeden, the Board approved the Resolution Opposing House Bill 219 “Charter School Omnibus” as presented by Board Attorney John Henning, Jr.
- 5) Under the **Curriculum and Instruction** section, (1) Associate Superintendent Josh Lynch provided Macon County Schools’ Discipline Date Report. (2) On a motion made by Diedre Breeden and seconded by Stephanie Laseter, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the 2022-2023 Summer Program Plans for the following schools: Cartoogechaye Elementary School, Nantahala School, East Franklin Elementary School, Highlands School, Macon Middle School, South Macon Elementary School and Iotla Valley Elementary School.
- 6) Under the **Buildings and Grounds** section of the agenda, (1) Auxiliary Services Director Todd Gibbs gave an update on the East Franklin Elementary School project including the bid opening that will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 2:00 pm in the board room of the Macon County Schools Administrative Offices. (2) Auxiliary Services Director Todd Gibbs gave Nantahala Sewage Treatment updates. Mr. Gibbs is hopeful that a proposal will be received by mid-April. (3) Auxiliary Services Director Todd Gibbs gave an update regarding the Macon Middle School vent pipes. Mr. Gibbs explained that each time Maintenance Director Tracy Tallent has used the RIDGID Combustible Gas Detector, which measures 0-6400 parts per million, there have been no readings of hydrogen sulfide gas. (4) Auxiliary Services Director Todd Gibbs gave an update on the Highlands Soccer Field project. Mr. Gibbs explained that a local geologist had been on sight and will be pursuing additional testing on the field. (5) Auxiliary Services Director Todd Gibbs gave an update on the Highlands Middle School Project. (6) On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by

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Stephanie Laseter, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Highlands Country Club bus use request as presented. (7) On a motion made by Stephanie Laseter and seconded by Hilary Wilkes, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Nantahala Learning Center bus use request as presented.

- 7) Under the ***Business and Finance*** section, (1) Finance Director Angie Cook provided a budget update including the Governor's proposal and the State Superintendent's proposal (Exhibit "A").
- 8) There were no ***Board of Education Information*** at this time.
- 9) Under the ***Superintendent Information***, Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin referenced several coming events throughout the district. Dr. Baldwin also provided updates from the State Board of Education meeting in which he attended on March 2, 2023.
- 10) On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board moved into executive session at 7:35 p.m. pursuant to **G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)** *To prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319 through 321, and student matters pursuant to G.S. 115C-402 and 20 USC 1232g (FERPA)* as well as **143-318.11.(a)(3)** *To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.*

On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m.

- 11) On a motion made by Hilary Wilkes and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following ***Personnel Report***:
 - a) The Board approved the following ***Resignation/Retirement***:
 - Certified/Non-Certified
 - **Cynthia Trawick**, 4th Grade Teacher, Cartoogechaye Elementary School, **Retirement**, effective July 1, 2023
 - **Laura Brown**, 4th Grade Teacher, Cartoogechaye Elementary School, **Retirement**, effective July 1, 2023
 - **Phillip Cope**, 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher, Macon Middle School, **Resignation**, effective April 7, 2023
 - **Anita McKim**, Secondary English Teacher, Highlands School, **Resignation**, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year
 - **Anita Coggins**, Exceptional Children's Teacher, Franklin High School, **Resignation**, effective April 7, 2023
 - **Natalie Janoe**, 8th Grade Science Teacher, Macon Middle School, **Resignation**, effective March 31, 2023
 - School Nutrition
 - **Judy Constable**, 6-hour Food Assistant, Highlands School, **Resignation**, effective March 1, 2023
 - Custodian
 - **Clyde Kendrick**, 11-Month Custodian, Iotla Valley Elementary School, **Resignation**, effective March 24, 2023

Bus Driver

- **Virginia Brogden**, Part-Time Route Driver, South Macon Elementary School, **Resignation**, effective March 10, 2023

Termination

- **Jason Kroeger**, Exceptional Children's Teacher Assistant, Union Academy, **Termination**, effective March 10, 2023

- b) The Board approved the following ***New Personnel:***

Maintenance

- **Taylor Shirley**, Maintenance Technician, Macon County Schools, effective May 1, 2023

Coaches

- **Stacy Raby**, Assistant Softball Coach (Volunteer), Macon Middle School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Josiah Brendle**, Assistant Track Coach (Volunteer), Macon Middle School, effective March 28, 2023

Volunteers

- **Ellerna Forney**, Volunteer, Iotla Valley Elementary School, effective March 28, 2023

School Nutrition

- **Carmen Curran**, 5.5-hour Food Assistant, Macon Middle School, effective March 13, 2023

- c) The Board approved the following ***Change in Status:***

Certified/Non-Certified

- **Kimberly Ledford**, Teacher Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, **Change in Status**, to 3rd Grade Teacher, South Macon Elementary School, effective at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year

School Nutrition

- **Wanda Bolick**, 7-hour Assistant Manager, South Macon Elementary School, **Temporary Change in Status**, to 8-hour Manager, Macon Middle School, effective March 8, 2023
- **Elizabeth Rabon**, 5.5-hour Food Assistant, Franklin High School, **Change in Status**, to 6-hour Food Assistant, Franklin High School, effective March 28, 2023

- d) There were no ***Transfer of Personnel*** at this time.

- e) The Board approved the following ***Substitutes:***

Certified/Non-Certified

- **Holly Ruke**, Non-Certified Substitute, South Macon Elementary School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Reba Rogers**, Non-Certified Substitute, Macon Middle School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Lylah Greer**, Non-Certified Substitute, Franklin High School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Jessica Fiore**, Non-Certified Substitute, Mountain View Intermediate School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Trang Duong**, Certified Substitute, Iotla Valley Elementary School, effective March 28, 2023

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- **Madison Klimas**, Non-Certified Substitute, South Macon Elementary School, effective March 28, 2023
- **Karen Afonso**, Non-Certified Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective March 28, 2023
- **Summer Stephens**, Non-Certified Substitute, Macon Middle School, effective March 28, 2023

Bus Drivers

- **Crystal Carver**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Haley Henderson**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Jessica Jenkins**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective February 1, 2023
- **Maggie Jennings**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Jessica McConnell**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Stephanie McConnell**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Caleb Parham**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Coley Tyler**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Adrienne Watts**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Adam Wishon**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 16, 2023
- **Kristin Bailey**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 6, 2023
- **Lora Neitz**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 9, 2023
- **Sharon Cheseldine**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective February 24, 2023
- **Michael Geoghagan**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective February 1, 2023
- **Robert Cowart**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective March 20, 2023

School Nutrition

- **Brenda Fallin**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective March 3, 2023
- **Carmen Curran**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective March 10, 2023

- Title I Teacher- Iotla Valley Elementary School & East Franklin Elementary School
- Elementary Teacher- Highlands School
- Elementary Teacher- Cartoogechaye Elementary School (2-positions)
- Elementary Teacher- South Macon Elementary School (3-positions)
- 12-month Custodian- Franklin High School
- 11-month Custodian- Iotla Valley Elementary School
- Exceptional Children's Teacher- Franklin High School
- Secondary English Teacher- Highlands School
- Middle Grade English Teacher- Macon Middle School
- Secondary Math Teacher- Union Academy
- Middle Grade Science Teacher- Union Academy

h) There were no *Miscellaneous Items* at this time.

Secretary, Board of Education

Chairman, Board of Education

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