



**Greene County Public Schools
School Board Meeting
June 9, 2021**

WMHS Performing Arts Center

**6:30 pm Open Session, motion to move immediately into Closed Session William Monroe
Digital Media Classroom
Reconvene In Open Session 7:00 pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Leah Paladino, Chair; Mr. Todd Sansom, Vice-Chairperson; Mr. Jason Tooley, Member; Ms. Sharon Mack, Member; Mr. Jason Collier, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk.

MEMBERS PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Todd Sansom

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR(S) PRESENT: Mr. Steve Bowman, Liaison

Ms. Paladino opened the meeting in the Digital Media Classroom at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Jason Collier made a motion to move into closed session; Ms. Mack seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

The Greene County School Board reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m. in the WMHS Performing Arts Center.

Ms. Paladino requested a motion to allow Mr. Todd Sansom to participate electronically. Mr. Jason Tooley made the motion, Mr. Jason Collier seconded. All ayes from the board, motion carried.

Ms. Mack moved to accept the consent agenda as presented, Mr. Collier seconded the motion. All ayes from the board, motion carried.

The Board certified 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 the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. Ms. Mack, Mr. Tooley, Ms. Paladino, and Mr. Collier all certified. Mr. Sansom indicated that he wished to abstain from the vote as he was not present during the closed session. The motion carried.

Ms. Paladino opened the floor for public comment. There were no sign ups to address the board or to provide comments for the information items included in the agenda. No members of the audience addressed the board.

Dr. Bryan Huber presented action item #11-1066, the 2021-2022 Consolidated Federal Application. He explained that there were no changes to the division's plans to allocate federal funding associated with the application since it was originally presented as an information item during the previous meeting on May 12, 2021. Mr. Collier made a motion to approve the application, Ms. Mack seconded the approval. All ayes from the other board members, the motion carried.

Dr. Huber presented action item #11-1067, the Migrant Children Certification. He explained that the division's participation in the program is expected to operate as usual during the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Collier made a motion to approve the certification, Ms. Mack seconded the motion. All ayes from the board, the motion carried.

Dr. Kyle Pursel presented action item #11-1068, the Student Wellness Policy. He explained that this policy was presented as an information item during the board's meeting on May 12, 2021. He explained that there were no substantive changes to the policy since it was last reviewed in August 2018 and there were no changes since the policy was presented as an information item during the May 2021 meeting. Mr. Collier made a motion to approve the policy update, Ms. Mack seconded the motion. All ayes from the board, motion carried.

Dr. Huber presented information/action item #11-1069, an update to the 2021-2022 school year calendar. He explained there was a minor error on the calendar that was previously approved and the board's approval is required to release the revised version. He also explained that the number of days in session for students has not changed and the dates students were previously listed as in session have not changed. Mr. Jason Collier made a motion to approve the revised version, Mr. Tooley seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh presented information/action item #11-070, assigning the 2021-2022 Superintendent's Designee. She explained that this is an annual procedure that, with the board's approval, gives the named designee permission to sign VDOE documents in her absence. She recommended Dr. Bryan Huber for the designation. Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve Dr. Huber, Mr. Collier seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Jason Collier presented information/action item #11-1071, the VSBA Central Region Chair Nomination. He explained that VSBA's Central Region is in need of a Chair and he was called upon by VSBA leaders to fill the role. He also explained that the nomination process requires school board approval. Ms. Mack made a motion to approve Mr. Collier's request to continue the nomination process, Mr. Tooley seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carried.

Dr. Bryan Huber presented information item #11-072, the May 2021 VSBA updates. He explained that 45 policies were updated. He outlined the policy updates with the most notable changes. BDD, the policy regarding public participation at school board meetings, was updated to make guidelines more uniform throughout the state. He explained that the main change with this policy is that time limits and other details are no longer specified in the associated regulation, but rather an item included in the policy itself. EFB, the policy for Food Services, was updated to align with new state regulations that prohibit public school boards from suing families due to unpaid meal debt. He explained IGAA, the Family Life Education policy, now states that material for family life courses must be made available to the public. He explained that policy IIBEA/GAB, Technology Use Guidelines, was removed entirely from the policy handbook so school divisions can have more flexibility to establish their own guidelines. IGAG, Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco, was updated to include new instructional requirements for underage marijuana use. GCN, Evaluation of Professional Staff, was updated to reflect an amendment to Virginia Code. The update addresses components of contracted staff evaluations, specifically surrounding cultural competency. He explained that the Virginia Department of Education has not released guidance on implementation. These policies will be presented for action during the board's next meeting.

Dr. Huber presented information item #11-1073, the division's Connect, Engage, Succeed planning for the upcoming school year. He explained that most of his presentation will focus on the division's vision for the upcoming school year. He outlined the division's communication efforts so families are informed on plans for the 2021-2022 school year. He provided an update on the new school year registration numbers, including how many students were interested in attending school fully virtual. Ms. Paladino encouraged families who were listening to the live stream to complete their registration. Dr. Huber explained how summer school is going so far and what teachers are doing to make sure students get the most out of the additional instruction time. He concluded his presentation with what the summer will look like for staff and what components of the school year are being examined.

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh presented information item #11-1074, the Superintendent's Update. She outlined plans to honor a WMHS student who passed away and offered condolences to the student's family and friends. She also explained some changes to three regulations; DJ-R, GBC-R, and GCBD-R. She announced the individuals who were named

Educator of the Year, Ms. Emily Thompson and Support Staff Member of the Year, Ms. Cassandra Baker. She congratulated the class of 2021 and provided a detailed breakdown of what students in the class are planning for the future and their most notable accomplishments during their time in Greene County Schools. She also announced that GCPS is one of four school divisions in the state that remained open throughout the entire school year.

Mr. Tooley said he is proud of everyone associated with the schools who made the school year possible. He offered condolences to the family of the student who passed away.

Ms. Mack congratulated the class of 2021. She said she is excited to hear more about how their lives progress beyond Greene County. She thanked division leaders for all their hard work and dedication during the challenging school year.


Mr. Sansom thanked the board for allowing him to participate electronically. He expressed condolences to the family of the student who passed away. He congratulated Mr. Collier on his new endeavour with VSBA.

Mr. Collier thanked everyone in the division for their hard work during the school year. He announced that PREP has a new permanent director and that he is excited to see how the organization continues to grow under her leadership.

Ms. Paladino expressed her condolences to the family of the student who passed away. She acknowledged the hard work of the two community members who were able to collect enough signatures to qualify for the Midway school board member nomination.

Ms. Paladino adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.


Chair


Clerk