

MINUTES
DAVIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, April 9, 2024

The Davie County Board of Education met at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 9, 2024, in the Boardroom at the DCS District Office Mebane Education Center, 1200 Salisbury Road, Mocksville, NC 27028.

Board Members Present:

W.G. "Dub" Potts, Chair
Marie Helms, Vice-Chair
Joe Caudle
Paul Drechsler
Con Shelton
Cammie Webb

Staff Present:

Jeff Wallace, Superintendent
Jinda Haynes, Assistant Superintendent
Jennifer Lynde, Chief Academic Officer
Jill Wilson, Board Attorney
Clay Harris, Chief Operations Officer
Carol Stuart, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education

Absent:

Wendy Horne

Closed Session

Chair Potts called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Joe Caudle made the motion to adopt the agenda for Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Marie Helms seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Chair Potts called for a motion to go into closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to the North Carolina General Statutes listed on the agenda, to review personnel and property matters protected by State Law, and to discuss student concerns made confidential by General Statutes, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Cammie Webb made the motion, seconded by Con Shelton; the motion carried 6-0. The Board went into closed session at 5:16 p.m.

Open Session

Chair Potts reconvened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and offered the invocation. Joe Caudle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marie Helms made the motion, seconded by Con Shelton, to approve the minutes of the Monday, March 4, 2024, rescheduled regular Board of Education meeting as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

Board Report

Chair Potts informed the group that Wendy Horne was out. He thanked the Board for their recent school visits. Marie Helms praised the middle schools for offering autonomy in schedules and providing longer segments for some subjects. Mrs. Helms noted that the Special Ed classrooms are staffed, which can be hard to achieve, and thanked Mrs. Custer and Mrs. Haynes for their efforts. She commended new teachers for doing such a great job, it looks like they have been teaching for years and are receiving great support. Small groups are occurring with controlled settings. One skill being taught to elementary students is to use columns for taking notes; this is a collaborative effort throughout the district, all the way into high school. She mentioned that there is data that shows that relationships and connections are being made with the students. Middle schools are teaching kids how to use AI with integrity and efficiency instead of shying away from it. Ms. Johnson's high school culinary class is cooking within the community. Mr. Marrs' class is producing 3-D items. Ted Budd's team, along with Anthony Davis, toured the agriculture department, where they are conducting fish studies and selling plants to raise money. Students vocalized that they feel motivated and on a trajectory to succeed. Chair Potts thanked the board for attending. Paul Drechsler commended the heart, dedication, and intention that everyone displays in schools, from the custodians to academic coaches. Mr. Potts reminded the Board that there is a budget work session on April 18, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; then at 6:00 p.m. is the Character Ed event at DCHS Auditorium.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wallace welcomed everyone. He congratulated the students who were there to be recognized and thanked the parents for all their hard work and support. He encouraged everyone to finish out the school year strong. He congratulated Anthony Davis, who was announced at last night's Yadkin County School board meeting as Superintendent, effective July 1, 2024. He thanked staff for participating in the NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey; DCS exceeded the 90% participation goal. This is the third year the General Assembly has budgeted the teacher low wealth supplement, which is in addition to the local supplement. Beginning teachers' pay has been increasing; however, the budget does not include similar increases for the most experienced teachers. Later in the meeting, a resolution will be presented that will allocate these funds in bands and teachers with twenty-plus years of experience receiving the largest supplement; this

resolution will demonstrate our appreciation for those who aren't seeing significant salary increases. Superintendent Wallace congratulated Jesse Ledbetter and Eli Lindsey, CTE teachers at DCHS, for applying for and receiving grants that totaled \$58,000 for equipment and supplies for a campus food garden to support the culinary program and Storehouse for Jesus. They will purchase a truck to support the food project, animal care, and other related projects. There will be a budget work session for the Board on Thursday, April 18, 2024. The proposed budget will be presented on May 1, 2024 to the Board. PMR6 was at 93.71%, which is in line with last year. John Kirkman with NC Association CTE and Justin Somers with Senator Ted Budd's office toured the high school. Superintendent Wallace thanked Mr. Potts and Mrs. Helms for attending that visit.

