

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
5:00 p.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Monday, October 5, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on October 5, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. at the Administrative Offices in the Board Room located 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; Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services; Cassandra Wells, Instructional Assistant; Walter Dove, Director of Safety; Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Dana Ayers, Chief Academic Officer; Melissa Hedt, Executive Director of Equity and Curriculum; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media; Dean Shatley, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER - Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair called the session to order at 5:05 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Shaunda Sandford made a motion to approve the agenda. James Carter approved the motion. Joyce Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

- Finance Update (2021 Budget Approval): Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer, shared the 2021 Uniform Budget and the Budget Resolution for approval.
- Update on PODS: Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services; Cassandra Wells, Instructional Assistant, shared that there are currently 12 PODS sites open that are serving 240 students. ACS staff that work with students include: 7 EC Teachers, 3 Teachers - 1 Full Time and 2 Part-Time, 16 Full-Time Instructional Assistants, 2 Part Time Instructional Assistants, and 7 Substitute Teachers. There will be a Spanish speaking PODS at Pisgah View.
- Wi-Fi at the Edington Center: Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media Contribution towards Wi-Fi at the Edington Center: Dr. Freeman shared how having access to the internet has a major impact on remote learning. In order to get on a platform to access classwork, they will need wireless internet. The Southside houses 250-270 Asheville City Schools students

with no access to wireless internet. Mr. Whiteside thanked the ACS Leadership Team, the Board of Education for their resources, and Dr. Freeman for the possible solution for wireless internet for the Southside students. Dr. Freeman thanked Asheville City Schools, Asheville City Board Of Education, Dogwood Health Trust, City of Asheville, and Community Members, and Matt Whiteside for coming together to get the internet for our students.

Asheville City Schools thanked Deborah Campbell, the City of Asheville, City Manager for their pledge of \$50,000 towards this endeavor. Thanks also to Board Chair Shaunda Sandford for reaching out to Ms. Campbell.

- Lot Purchase - 73 Mountain Street - Asheville City Schools: Attorney Shatley shared with the Board of Education the lot was advertised for sale to the public. There were no additional offers. The Board may move forward with the sale of the lot for \$5,000. Approval will be needed during the Regular Meeting.
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2020-2021: Melissa Hedt, Executive Director of Equity and Curriculum shared that there are no releases to report.
- Asheville High School Baseball Field approval for BIDS: Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared that there five different teams using the baseball field. The project has a cost of \$900,000. There will be financing options with no payments for the first four years at 0% interest.
- Renaming of Vance Elementary School Update: Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications shared we are looking for a current name that goes with ACS's current beliefs. There was a survey shared in August of 2020 with the Vance School community and we received 70 responses. On October 1, 2020, there was a town hall over zoom. We used the Mentimeter for feedback during the town hall. We chose teachers, staff members, and families to assist. Some of the things we wanted to keep in consideration were the Guiding Principles, Person of color, Ecology, and long term potential. We used four categories on Mentimeter. In late October we will get input from the community and make a recommendation to the Board of Education.
- Results from Kindergarten- 12th Grade Return to Learn September Check-In Survey: Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications shared the survey which included the following:
 - Results from the online survey
 - Results from Paper Survey in PODS
 - Results from Online Survey in Spanish
- Recommendations for remote or in-class learning: Dr. Freeman would like to wait before bringing students back at this time. He would like to make a recommendation before the Board of Education in about 3 to 4 weeks. If students do return he would like to do something slowly, and as safely as possible. The district has 236 students that are failing in one or more classes. This is an issue and a reason to bring students back sooner. Remote learning will never take the place of a good teacher.
- Updates - Second/Final Read
[1510/4200/7270](#), [1710/4020/7230](#), [1740/4010](#),[1742/5060](#),[1750/7220](#), [1760/7280](#), [2120](#), [2121](#)
- **Contracts/MOU's**: Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared information only on contracts and MOU's.
 - Montreat College - Counseling Program

- Montreat College - Student Interns
- UNCA-U-Step
- Delta House
- YMCA of western North Carolina
- UNCA;Vamos!
- Phase I - 3000 Series-First Read
[3000,3100,3101,3102,3110,3115,3120,3135,3140,](#)
[3200,3220,3230,3450](#)

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:

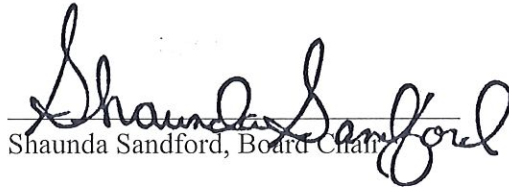
- Under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged and confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321;
- Under subsection (a) (3) to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

ADJOURNMENT

Shaunda Sandford made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. James Carter approved the motion. Joyce Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair