



Minutes  
School Board Meeting  
Greene County Schools  
County Meeting Room  
October 11, 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 5:00 p.m. in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Mr. Taylor 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.
- pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(8) to consult with legal counsel retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Ms. Mack seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

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

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 7:27 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 amend the agenda under consent agenda to remove 11-1493 Staff to be Approved List and under Informational Items, to remove 11-1496 Virginia Literacy Act and following Board Member Comments reconvene in closed session under the three pursuant to Virginia Code sections 2.2-3711(A)(1), (A)(2), and (A)(8) and the three same bullets that were listed on the agenda and following closed session reconvening in open session and adding additional closed meeting actions and then also inserting consent agenda which would then cover 11-1493 Staff to be Approved List.

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

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve the amended agenda. 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:

I move that the Board accept the Superintendent’s recommendation regarding student matter # 24-03.

Mr. Tooley 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:

11-1486 September 13 Meeting Minutes  
11-1487 September 12, 2023 Expenditures  
11-1488 September 15, 2023 Expenditures  
11-1489 September 27, 2023 Expenditures  
11-1490 Monthly Finance Report  
11-1491 Field Trip Requests  
11-1492 Enrollment

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 11-1486 through 11-1492 as presented. Mr. Tooley 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.

None at this time.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented action item #11-1494, FY2025 Budget Development Calendar. Dr. Whitmarsh shared that each year in October the board adopts a draft budget development calendar for the upcoming fiscal year. While we yet don't have the current budget resolved, we will continue to next years' calendar and that preparation. She shared last month she presented and went through the calendar and would present that for the board's approval tonight. Keep in mind that this based on the previous budget process for the county and after meeting with the county administrator this afternoon, I do believe their process may change. We may bring this to you for some change in future but for now this is what we believe the budget process will be.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for action item #11-1494, FY2025 Budget Development Calendar.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve action item #11-1494, FY2025 Budget Development Calendar as presented. Ms. Roach seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Spencer presented information item #11-1495, School Activity Funds Audit. Ms. Spencer shared each year the schools are required to have the school activity funds audited by an independent auditor. School activity funds are those funds raised at the building level through extra-curricular activities such as athletics, contest, fund raisers and other school activities. The firm Robertson Farm Cox Associates conducted the 2022-2023 school activity funds audit. The audit is done on cash basis. The audit was successful this year and all transactions were entered into their appropriate areas with authoritative guidance and consensus. All significant transactions were reported in their appropriate accounting period. There were no difficulties working with staff during the audit. There were no misstatements requiring corrections. No deficiencies in the travel control and no instances of noncompliance. Ms. Spencer shared the recommendations from the auditors. Ms. Spencer shared the public accounts at

Bank of America for Ruckersville and Nathanael Greene Primary School those have been closed and have been moved to public deposit accounts opened at Pioneer and United Bank respectfully.

Dr. Pursel presented information item #11-1497, 2024-25 & 2025-2026 School Calendars. Dr. Pursel shared key calendar points of consideration, calendar committee members, draft A and draft B calendars, and survey data information from parents and staff.

Mr. Sansom offered a time for public comment.

No public comment.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1498, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh shared as of today we have not received a calculation tool from the state regarding the finalized FY2024 budget. Keep in mind that is the fiscal year we are currently in that started July 1. Once we receive the tool, we will have more specific information and we will be reviewing our budget adoption. ALL in Virginia, as I shared previously, is part of the adopted state budget that includes funds for ALL in Virginia. ALL being attendance, literacy and learning. We will receive additional funds in the FY2024 budget to support these areas. The DOE has provided a division play book for tutoring. We are working through our plans now on how to address the students in three through eight who did not meet proficiency in math and reading on last spring's SOL tests. As you know on previous board presentations, we are working through our plan to address current absenteeism which is also a requirement and part of this plan. Dr. Payne will share more information on the VA Literacy Act at the next board meeting. We are using ESSER Funds to construct both Alternative Ed building and an addition to the Technical Education Center. For the Alt Ed building contracts are being finalized and Harrisonburg Construction and GCPs will be submitting plans and permit application this week. Scheduled work will be forth coming from Harrisonburg Construction who will be doing the build. For the Technical Education Center addition requests for qualifications are due by the 16<sup>th</sup> of October and once these are received a committee will review and determine which contact meet the qualifications. On September 19<sup>th</sup> we hosted the all Region V Superintendents and Chief Academic Officers as well as the Superintendent of Public Instruction to discuss such topics as ALL in Virginia. Middle School Football team had their first ever win on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We held our Impact in Greene day on September 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a day of professional learning. On September 26<sup>th</sup>, high school senior Carter Knick won the Individual Regional 3B golf title. These are back to back titles for Carter. Ruckersville Elementary hosted Camp Calm on September 28<sup>th</sup> that engages family and a deeper understanding on how they can support student's regulation at home. Dragonfest was held on September 29<sup>th</sup>, had a great crowd and the game kicked off with skydivers brining in the game ball. High school homecoming week starts October 16<sup>th</sup> and we will recognize our school board at the football game on Friday , October 20<sup>th</sup>. The high school will introduce four additions to the wall of honor at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> football game, Dale Peyton, Athlete; Lorenzo Brown, Athlete; Tom Hoffman, Athlete; and Bill Baggett, Contributor.

Congratulations to our CTE State Fair winners, we had a great showing. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the following:

State Fair Winners

FCCLA - GCTEC Chapter

Elaina Morris - 1st Place - Raspberry White Chocolate Scones

Olivia Gano - 1st Place - Gluten Free Pumpkin Bread

Jordan Alvarez - 2nd Place - Peanut Butter Chocolate Cake

Jayden Norris - 3 Place - Caramel Apple Fudge

DECA -

Grace Mellott - 1st Place - Branding Challenge

Keyry Rodriguez - 1st Place - Branding Challenge

Elizabeth Lawson - 2nd Place - Branding Challenge

Dr. Whitmarsh stated on October 7<sup>th</sup> the high school cheer squad won first place in their category at the Game Day Competition at Deep Run High School. Business following the PREP board meeting that occurred: Superintendents who participate in PREP and Special Education Directions met to discuss the possibilities for moving forward with a new location for the Ivy Creek School given that Albemarle County Public Schools has given notice that they will no longer be able to lease the property that the school is currently in. Those recommendations will be brought forth at the next meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Our next School Board Meeting is Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

Mr. Sansom welcomed board member comments.

Ms. Roach thanked everyone for coming out tonight. All the things that Dr. Whitmarsh just said is wonderful for our community and our kids. Looking forward to the new CTE building. Sounds like they have been doing a really good job in competition. Congratulations to Carter for winning again in golf. Middle School Football is doing well and they won this evening. Excited that program is back. Thank you all for coming.

Mr. Taylor shared October is National Bullying Prevention Month and we all believe that every child deserves to be safe and that includes bullying and our school district is proactive and it's something we continue to work with. Couple things that have come up is the cost picture prices. Stay tuned, we have heard the out cry and we are looking into it. Finally, today is my wife's birthday so I'm missing time with my family to be here, which fine but I just wanted to tell her happy birthday and it's on record now. Thank you all for coming.

Ms. Mack apologized for being late coming back into open session and she thanked everyone for their patience. She thanked everyone for coming tonight.

Mr. Tooley asked questions about the other things we have voted on regarding middle school sports regards to baseball and theatre and maybe softball.

Dr. Whitmarsh stated we are adding middle school theatre.

Mr. Tooley stated baseball and softball we are still negotiating the fields. The football season is phenomenal and to get WMHS on the map. New building there has been a lot done. Unfortunately, I only have a couple months left due to a promotion in my job and I don't have time and I don't want to do something I can't give 100%. Of course, COVID through a curve in a lot of that. We still have a lot of ideas I want hunter safety class and different items. I will chew on Ms. Roach and Mr. Taylor's ear that I want to do to get finished up. The Tech Center has been amazing with kids competing. They done flag in front of Sherriff's Office. We have other projects in the works. October 27<sup>th</sup> their will be a Trick or Trunk from 6 to 9 here in the parking lot. Thank you all for coming out.

Mr. Sansom shared he severs on the CTE Advisory. Ms. Peregoy gave a great presentation to some business leaders. He thanked Ms. Peregoy. Mr. Sansom shared he serves on an ELC Committee which is an extension agency for the VA Cooperative Extension and we had a meeting last week. There was good discussion getting kids involved in agriculture.

Mr. Tooley asked about the date for Career Day – October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to adjourn in closed session.

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
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- pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(8) to consult with legal counsel retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Mr. Taylor seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried at 8:01 pm.

Ms. Mack made a motion to reconvene in open session in the County Meeting Room at 9:11 pm. Mr. Taylor seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve item number 11-1493, Staff to be Approved as presented.

Ms. Roach seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for closed meeting action.

Ms. Mack made a motion:

I move that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation regarding student matter # 24-02.

Mr. Tooley seconded.

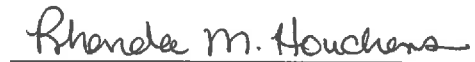
All Ayes, motion carried.

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

Meeting ended at 9:15 pm.



Chair



Clerk