Recognitions

Bryant Copeland, principal at North Davie Middle introduced band teacher Sean Nelson. Mr. Nelson is very proud of the students and the daunting amount of work they go through during the All-District Band process. Five students went through the process, but one student could not attend. The recipients were: Jonah Holbrook, Ola Lezczyk, Ellie Wallace, Trista Yang.

South Davie Middle School's principal, Cindy Stone, said she was proud to have a strong group of band students. She introduced Mr. Hicks, the band teacher who just started in January. He stated the students have worked very hard, going the extra mile and working outside of school hours. He recognized Iris Marion, Silas Johnson, and Scarlett Brock for the All-District award. Scarlett Brock was selected for the All-State Band.

Mandy James, band teacher, presented William Ellis Middle School's All-State Band. Five students made All-District Band: Grace Turner, Aaron Clodfelter, Carson Snyder, Sienna Hayes, and Katy Beth Carter. Two auditioned for All-State, and Katy Beth Carter made the All-State Band.

Matthew Brusseau, Davie County High School's band teacher, mentioned that 3,000 students audition for the All-District Band. Going through this process is a life skill. The students who made All-District are as follows: Abby Wilson, Sean Lane, Erik Pope, Ariana Fletcher, Ethan Diemer, Spencer Melton, Kate Wilson, Randy McGee, Barrett Taylor, Bradd Mendoza, Lena Parsley, Katie Pitts, and Brayden Brook. Three auditioned for All-State: Erik Pope, Ariana Fletcher, and Sean Lane. Out of those, Sean Lane made the All-State band. There is only one timpani player in the band; Sean is the one who was selected.

Superintendent Wallace thanked the band instructors and the parents.

Clay Harris recognized Janie O'Connor for receiving the NC Association School Business Officials Business Service Director Certification. Janie started her career with DCS in 2008 as a data manager, then in 2012 as a bookkeeper; she became a payroll specialist in 2016. In July of 2021, Janie was selected as the assistant chief finance officer. She completed the rigorous

manager's curriculum training in 2022 and then a director's training. She is now a certified school finance director.

Superintendent Wallace mentioned that every year, the Piedmont-Triad Education Consortium (PTEC) celebrates schools from each district. North Davie Middle School was selected as the 2023-24 Signature School for Davie County Schools. North Davie Middle School is a model of consistency for exemplary student academic performance and student support. Mr. Wallace commended Bryant Copeland for his work.

Consent Agenda

Chair Potts asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Jinda Haynes added a personnel report addendum. Cammie Webb made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented with the addendum. Paul Drechsler seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Jinda Haynes introduced three new Assistant Principals for DCS. Sharon Beauchamp will be the Assistant Principal at Cornatzer Elementary School. She attended Piedmont Baptist College and High Point University, where she earned her Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Master's in Educational Leadership. She has experience as a teacher, instructional coach, and assistant principal at the middle school level. She comes with a strong reputation and high recommendations. Sharon, her husband, and their son live in Davie County.

Caroline Stalvey was announced as the new Assistant Principal for William Ellis Middle School. She has been a teacher at Shady Grove Elementary School. She earned her Bachelor's degree from High Point University and her AIG certification from Duke University. DCS recommended her for the PPEERS program, which is similar to the previous Principal Fellows Program. While Caroline completed the coursework with UNCG, she also completed her internship at South Davie Middle School. She was a strong classroom teacher and did a great job as an intern this year. Her mother, Celia, who is a retired teacher and administrator, and her significant other, Sam, were with her.

Tracie Welch was announced as the new Assistant Principal at William R. Davie Elementary School. She has been a teacher at Pinebrook Elementary School and an Instructional Coach in DCS. She earned her Bachelor's in Elementary Education from Appalachian State University and her Master's from Winston-Salem State University. She completed the ASCEND leadership development program at High Point University. Tracie has strong instructional knowledge and an avid supporter for staff and students. Tracie had her husband, Jimmie, who teaches at Davie County High School, daughters Camden and Harper, and her parents with her.

Business Items

Three bids were received for a storage building to be located at DCS Transportation. Michael Spillman recommended using Eric Brown Construction at a cost of \$78,500. Marie Helms made a motion, seconded by Joe Caudle, to approve the building. The motion passed 6-0.

Dr. David Blattner presented a contract on switches. From four responses, they chose one vendor, ANC, at a cost of \$625,939.04. The federal E-Rate program will cover 80% of this cost; the other 20% of the cost will be secured by adhering to the North Carolina Connectivity Program's procedures. Paul Drechsler asked if each four companies submitted similar bids. Dr. Blattner said they varied; some did not include switches, some included installation, etc. Due to limited funding, the number of switches was reduced for the bids. With that adjustment, ANC matched the needs within the budget. Mr. Drechsler asked if they were satisfied, and Dr. Blattner confirmed they were. Cammie asked about the criteria. Dr. Blattner confirmed that the E-Rate consultant worked with DCS and recommended the criteria. Con Shelton made a motion to approve the contract. Paul Drechsler seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Committee/Staff Report

Clay Harris presented the projected budget overview for next week's budget work session discussions. The State is talking about a new funding model that includes funding in arrears. It can be a barrier for growing districts, and we would see a delay in receiving funding. In the area of Exceptional Children - we are funded at 13% of ADM but have 17% identified. Academically and Intellectually Gifted is funded at 4%, but DCS has 15% identified. Marie Helms clarified that the legislators set the weighted average for the Exceptional Children's tiers and asked if DCS has any say on how this impacts our district. Clay Harris said Superintendent Wallace is having discussions with other superintendents, and some groups are talking with the General Assembly. Mrs. Helms asked if we would get additional funding for AIG. Clay Harris said they would be using seasoned teachers for AIG from funds. Mr. Potts summarized that we need a voice in Raleigh.

Capital Outlay Projects were reviewed. The approval of large projects is usually ten months prior to the start date and could span past a fiscal year for completion. Marie Helms asked why there was a software increase. Jenn Lynde explained that software increased, especially because of COVID-19. Companies knew we received ESSER funds; this caused the use of textbooks to decrease and online subscriptions to increase. Mr. Harris has built in contingencies for software costs.

Personnel costs are as follows: Retirement costs will reduce from 3.9 to 2.4%. Health Care costs will increase 7%. Salary increases are forecasted at a conservative 4%.

Mr. Harris discussed the budget resolution. In 2022, the General Assembly gave low wealth additional funding to help bring teachers salaries to an acceptable level. DCS gave the same

amount to eligible staff across the district. This year, every eligible staff member will get more than last year, but DCS will recognize our most senior staff who have twenty-plus years of experience with the highest amount.

The budget resolution will be voted upon at the next board meeting. Mrs. Helms asked when the low wealth funds would be paid out; Mr. Harris stated it would be paid at the end of May. She asked if this was just for teachers. Superintendent Wallace affirmed this question and clarified that the supplement is for K-12 teachers, which is determined by the General Assembly.

Michael Spillman updated the board on the plans to construct the manufacturing lab at Davie County High School. The lab will be approximately a 7,000 square foot building. A request for RFQs has been posted. Once all the RFQs are received from architects, a committee will review the information and select a vendor/contractor.

Public Address to the Board

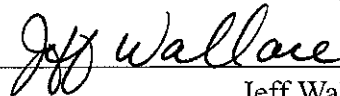
No one signed up.

Adjourn

Con Shelton made the motion to adjourn with a second from Cammie Webb. The motion was approved with a 6-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.



W. G. Potts, Chair



Jeff Wallace, Secretary

WGP:JW:cs

Approved: