

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
5:00 p.m. - Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Monday, October 4, 2021

BE IT REMEMBERED: that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on October 4, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at 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
Jackie McHargue, Vice Chair
Martha Geitner, Member
Peyton O'Conner, Member
Shaunda Sandford, Member

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent Instruction and Accountability; Sarah Cain, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Nathan Haugaard, IT Help Desk Specialist; Marta Alcalá-Williams, Executive Director of Equity and Family Engagement; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations; Walter Dove, Safety Officer; Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operation Coordinator; April Baur, School Health Program Manager; Kristy Coats, Facilities Supervisor; Tima Williams, Principal APS; Susanna Smith, Director of Preschool; Ruletta Hughes, Principal Lucy S. Herring; Mary Nichols, Principal Claxton; Derek Edwards, Principal AHS; Cassandra Wells, Instructional Assistant; Jo Landreth, Assistant Principal Ira B. Jones; Chris Campbell, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

James C. Carter, Board Chair, called the session to order at 5:02 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

INFORMATION AGENDA

- [Finance Status Report - HIL Consultants](#): Hank Hurd and Kathy Isenhour presented a Financial Status Report for Asheville City Schools. The report included information and recommendations for the 2020-2021 Budget Review and Local Current Expense Budget.

- [Burton Street Property](#): Attorney Campbell, presented the New Deed for transfer of the Burton Street Property from Asheville City Schools to the City of Asheville.
- Face Coverings “[Per Senate Bill 654](#), the Board of Education must consider its policy on face coverings on a monthly basis.”
- Instructional Assistants/Bus Drivers/Custodians: Cassandra Wells, Instructional Assistant Claxton Elementary wanted to talk about the two-hour delay for the secondary and how it affects the day of the IA’s who are bus drivers when they help by driving the buses on those days. She would like for the administration to look at how everyone can work together to support the students and staff. There were additional concerns about making up the hour of time that is missed on those days.
- [Back to School Safety Protocols](#): Dr. Freeman; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations; Ruletta Hughes, Principal Lucy S. Herring; Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operation Coordinator; April Baur, School Health Program Manager; shared updates for back to school safety protocols that include the following:
 - ACS Data Snapshot
 - ACS Protocol Reminders
 - Vaccination
 - Handling Possible, Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Positive Cases of COVID-19 - Updated August 18, 2021
 - COVID-19 Screening Testing
 - Principal & Transportation Discussion
 - American Academy of Pediatrics recommendation for universal masking
 - CDC COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools
- 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 universal masking for all students, staff, and visitors on all ACS campuses.
- Stop the Bleed Kits: Walter Dove, Safety Officer; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations shared that in 2019 began an initiative to provide stop the bleed kits for every classroom, cafeteria, bus, gym, and office in the ACS district. This was made possible by Safety, Transportation, and Community Stakeholders.
- [What Happens During a Crisis](#): Ashley-Michelle Thublin, Executive Director of Communications; April Dockery, Executive Director of Crisis Management and Operations shared the following:
 - Incident vs. Crisis
 - ACS Incident Flow Chart
 - Communications Plan - Planning Before A Crisis Occurs
 - Why We Have A Plan
 - Creating A Plan
 - Emergency Information
 - Debrief
 - Continuous Improvement
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2021-2022: Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Accountability presented for approval a list of students who live within the

Asheville City Schools District who have requested a release from Asheville City Schools. The students have attended or will be going to school in the Buncombe County School District. *There were no student releases since September 2021.*

- Enrollment Update: Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Accountability presented the following during the enrollment update:
 - Student Withdrawal for the last 3 months
- Federal Programs: Consolidated (Title I, II, IV): Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs shared the following information:
 - Why Federal Title 1 - Elementary & Secondary Education Act
 - Titled Programs - Title 1A, Title II, Title III, Title IV
 - Additional Federal Programs/Grants
 - Board Policy 1320/3560
 - Parent Rights
 - Title IIA
 - Title IV
 - Equitable Services
 - Titled Grants through Federal Programs
 - Additional Aspects

James C. Carter, Board Chair made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session at 7:07 p.m. Jackie McHargue approved the motion. Peyton O'Conner 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 7:37 p.m. Peyton O'Conner approved the motion. Jackie McHargue seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Dr. Gene Freeman, Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair