



Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
September 13, 2023

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

Member(s) of The Greene County Board of Supervisors Present: Mr. Steve Bowman

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Ms. Mack made a motion to move into closed session:

- pursuant to Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(1) to consider and discuss assignment, appointment, and performance of specific officers, appointees, or employees of the Board; and
- pursuant to Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(2) to discuss and consider matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in scholastic records concerning students.

Mr. Taylor 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 7:12 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Mr. Sansom stated: does each member certify, to the best of his or her knowledge, that (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under FOIA and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in this closed session?

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

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to approve the agenda.

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

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

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for closed meeting action items.

Ms. Mack made a motion stating: I move that, in recognition of Dr. Whitmarsh’s outstanding performance and with her concurrence, we terminate her current appointment and employment effective June 30, 2023, and concurrently appoint and employ her for a new term of four (4) years as Division Superintendent beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2027, and that we direct and authorize the Chair to execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Taylor seconded.

Mr. Sansom request a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – No
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor - Aye
Ms. Roach – Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

Four Ayes, one No, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor made a motion:

I move that the Board affirm the determination of the Superintendent with respect to the personnel matter appealed to the Board and issue written notice of this action pursuant to applicable policy.

Ms. Mack seconded.

Mr. Sansom request a roll call vote:

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

All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Mack made a motion:

I move that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation regarding student matter # 24-01.

Mr. Taylor seconded.

Mr. Sansom request a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye

Ms. Mack – Aye

Mr. Taylor - Aye

Ms. Roach – Aye

Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for religious exemptions 24-03 and 24-04. Ms. Mack seconded.

Mr. Sansom request a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye

Ms. Mack – Aye

Mr. Taylor - Aye

Ms. Roach – Aye

Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for the consent agenda:

11-1472 August 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

11-1473 August 3, 2023 Expenditures

11-1474 August 11, 2023 Expenditures

11-1475 August 14, 2023 Expenditures

11-1476 August 24, 2023 Expenditures

11-1477 Monthly Finance Report

11-1478 Field Trip Requests

11-1479 Enrollment

11-1480 Staff to be Approved List

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 11-1472 through 11-1480 as presented. 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.

Ms. Joanne Woods stated she was a tax payer, citizen, and works for Greene County Schools. She shared how amazing and great summer school was and she thanked Linda and Karin that helped lead that for us. She also shared that Samantha French our Nutrition Director worked tirelessly to distribute meals. She shared her thoughts on the OG Training. Ms. Woods stated she has some issues and concerns that she has addressed to the right people and she has been assured that it's taken care of already or it's being taken care of and if it's not I'll be back to see you next month.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Pursel presented information/action item #11-1481, Construction Management Procurement Procedure. Dr. Pursel shared the resolution for Construction Management has been provided in your board packet. Dr. Pursel shared why the Construction Management Services are beneficial for the Technical Education Center. Scheduling and funding are two big pieces for construction projects. ESSER Funds are being used for this project and we want to make sure we encumber those funds on time. Dr. Pursel shared the important duties of a construction manager. Dr. Pursel shared his recommendation to approve the resolution for Procurement Construction Management Services by competitive negotiation as presented.

Mr. Tooley asked if this was for the building behind the Tech School. Dr. Pursel responded yes.

Mr. Tooley asked about the water and sewer and all that. Dr. Pursel responded by having a construction manager on early, that would allow for a lot of that stuff to take place more efficiently.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for information/action item #11-1481, Construction Management Procurement Procedure.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve information/action item #11-1481, Construction Management Procurement Procedure Resolution as presented. Mr. Tooley seconded.

Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

No public comments.

Mr. Samson closed the floor for public comment.

No Discussion.

Mr. Sansom request a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye

Ms. Mack – Aye

Mr. Taylor - Aye
Ms. Roach – Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye
All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Kyle Pursel presented information item #11-1482, Division Priorities. Dr. Pursel shared that this was a large document however he pointed out that priorities have been embedded in the Impact 2027 Plan so what's included is a lot of stuff you have seen already. Dr. Pursel reviewed Impact 2027 Vision and Mission statements and stakeholders. He shared Core Values, Foundational Guide Post, Culture of Excellence, Safe Supporting & Caring Schools, Resource Stewardship, Connections and Partnerships with our Community, Exceptional Workforce, and Connecting to Our Why.

Dr. Payne presented information item #11-1483, Accountability/Accreditation Update. Dr. Payne began with Culture of Excellence which is one part of the Strategic Plan. How are we teaching and how are students learning? Dr. Payne shared how state accreditation is determined, what is federal accountability, how we are doing in Greene County Public Schools, and what our action steps for SY2023-2024 are.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented information item #11-1484, Budget Development Calendar. Dr. Whitmarsh shared this information item is up for action at the next School Board meeting. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the draft budget development calendar for FY2025.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared the Governor has until Friday to approve a budget.

Mr. Sansom offered a time for public comment.

Ms. Joanne Woods shared her thoughts on this year's convocation.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1485, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the general assembly has agreed on an FY2024 budget and the Governor has until Friday to sign it. Keep in mind this is the fiscal year we are currently in that started July 1st. We don't have specific information from Greene County. We have some information regarding the general assembly proposal. It does include the state share (raises are based on SOQ funded positions based on the local composite index of ability to pay) for an additional 2% increase effective January 2024, an increase in the number of funded support positions, support for the VA Literacy Act, provide funds to address the calc tool error, creates sub-committee on the JLARC SOQ Report and Funding Policies. All in Virginia (you may have seen on the news last week) our Governor and Virginia Department of Education announced "All in Virginia" which is focused on attendance, literacy and learning. School divisions across the commonwealth, in addition to the budget that's coming forward, will receive additional funding totaling \$418,000,000 to address these matters. We don't know yet what that means to Greene

County. Thank you to Dr. Pursel and Dr. Payne for your presentations and as you can see there is a lot of great work being done to address the deficits and the needs on how we move forward. We want to move forward together but there is a great deal of work being done across our school division. The first day of school was August 16th it was a Wednesday. By Friday everyone was completely wore out. Thank you to all our staff, bus drivers, teachers, support staff, administrators, nurses, nutrition staff, maintenance, everyone who helped to make it a great start. We launched a new website that week on August 14th. Thanks to Mr. Saylor. We were featured on CBS19 in their Back to School segment on August 17th. We had a freshman cross country athlete, Samantha Nitzsche, she claimed the Central Invitational Girls Individual Title on August 26th. A home that 40 carpentry tech center students built over the course of three years was transported by the Greene County Habitat for Humanity to its new home that is next to Peyton's. The Art Guild of Greene wrote a grant for \$7,000 to provide additional art supplies for our teachers. September is attendance awareness month and we are running a communications campaign to raise awareness and the importance of getting kids in school. The golf team won the 2023 Valley District Championship on September 11th. This Friday, September 15th, is Martin Mooney night at the high school varsity football game where we will host Madison County. PREP is hosting a Family Fitness Night that will take place at Ruckersville Elementary on September 21st. Adaptive Sports Day will take place on September 23rd at the Youth Center. The Greene Instructional Fair takes place on September 25th. Dragonfest is on September 29th. Next Tuesday we will host all Superintendent's in our region as well as Chief Academic Officer's and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Coon's, to discuss upcoming changes to our accreditation and accountability. There is a PREP Board meeting next Wednesday, September 20th. Ms. Roach will be representing Greene County at that meeting. Our next board meeting is Wednesday, October 11th. I would like to thank the board for your confidence in me and performance as well as the accountability moving forward.

Mr. Sansom welcomed board member comments.

Mr. Tooley shared it was a great evening, wealth of information, as always thank you Mr. Bowman greatly appreciate you. Ms. Peregory has been doing great things at the tech center. The memorial out front of the Sherriff's office was done by the tech center students. He thanked Ms. Brunelle for all she has done. He shared he couldn't be here last month but the packet you put together was great. Mr. Tooley stated on a personal note, he thanked Ms. Brunelle and Dr. Whitmarsh for stopping by during my time of need. Dr. Payne great presentation and I appreciate what you do. Mr. Tooley asked about air conditioners on buses. Dr. Whitmarsh stated they are on all buses but two. He thanked Dr. Pursel. He stated: Mr. Wimmer, I've heard nothing but positive things at the high school. We had a great little meeting the other day. He thanked everyone in the room.

Ms. Mack shared the Blue Ridge Virginia Governor's School met last week and now there is a new math course available. There were couple updates to policies regarding financial support for students. The Director shared at the meeting that there was an evaluation that was pending and sent it out after the fact. The evaluation of the program was very favorable. She also agreed that everyone is doing a great job. There has been positivity and hope it continues. Hope to see everyone at the Madison game.

Mr. Taylor thanked the presenters of the night and he thanked the students for what they have been doing. Thanks to the parents for getting their kids to school. Hopefully attendance record will go up this year. He thanked the staff, teachers, bus drivers, Dr. Whitmarsh all staff. We appreciate everyone. Thank you for your time in being here tonight away from your family. Thank you Dr. Whitmarsh and congratulations renewal of your contract. He also thanked his colleagues. He thanked the chairman. He thanked everyone for their hard work and look forward to the rest of the year. Congratulations to the golf team that's pretty exciting news. Look forward to seeing everyone at the football game this weekend. Thank you'll for coming and be careful going home.

Ms. Roach thanked everyone for coming out tonight. She thanked everyone for what they do for this county. The presentations were wonderful and informative. She shared she looked forward to representing the board at PREP this year. Ms. Roach stated she is looking forward to the attendance number going up. She thanked everyone for coming out and hopefully she will see everyone at the Martin Mooney game on Friday. Everyone has a good night.

Mr. Sansom spoke about "All in Virginia" and congratulated Dr. Whitmarsh for getting invited to go and meet with the Governor. He shared she was a great ambassador for that. He thanked the School Board candidates that were in the audience. He reminded everyone that no one is running for the Monroe District. Mr. Sansom shared he attended the Chamber of Commerce breakfast this morning and Brian Ruby was there sharing information about the tech center and internships, etc. Ms. Sansom shared thoughts about parental engagement and parent and school relationship. He hoped that parents take advantage of it. Keep up the great work and Mr. Bowman thank you for being here.

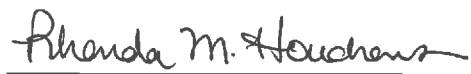
Mr. Sansom requested a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting ended at 8:47 pm.



Chair



Clerk