

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
9:00 a.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Friday, January 28, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED: that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a special called session on January 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.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; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Dr. Kim Dechant, Director of Recruitment and Induction; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Accountability and Instruction; Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Nathan Haugaard, IT Help Desk Specialist; Kristy Coats, Facilities Liaison to the Superintendent; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations; Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operations Coordinator; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media; Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services; Sonita Warren-Dixon, Athletic Director; Susanna Smith, Director of Preschool; Tanya Presha, Academic and Program Support Coordinator; Chris Campbell, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

James C. Carter, Board Chair, called the session to order at 9:08 AM.

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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following names were called to make a public comment:

In-Person

No In-Person Public Comments

Virtual

Syberia Lundy
Pepi Acebo
Jensen Gelford

INFORMATION AGENDA

- **Preschool Update** and **Preschool Funding**: Susanna Smith, Director of Preschool; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance shared the following updates with a request for approval the preschool funding:
 - Preschool Update
 - Lucy S. Herring has received their five-star rating
 - Demographics
 - 1st Benchmark Program Wide Data
 - Classroom options and cost
 - Pre-K Historical Finance Information
 - Pre-K Revenue
 - Expenses
 - General local K-12 funds used to support Pre-K

The recommendation for Mrs. Smith to include in the grant that's due to Buncombe County on February 11, 2022, is to ask for funding for seven classrooms.

- **Lacrosse: Dr. Freeman, Sonita Warren-Dixon** shared an update on Lacrosse. Dr. Freeman has recommended closing a school and can not approve funding for Lacrosse. Lacrosse can remain as a sport for Asheville City Schools but ACS can not fund Lacrosse. Ms. Warren-Dixon agrees with Dr. Freeman and that the Athletic Department can not fund Lacrosse.
- **School Improvement Plans**: Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Brad Johnson, Principal Isaac Dickson; Carrie Buchanan, Principal Hall Fletcher
- **LETRS Training**: Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Carley Stein, MEd. shared the NC state-mandated LETRS Training that teachers in Prek-5th grades are required to take and pass the course based on the Science of Reading. The following information was shared:
 - The Nation's Report Card
 - 4th Grade Reading Proficiency Nationally
 - NC 4th Grade Reading Scores
 - The Mississippi Model
 - NC Senate Bill 387
 - The LETRS Course
- **Desegregation Order**: Attorney Campbell, shared the current status of the ACS Desegregation Order.
- **District Lines**: Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operations Coordinator explained the Asheville City Schools district lines and some brief history.
- **Transportation Update**: Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operations Coordinator shared an update about the Transportation department that included the following:
 - ACS Transportation Department
 - TDTIMS Audit 2021-2022
 - NCDPI District Operations Division, Transportation Services 2021-2022 Transportation Funding Information
 - ACS State Funding Generated through the Years: FY10-FY22
 - Salary and HR facts 2021-2022
- **Enrollment Update**: Tanya Presha, Academic and Program Support Coordinator shared the following:
 - Historical & Current Enrollment by School
 - Location of Students Leaving ACS
 - District Enrollment Process

- New Enrollment Website
- Open Enrollment dates February 7th through March 14th
- **Mental Health Update**: Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services the following updates:
 - Current and Developing Student Support MOU's
 - ACS RESET ROOMS
 - RESET Program Goals
 - Where are the RESET Rooms?

James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session at 12:45 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 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 1:40 p.m. Martha Geitner approved the motion. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **COVID Update**: April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations shared the following ACS COVID Health & Safety Protocols update:
 - NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)
 - ACS Data Snapshot
 - January 2022 Protocol Changes within ACS
 - Toolkit January 10, 2022 Update
 - Rapid Testing and ACS Face Coverings
- Finance Update **ESSER Recruitment Bonuses**: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance shared the following:
 - ESSER and GEER
 - ESSER II
 - ESSER III
- **Child Nutrition Update**: Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance shared information about possible outsourcing of the school nutrition program.
- **Maintenance Update**: Kristy Coats, Facilities Liaison to the Superintendent shared updates throughout the district that include:
 - Asheville High/SILSA Campus
 - Asheville Middle School
 - Claxton
 - Isaac Dickson
 - Hall Fletcher
 - Ira B. Jones
 - Lucy S. Herring
- **IT Update**: Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media shared the IT priority areas which include:

- Training and growth opportunities for faculty and staff
- Relevant and engaging instruction for students
- Efficient technology operations
- Privacy and security
- **Late Start Work Update**: Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education shared the following overview:
 - 12 2-Hour delays are scheduled approximately every 2 weeks for Middle and High School students.
 - Collaborative Planning time for teachers in content alike or grade-level teams
 - Support Staff (EC, Counseling, Media/Tech, DLT) and Administrators pushing in with teams

Due to inclement weather the Achievement Gap, Human Resources, and Equity Updates will be presented at the February 7, 2022, Work Session Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- Accept School Improvement Plans - Asheville High, SILSA, Asheville Middle, Montford North Star, Asheville Primary, Claxton, Hall Fletcher, Ira B. Jones, Isaac Dickson, and Lucy S. Herring
Martha Geitner made a motion to approve acceptance of the School Improvement Plans. Peyton O’Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Amended Personnel Report No. 6.
Peyton O’Conner made a motion to approve the Amended Personnel Report No.6. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Preschool Funding Grant Ask
The consensus of the Board of Education is to go with no less than seven pre-k rooms and to make the ask for the entire amount of eleven pre-k rooms.
Martha Geitner made a motion to approve the preschool funding ask. Peyton O’Conner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Martha Geitner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:49 p.m. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair