

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
5:00 p.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Monday, April 4, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED: that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on April 4, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. 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
Martha Geitner, Member
Geroge Sieburg, Member
Peyton O'Conner, Member
Shaunda Sandford, Member

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Accountability and Instruction; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Dr. Kim Dechant, Director of Recruitment and Induction; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; Sarah Banks, Assistant Finance Officer; Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Nathan Haugaard, Technology Specialist; Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Kristy Coats, Facilities Liaison to the Superintendent; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations; Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services; Marta Alcala-Williams, Executive Director of Equity and Family Engagement; Tanya Presha, Academic and Program Support Coordinator; Ian Nelson, Director of Testing and Accountability; Carrie Buchanan, Principal Hall Fetcher; Ruletta Hughes, Principal Lucy S. Herring; Mary Nichols, Principal Claxton; Paul Garrity, Assistant Principal Claxton; Derek Edwards, Principal Asheville High; Susanna Smith, Director of PreSchool; Tima Williams, Principal Asheville Primary; Kelly McCarthy, Third Grade Teacher Claxton; Ruafika Cobb, Principal Ira B. Jones; Jo Landreth, AP Ira B. Jones; Cynthia Lopez, Attorney, Chris Campbell, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

James C. Carter, Board Chair, called the session to order at 5:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

James C. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda. Martha Geitner approved the motion. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

- [Jones Park Options](#): Attorney Campbell shared an update about options for Jones Park. The options included the following:

- No Action
 - Transfer to, or Interlocal Agency Agreement with, the City of Asheville for a public park
 - ACS, with or without donations, constructs a playground open to the public
 - Lease to a separate entity
- [Curriculum Highlight](#): Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Accountability and Instruction; Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Kelly McCarthy, Third Grade Teacher Claxton shared Great Minds - Wit & Wisdom Grade for K-2 and Grade 3-5. The information shared included information on Print Editions and Digital Licenses. Additional information included:
 - Instruction
 - Curriculum
 - Environment
 - Equity
 - Cultural Responsivity
 - Background
 - K-5 Current ELA Curriculum
 - Why Wit and Wisdom
 - Science of Reading
 - Presentation by Ms. Kelly McCarthy's Third Grade Class: including group work with the Board of Education Members and the Superintendent
 - Data
 - Cost

ACTION: James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to approve the purchase of the Print Editions and Digital Licenses of Great Minds - Wit & Wisdom Grade for K-2 and Grade 3-5. Martha Geitner approved the motion. Peyton O'Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes

Martha Geitner, Member - Yes

Geroge Sieburg, Member - Yes

Peyton O'Conner, Member - Yes

Shaunda Sandford, Member - Yes

- [2021-2022 Calendar Update](#) and [2022-2023 Calendar Update](#): Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education asked for approval to make the last day of school June 7th on the 2021-2022 calendar to be an early release day. Mrs. Parks also asked to make October 13th & 14th workdays during the 2022-2023 school year. The update is to make October 13th a required workday and the 14th a Parent-Teacher Conference Day.

ACTION: James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to approve making the last day of school on June 7th, 2022 an early release day. Peyton O'Conner approved the motion. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes

Martha Geitner, Member - Yes

Geroge Sieburg, Member - Yes

Peyton O’Conner, Member - Yes
Shaunda Sandford, Member - Yes

- Summer Testing Plan: Ian Nelson; Director of Testing and Accountability shared the Summer Retesting plan. Retesting will be for the Elementary Schools this summer. There will be two teachers and an Instructional Assistant to review materials and administer tests.
- Face Coverings “[Per Senate Bill 654](#), the Board of Education must consider its policy on face coverings on a monthly basis.” Dr. Freeman made a recommendation to continue with optional masking for all students, staff, and visitors on all ACS campuses.
- Updated Capital Lottery - Approval: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance shared information for approval from the public buildings capital funds. The request is from 2021 for \$315,599. The request was approved by the Board of Education, DPI, and Buncombe County. In March of 2021, the previous Superintendent asked for an addendum to the application to include schools other than Asheville Primary School. DPI did approve the amendment on May 28, 2021. ACS has requested Buncombe County do a reimbursement for some of the schools other than Asheville Primary School. They are requiring board approval for the amendment. Ms. Harvey is asking for approval of the amendment that included Lucy S. Herring, Ira B. Jones, Claxton, Hall Fletcher, and Montford North Star as an amendment to the application.

ACTION: James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to approve the amendment that included Lucy S. Herring, Ira B. Jones, Claxton, Hall Fletcher, and Montford North Star as amendments to the application. Martha Geitner approved the motion. Peyton O’Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes
Martha Geitner, Member - Yes
Geroge Sieburg, Member - Yes
Peyton O’Conner, Member - Yes
Shaunda Sandford, Member - Yes

- Policy - Procedure Code: [8305-P](#) Federal Grant Administration Procurement Procedures - Approval: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance is requesting to change the limits for the following:
 - Contracts for purchase and goods from \$10,000 to \$30,000. The reason for the ask is that for any micro spending above \$10,000 of federal funds we have to get approval from DPI which can be time-consuming.

ACTION: James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to approve the procedure code change for the federal grant administration procurement procedures. Martha Geitner approved the motion. Peyton O’Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes
Martha Geitner, Member - Yes
Geroge Sieburg, Member - Yes
Peyton O’Conner, Member - Yes
Shaunda Sandford, Member - Yes

- [Contracts/ MOUs](#): Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources: shared contracts and MOUs for approval and information only.
 - MHAworks, PA - Construction services for New Roof and New Windows at Asheville Primary School.
- Budget Amendments: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance: Shared the budget amendments for approval.
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2021-2022: Tanya Presha, Academic and Program Support Coordinator presented for approval a list of students who live within the Asheville City Schools District who have requested a release from Asheville City Schools.
- Career Fair Update: Dr. Kim Dechant, Director of Recruitment and Induction shared the success of the career fair. They made 21 offers on the spot. She thanked Ashley -Michelle and Dillon for all their hard work with marketing and promoting the two-day event. She also thanked the Principals who attended, and the teachers and staff who shared their stories about working with ACS.
- Policies Second/Final Read: Dr. Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources shared the following policies for Second Final Read:
 - [7430 Substitute Teachers-Final](#)
 - [7430-P Eligibility Criteria to be a Substitute-Final](#)
 - [6402 Participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses-Final](#)
- Dr. Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources shared the following policies for First Read:
 - [Policy 2310 - Public Comment and Campaigning](#)
 - [4150 School Assignment](#)
 - [4130-P Discretionary Admission of Out-of-District Students](#)
- [Summer Schedule for ACS Staff](#): Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent informed the Board of Education about the ACS staff's summer schedule. The staff will be working 4 days - 10 hours daily work weeks. This schedule would start on June 17th. The last Friday off will be July 29th.
- [Budget Update](#): the following information was shared:
 - BOE Budget Potential Savings Options
 - Biennium Budget Bill - SL2021-180
 - FY 2023 Budget Planning
 - Budget Areas for Potential Savings - Local Funds
 - STAFF - Reduction through attrition; no layoffs
 - STAFF - Bus salaries move from BCS to ACS - Dual employees
 - STAFF - All classified non-exempt - Paid hourly
 - STAFF - Duplication of Services/Staff - Reduce
 - Local Supplement - Pay schedule change
 - Temporary Contracts - Reduce
 - Utilities/Facilities - Consolidate/reduce costs

CLOSED SESSION

James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session at 8:02 p.m. Martha Geitner approved the motion. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

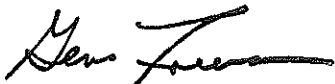
The Chair will entertain a motion for the Board of Education to enter into a closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 for the following purposes:

- **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.**

James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into open session at 9:04 p.m. Martha Geitner approved the motion. Peyton O'Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

George Sieburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Peyton O'Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair