

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
5:00 p.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Thursday, September 10, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on September 10, 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:

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; Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services; Don Sims, Executive Director of Maintenance; Dr. Dana Ayers, Chief Academic Officer; Melissa Hedt, Executive Director of Equity and Curriculum; Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media; Cynthia Lopez, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER - Shaunda Sandford, Board Chair called the session to order at 5:01 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Martha Geitner made a motion to approve the agenda. James Carter approved the motion. Patricia Griffin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

- Lot Purchase - 73 Mountain Street - Asheville City Schools: Attorney Lopez shared with the Board of Education that neighbors adjacent to 85 Mountain Street would like to purchase the lot directly behind their home for \$5000.00 and pay court costs. The Attorney is asking if the BOE would like to consider moving forward with the option to get a bid on the land once it is advertised for sale.
- COVID (CARES) funds update: Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer, shared an update on the Emergency Education Relief Funds. The state has given \$51,000 for supplemental and \$155,000 for specialized personnel support for Mental Health. We anticipate that the Governor will approve other funds in the coming months.
- Child Nutrition Update: Georgia Harvey, Chief Finance Officer, shared that all students 18 years and younger will be provided with a free lunch through December 31, 2020. This was approved

by the Board of Education at the August Regular Meeting. Families need to complete the Free and Reduced lunch applications.

- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2020-2021: Melissa Hedt, Executive Director of Equity and Curriculum shared that there are no releases to report.
- [Policy 4400-Attendance](#): Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services, and Attorney Campbell presented policy 4400 for Second/Final Read.
- [Policy 4050-Children of Military Families-NEW](#): Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services, and Attorney Campbell presented policy 4400 for Second/Final Read.
- Update on Remote Learning - Plan C and Next steps: Dr. Ayers, Chief Academic Officer shared how remote learning is going. We are in week 4 of school. The first two weeks of school were for everyone to get acclimated. The last two weeks have been more structured with true instruction. Each day K-5th grade students have a live morning meeting and attendance is taken. Attendance is very important and teachers will be reaching out if a student is not present. There are six live synchronized morning meetings per week. At the secondary level, there is a minimum of two live synchronized meetings per class per week. All schedules for elementary are posted on the schools' websites. The secondary synchronized schedules are on the canvas board. All K-4 students are in the process of taking the state-required STAR assessment. EC students will be on a remote contingency plan. We have 100 fewer students in our district than last year. The ADM is being held harmless.

Dr. Gene will make a recommendation to the Board of Education. A Reopening Stakeholder Task Force has been created that has 27 members. The taskforce includes parents, teachers, principals, classified and certified staff, community members, and community leaders.

- Capital Projects Updates: Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services; Don Sims, Executive Director of Maintenance shared an update about the 5year Capital Outlay Project. Asheville Primary School has the most needs. There was an unplanned project this summer at APS this summer. Buncombe County made available lottery funds to complete the project. In the budgeted projects that the district has some critical projects that need to be completed in 6 months. The high priority projects will need to be completed in the next 1 to 2 years. The estimate for the critical and high priority projects together is approximately 5.5 to 7.5 million dollars. If APS is renovated it would have to be completely demolished inside and the only thing that could be saved is the brick and mortar. The air quality in the building would be a major concern with the new I-26 Connector highway. The five-year plan is due to the state in January.
- [Contracts/MOU's](#): Shane Cassida, Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services shared information only contracts and MOU's.
 - BAYA Nursing Contract
 - A New Hope Home Care/Addendum
 - Buncombe Partnership/NC Pre-K Program
 - Public Works
 - Asheville Policy Department/SRO
 - Hurd, Isenhour and Lopes, LLC
 - ACSF Someone CARES
 - ACSF/IRL
 - AB Technical Community College
 - Family Preservation Services of NC, Inc.

- Lenoir Rhyne
- Verner
- Community Action Opportunities

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 Sanford made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m. James Carter approved the motion. Joyce Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



Shaunda Sanford, Board Chair

