

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
5:00 p.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room  
**Monday, May 10, 2021**

**BE IT REMEMBERED:** that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on May 10, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at the Administrative Office - Board Room at 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina, where and when the following business was transacted.

The following Board members were present:

James C. Carter, Board Chair

Jackie McHargue, Vice Chair

Martha Geitner, Member

Peyton O'Conner, Member

Shaunda Sandford, Member via Google Meet

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services; Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent Instruction and Accountability; Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media; Chris Campbell, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant; Carrie Buchanan, Principal HFE; Tima Williams, Principal APS; Susanna Smith, Director of Preschool; Sarah Banks, Assistant Finance Officer; Derek Edwards, Principal AHS; Susanna Cerrato, Teacher at Ira B. Jones.

**CALL TO ORDER**

James Carter, Board Chair, called the session to order at 5:05 PM.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

James C. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda. Martha Geitner approved the motion. Peyton O'Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously:

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes

Jackie McHargue, Vice Chair - Yes

Martha Geitner, Member - Yes

Peyton O'Conner, Member - Yes

Shaunda Sandford, Member via Google Meet - Yes

James Carter, Board Chair, made a motion to begin the work session at 3:38 p.m.

## INFORMATION AGENDA

- Asheville Primary Campus School [Presentation](#): Dr. Freeman, Superintendent; Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent Curriculum and Accountability; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; April Dockery, Executive Director of Equity and Family Engagement presented for approval:
  - Pre-K Classes information
    - Preschool Demographics (excluding Montessori)
    - Preschool Scenarios
  - Montessori Information
    - Montessori Demographics
    - Current and Projected Montessori Numbers
  - Building Information
    - Three Major Health Concerns
    - Feasibility Study
    - Proposals
  - Asheville Primary School Work Study

The decision before the Board of Education was presented by Attorney Campbell. There are two options to consider: Closing a school and moving students to another school to save money. All of the students who would like to remain in Montessori through third grade have been assigned to the Montessori School located at Hall Fletcher Elementary. This option is a location/facility change for students with a principal and Montessori staff. The legal option advised was to physically move the students to another location since the recommendation was made to follow the school closure statute. Mrs. Dockery has presented the APS Work Study that was completed and posted on the ACS website. Option one: The Board of Education will consider the study and decide to adopt it as the official study of the school system. Option Two: Vote to close the Asheville Primary School location and reestablish the school at the Hall Fletcher School location. The vote is to ONLY close the geographic location, not the Montessori Pre-K and K-3rd grades.

- HomeTrust Bank Principal of the Year and Teacher of the Year Presentation: Dr. Dechant, Director of Recruitment and Induction, and Susan Puryear, Director of Professional Banking & Investment Services presented to Asheville High School Principal Derek Edwards and Ira B. Jones Teacher Susanna Cerrato a check and congratulations. Dr. Dechant also mentioned that Ms. Cerrato was the Western Region Teacher of the Year and a finalist for the North Carolina 2021 Teacher of the Year.
- Budget Amendments, Budget Updates and the Local Budget FY22: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance shared budget amendment 521 which is an addition of \$700.00 from the state for substitute pay. An allotment for summer reading camps \$87,465. Transfer of funds from CTE for months of employment to instruction funds \$44,235. Transfer from state textbooks 130 to 131 which will give more flexibility to spend funds for state instructional textbooks.
- [Contract/MOU's](#): Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services presented the following contract for approval.
  - APD Off Duty Management (ODM) - the Board of Education would like to remove from the contract, "Then a second term will be from August 1st, 2021 to February 2, 2022." At this time it will be approved for the 1st term of the MOU from February 2, 2021 and

terminating on July 31st. Dr. Cassida will check with the sheriff's department to inquire about their hourly pay for off duty officers and report back at the next meeting.

- Policies Second Final Read: Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared the following policies for approval:  
[8000](#), [8100](#), [8110](#), [8210](#), [8220](#), [8230](#), [8300](#), [8300-P](#), [8305](#), [8310](#), [8320](#), [8325](#), [8330](#), [8340](#), [8341](#), [8350](#), [8410](#), [8520](#), [8530](#)

**The Chair will entertain a motion for the Board of Education to enter into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 for the following purposes:**

- Under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged and confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321;
- Under subsection (a) (3) to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session at 7:25 p.m. Jackie McHargue approved the motion. Peyton O'Conner second the motion. The motion passed unanimously:

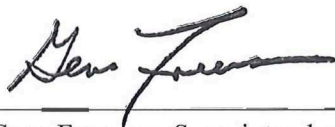
James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes

Jackie McHargue, Vice Chair - Yes

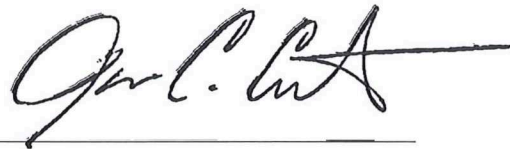
Martha Geitner, Member - Yes

Peyton O'Conner, Member - Yes

Shaunda Sandford, Member via Google Meet - Yes



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair

