

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1:00 p.m. - Work Session - Via Zoom

Monday, April 26, 2021

BE IT REMEMBERED: that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on April 26, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom at 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina, where and when the following business was transacted.

The following Board members were present:

Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair

Martha Geitner, Vice Chair

Joyce Brown, Member

Patricia Griffin, Member

James Carter, Member

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, Chief Accountability Officer; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media; Cynthia Lopez, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant; Adrian Clark, Athletic Director AMS; Sonita Warren-Dixon, Athletic Director AHS; Dr. Sherry Hicks, Director of CTE; Sara Monson, CTE Teacher; Justin Polizzi, CTE Teacher; Derek Edwards, Principal AHS;

CALL TO ORDER

Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair, called the session to order at 1:03 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Shaunda Sandford made a motion to approve the agenda. Martha Geitner approved the motion. James Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously:

Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair - Yes

Martha Geitner, Vice Chair - Yes

Joyce Brown, Member - Yes

Patricia Griffin, Member - Yes

James Carter, Member - Yes

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.**

Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session at 1:05 p.m.

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

INFORMATION AGENDA

- Athletic Directors - Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services; Asheville Middle and Asheville High School Athletic Directors: Adrian Clark, Athletic Director AMS; Sonita Warren-Dixon, Athletic Director AHS shared how each program is working to support student athletes academically. Athletic Director Warren-Dixon shared that in the midst of COVID there were more students who participated in athletics. There were 17 teams and 14 Scholar Athletic teams GPA of 3.1 or better. There were 233 scholar athletes with a GPA 3.5 or better. One thing that was unfortunate was that rosters had to be trimmed down due to COVID. This year the High School created an athletic POD for any student athlete who would like to come and get additional support from ACS staff in person and peers or that want to come and do work in a school environment. Coaches have been given access to Power School and most are school staff to monitor athletes' grades. This helps student athletes to maintain grades to stay eligible to play sports and to do well in the classrooms. Athletic Director Clark shared Middle School celebrations:

- Cross Country placed 1st!
- Girls Basketball - Conference Champs
- Soccer undefeated Champs
- Football undefeated Champs
- Cheerleaders attended all ten games

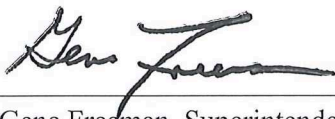
This year there was space created for students to interact safely socially and mentally. Practices became a hub for teachers to connect with students and give class work. Student Athletes could participate in study hall when students returned to campus.

- [Approval for CTE Production Work \(revenue-generating\) Program: Groundhogs and Cougar Sports Network](#): Dr. Hick, Director of CTE; Sara Monson, CTE Teacher; Justin Polizzi, CTE Teacher presented for approval two (revenue-generating) CTE Production Work Programs Groundhog and Cougar Sports Network.
- [Chromebook Purchase Recommendation](#): Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media shared a recommendation for 900 Chromebooks to purchase.
- Resolution Regarding House Bill [358](#) & Senate Bills [514](#) & [515](#): Attorney Cynthia Lopez shared the [resolution](#) that ACS would like to share on behalf of the district's decision to oppose the three general assembly bills.
- [Amended 2020-2021 Traditional Calendar](#): Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education, is asking for approval to make a change to the calendar to move the wednesday, May 5th optional/virtual day to Friday, May 7th so the district can preserve a in-person learning day. We chose the May 5th date originally because in the past teachers would attend the Teacher Rally.

- [Summer Schedule for ACS Staff](#): Dr. Freeman wanted to inform the Board of Education of the summer months schedule for staff. Staff will work 4 days -10 hours daily.
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2020-2021 and Enrollment Update: Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Accountability and Instruction presented for approval a list of students who live within the Asheville City Schools District who have requested a release from Asheville City Schools to attend school in the Buncombe County School District.
She also shared that the enrollment team has placed 448 new students for the 2021-2022 school year and that includes children of staff who live out of the district. Kindergarten has 70+ out of district students. In elementary grades 4th & 5th has few out of district enrollments. There has been an increase in Micronesian and Asian families enrolled.
- [A-B Tech Board of Trustees Draft Notice and Application for Vacant Seats](#): Attorney Cynthia Lopez presented the draft notice and Application to the Board of Education to review for approval.
- [Board Members Training Overview](#): Attorney Cynthia Lopez presented an overview of the training.
- Policy [3620](#) - Second Read: Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared policy 3620 for a second review for approval. The Board of Education would like to see some additional revisions and to be viewed again before approval.
- First Read 9000 Series: Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared the following policies:
[9000](#), [9010](#), [9020](#), [6401/9100](#), [9110](#), [9115](#) (New), [9120](#), [6441/9121](#), [9121-P](#), [9125](#) [9130](#), [9200](#), [9205](#), [9210](#), [9220](#), [9300](#), [9400](#)
- [Contracts/MOU](#): Dr. Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared the documents for information only.

ADJOURNMENT

Shaunda Sandford made a motion to adjourn the meeting 5:27 p.m.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair