

**MINUTES**  
**DAVIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

*The Davie County Board of Education met at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 7, 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

Paul Drechsler

Wendy Horne

Con Shelton

Cammie Webb

Staff Present:

Jeff Wallace, Superintendent

Jinda Haynes, Assistant Superintendent

Jennifer Lynde, Chief Academic Officer

Elizabeth Troutman, Board Attorney

Clay Harris, Chief Operations Officer

Carol Stuart, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education

Absent:

Joe Caudle

**Closed Session**

Chair Potts called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Paul Drechsler made the motion to adopt the agenda for Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Wendy Horne 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. Paul Drechsler 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. Mr. Potts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cammie Webb made the motion, seconded by Marie Helms, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 9, 2024, regular Board of Education meeting and the Thursday, April 18, 2024, Budget Work Session, as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

## **Board Report**

Chair Potts mentioned that the Early College High School graduation will be held at the Davie County High School Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. The Retirement Dinner will be on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 5:45 at the Mebane Education Center. The Davie County High School graduation ceremony will be on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. at the War Eagle Stadium; Board members were asked to arrive at 7:45 that morning.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Wallace welcomed everyone. He said that this week was National Teacher Appreciation Week. He encouraged staff and students alike to not grow weary but to stay the course and finish the year strong. He referenced an article that stated teachers influence 3,000 students and put many extra hours into their job. Mr. Wallace commended the art teachers for their hard work with students whose impressive artwork is displayed in the hallways in preparation for the Art Smart event this Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Mebane Education Center. He said that the Character Ed Night on April 18, 2024, was a fun event. Superintendent Wallace communicated that Ted Budd's team visited Davie County High School on April 9, 2024, and Senator Steve Jarvis visited SDMS on Monday, April 15, 2024. Attendance is at 94.25%, which is close to what it was before COVID-19.

Mr. Potts thanked Superintendent Wallace for all he does for the district.

## **Recognitions**

Bryant Copeland presented, on behalf of Casey Morrison for the William Ellis Middle School, awards to students who earned All-District Band. Those students were Katy Beth Carter, Aaron Clodfelter, Sienna Hayes, Carson Snyder, and Grace Turner.

John Marshall presented the Elementary School Battle of the Books award. Students had to read eight books and take a quiz. Cornatzer Elementary School's team won first place. The team consisted of Madie Hauser, Mattie Ranker, Chase Murphy, Landyn Sanders, Liam Herrera, and Maylie Langfield.

Karla Miner presented the teachers who earned their National Board Certifications. North Carolina has twenty-four percent of all national board certifications. Sixty DCS teachers have their national board certification. The program requires a teacher to complete 4 components: subject area, care for students, filming yourself, and reflecting on self. There are over forty pages of reflection on diving deep, collaborating, and growing. There were three teachers to celebrate this time: Kimberly Barnes from Davie County High School, Tani Caudle from Davie County High School, and Lawren Wells from Cooleemee Elementary School.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

Mrs. Jinda Haynes introduced Jeremy Whitaker as the new Director of Facilities. He is a licensed Master electrician with 24 years of experience and knowledge in all areas of maintenance. He earned credits through Forsyth Tech and continues his professional development in classes and workshops. He has been with DCS since 2005, serving as the lead electrician and, more recently, as the shop crew leader. Mr. Whitaker graduated from Davie County Schools; his parents are both retirees from DCS. His wife, Jill, and three daughters, Jayce, Julie, and Jaely, along with his parents, Mike and Joyce, attended tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Haynes introduced Director George Sulecki, a registered dietician with a bachelor's degree from UNCG with thirty years in food service, as the new Director of School Nutrition. He has served as an operations manager, production manager, dietician, and school nutrition director; he most recently has served as an assistant director in Surry County Schools. Mr. Sulecki is known for his servant leadership and heart. His wife, Brook, was with him. He has one son, Owen, attending Appalachian State University, and a son, Jackson, who is a sophomore at DCHS.

David Koontz was announced as the new Director of CTE and Secondary Education. He has twenty-three years of experience, beginning as a CTE teacher in drafting and technology courses. He coached swimming and cross country, was an athletic director, an assistant principal, and a CTE director. He comes back home from Watauga County, where he served as a school administrator, overseeing the Watauga High School Innovation Academy and acting as CTE Director for the district. He will join us for June's board meeting.

### **Business Items**

Clay Harris provided a few updates on the budget resolution since presenting it to the board at a work session on April 18, 2024. DCS received an additional \$200,000 in Low Wealth funds. The School Nutrition Longevity Fund and the State Longevity Fund were adjusted. The DCS district budget growth is about eight percent from last year. The salary growth is about four percent, and

the growth in benefits is about seven percent. The overall operations budget has about twelve percent growth. If approved, the draft budget resolution will be taken to County Commissioners on May 15, 2024. The Board of Commissioners will have their meeting on June 3, 2024. If they approve the budget, DCS will present to the Board of Education the actual resolution for Capital Outlay so DCS can start on the projects in July. Con Shelton made a motion to approve the draft budget resolution, with a second by Marie Helms. The motion passed 6-0.

Clay Harris spoke about PRC-071 Supplemental Funds. There is a tiered approach, with experienced teachers with 20-plus years will a larger supplement than less experienced teachers. Teachers with 0-9 years are still getting more than they did last year, even with the modified schedule. May's payroll will reflect these funds. Marie Helms thanked Mr. Harris for the intricate details and for presenting things so clearly. Paul Drechsler thanked Mr. Wallace for the extensive report. Superintendent Wallace commended Mr. Harris, principals, and directors for their work on the budget. Cammie Webb made a motion, seconded by Paul Drechsler, to approve the draft budget resolution for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion was passed 6-0.

Dr. David Blattner proposed purchasing 1,200 Chromebooks from Trafera, LLC. for rising 6th and 9th graders. The older Chromebooks will be placed in technology carts in our elementary schools to extend the life of our purchases. The quote includes a "white glove service," meaning the 1,200 Chromebooks are delivered ready for distribution within the schools. Wendy Horne made a motion to approve the purchase of Chromebooks; Paul Drechsler seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

### **Committee/Staff Report**

Jenn Lynde presented the Content Coach Restructuring plan.

Pre-ESSER funding, DCS had seven instructional coaches for select schools. During COVID-19, we had funds for ten instructional coaches. Post-ESSER, DCS will have seven content coaches who will serve all schools. In November, discussions about restructuring were held with principals, instructional coaches, and directors. Mrs. Lynde interviewed thirty-two candidates. Seven people were selected in April who will be attending an onboarding meeting on Friday, May 10, 2024. In June and August, they will have collaboration time. The breakdown of the coaches is as follows:

- Two K-5 Literacy Content Coaches- Amy Spade (Lead) and Christy Cornatzer
- One 6th Grade English II Literacy Content Coach: Kimberly Barnes
- Two K-5 Grade Math Content Coaches - Dr. Adrienne Blackwelder (Lead) and Melissa Rareshide
- One 6th Grade Math II Content Coach - Shannon Patton
- One 9th -12th Grade Instructional Coach - Suzanne Gibbons

Jenn Lynde introduced Renee Hennings-Gonzalez, as our Early Learning Specialist; this is a NCDPI State position. Mrs. Lynde made note that all of our previous coaches are moving into


positions, so we were able to keep our staff. Dub commented on how great the team worked to keep our staff and have such a great team of people. Superintendent Wallace commended Jenn Lynde. He thanked the coaches for being here and choosing Davie County Schools. Mr. Wallace mentioned that more teachers are coming in without traditional training, and we need our coaches. Marie Helms thanked them for getting input from the schools and principals. In a time ESSER funds are sunseting, DCS shows such commitment because we were able to find a place position for them. Mrs. Lynde informed the group that many districts completely cut their instructional coaching positions.


**Public Address to the Board**

No one signed up.

**Adjourn**

Marie Helms made the motion to adjourn with a second from Con Shelton. The motion was approved with a 6-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

  
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W. G. Potts, Chair

  
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Jeff Wallace, Secretary

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Approved: ✓