



Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
December 14, 2022

Members Present: Mr. Todd Sansom, Chair; Ms. Sharon Mack, Vice-Chair; Mr. Jason Tooley, Member; Mr. Brooks Taylor, Member; Ms. Rebecca Roach, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk.

Member(s) of The Greene County Board of Supervisors Present: Mr. Dale Herring

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to move into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code sections 2.2-3711(A)(1) to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Roach seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Mack made a motion to reconvene in open session in the County Meeting Room. Mr. Tooley seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Mr. Sansom stated: The Board will certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and identified in the motion to convene in the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. Mr. Tooley, Ms. Mack, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Roach and Mr. Sansom, all certified.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Mack seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Sansom stated there were no closed meeting actions.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for the consent agenda:

- 11-1331 November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- 11-1332 November 3, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1333 November 10, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1334 November 15, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1335 November 21, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1336 Monthly Finance Report
- 11-1337 Field Trip Requests
- 11-1338 Enrollment
- 11-1339 Staff to be Approved List
- 11-1340 Substitute Rate changes based on Minimum Wage Increase

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. Sansom requested a second.

Mr. Taylor seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom stated it was time for first public comment on matters not listed below on agenda. Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments at this time, so Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Mr. Sansom stated it was time for the public hearing on FY2024 Budget Priorities. Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments at this time, so Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Ms. Spencer presented action item #11-1341, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Update. Ms. Spencer stated there had been no changes since this item was presented as information at the November meeting. Ms. Spencer's recommendation was to approve the CIP Update as presented.

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve action item #11-1341, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Update as presented. Ms. Roach seconded. No discussion.

Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote.

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Ms. Roach - Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried

Dr. Huber presented action item #11-1342, Policy Updates. Dr. Huber stated he was presenting two policies for action this evening. Policies IIA and IAB were presented at the November meeting as an information item. Dr. Huber stated we are seeking approval for these two policies as presented in your packet.

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve action item #11-1342, Policy Updates – IIA & IAB as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded.

Mr. Sansom shared some thoughts on supplementary materials. Dr. Huber also shared examples of supplementary materials.

Mr. Tooley asked questions regarding sexually explicit materials. Mr. Sansom responded.

Dr. Huber shared that a small group has been formed to review these policies and implementation of them.

Mr. Taylor said making sure the expectations are known at the start of this will lessen the grey area.

Dr. Huber stated that the rule is when in doubt ask.

Mr. Sansom and Mr. Taylor shared their thoughts on the policy.

Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote.

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Ms. Roach - Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried

Dr. Whitmarsh presented information/action item #11-1343, Substitute Bonus. Dr. Whitmarsh stated last month, based on information from the Governor's Budget, the board passed a bonus for all contracted employees. Dr. Whitmarsh shared, tonight I bring to you a proposal of a bonus for our substitutes and those who are filling in everyday, but are not considered contracted employees. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the proposal would be to count all the days a substitute works all year, and then pay an additional \$5.00 per day plus employer FICA. This would cover all substitutes in our schools and nutrition. If a substitute subs in two areas, they would be paid on the position with the most sub days. If an employee is contracted in one area and subs in another, they will receive the bonus on the

contracted position only. The total school-based substitute days through December are 932. We do not have the exact number of days for transportation and school nutrition at this point because it requires removing duplicates and all those things. The estimated total value of school bonus payments through the end of the year is based on the current run rate is \$10,100. That would change based on actual days of course and transportation and nutrition will be in addition to this payment. Dr. Whitmarsh shared that if you remember for contracted employees. we received a payment from the state and then we made up the difference from ESSER Funds. Those funds are not available for us to our knowledge, so substitute bonuses will be paid for through local funds.

Mr. Sansom stated it was time for public comment on substitute bonus. Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments at this time, so Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion. Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve action item #11-1343, Substitute Bonus as presented paying substitutes \$5.00 per day – Maximum of \$1,000 plus FICA for all days worked through the end of the school year, paid at the end of June. Mr. Taylor seconded.

Mr. Tooley spoke regarding calls he had received regarding substitute bonuses and he requested to do something for substitutes.

Mr. Taylor spoke regarding the importance of substitutes, and this bonus is well deserved.

Mr. Sansom stated it was a no brainer and glad that Mr. Tooley brought it to everyone's attention.

Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote.

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Ms. Roach - Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried

Dr. Huber presented information item #11-1344, Federal Funds Update. Dr. Huber provided an update regarding our federal pandemic relief funds. He gave a review of the following funds: CRRSA ESSER II, ARP ESSER III, HVAC ARP – CSLFRF, ECF, ESSER III Set- Aside, and miscellaneous – small awards. Dr. Huber gave an overview of the application process and details of the recent survey.

There was board discussion regarding the alternative education location and possible upcoming changes and improvements.

The board also discussed the miscellaneous – small awards which include teacher mentorship programs, bus driver recruitment and retention, and support for homeless students and families.

Mr. Sansom offered public comment on any of the information items presented. Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1345, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh stated that a budget survey was sent out and people are responding even though no one was here to speak this evening. The 2023 Virginia General Assembly session will begin Sunday, January 8th. Dr. Whitmarsh spoke regarding one of the bills to remove the support cap which seems to have bipartisan support for such legislation. This would mean an additional \$590,000 of state money to Greene County from last year. That legislation would be a big deal to us. Our agriculture classes worked with the Department of Forestry to plant samplings for the creek restoration project. They did that last Friday. The Teen Makers Market was a huge success. Thirty-five teams made and sold their products and there was great attendance that day thanks to Ms. Talbert who organized the event. The GCTEC HVAC recently earned their accreditation from ESCO Institute. Approximately 600 children from Greene County were served from this year's toy lift. Schools will be closed December 19 – 30th. Central office will be open December 19, 20, 27 and 28. At the next board meeting on January 11, it will be our annual organization meeting where the board will vote for chair, vice chair, meeting dates, Blue Ridge Governor School, PREP and GEF representatives. Tomorrow will be a two-hour delay, and we will reevaluate in the morning.

Mr. Sansom welcomed board member comments.

Mr. Tooley stated great meeting, great discussion. Administrators and building leaders we greatly appreciate what you are doing. Congratulations to the Tech Center HVAC. Nice to get this place expanded. Excited about Alt. Ed. Congratulations Teen Maker's Market. He thanked everyone. Merry Christmas and very prosperous New Year.

Ms. Mack thanked everyone for the treats. She shared she represents Greene on the Blue Ridge Virginia Governor's School and on December 7th the board met to vote on changing the "V" from standing for Virtual to Virginia. We voted and now it's Blue Ridge Virginia Governor's School. We also voted to provide the \$1,000 bonus from the state for all the BRVGS staff and administrators. She thanked Mr. Tooley for pointing out about the substitutes. She thanked everyone for all their hard work. She thanked everyone for coming out and have a nice holiday.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for their treats. He shared the success of the toy lift. He thanked Dawn and counselors that were involved in that. He asked that everyone remember the service men and women that are protecting our country in our thoughts and prayers and also first responders. Have a great night, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ms. Roach thanked everyone for the goodies. Mr. Roach stated 5he substitute bonuses is such a great idea. As far as the federal funds, Alt. Ed. Center, the HVAC units, chrome books, bus driver incentive to retain our bus drivers. Congratulations to the Tech. Center and the HVAC team. She thanked the county for coming out to support the toy lift. She hoped everyone has a nice little break and happy holidays and thanked everyone for coming out.

Mr. Sansom echoed other board member comments. He appreciated the administrators in answering questions. He thanked everyone for coming and Merry Christmas.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Tooley made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Taylor seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Meeting ended at 8:08 pm.



Chair



Clerk