

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
5:00 p.m. - Special Called Work Session - Administrative Offices - Board Room
Monday, March 27, 2023

BE IT REMEMBERED: that the Asheville City Board of Education met in a special called session on March 27, 2023, 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:

George Sieburg, Board Chair
Amy Ray, Vice Chair - Virtual
James C. Carter, Member - Virtual
Liza Kelly, Member - Virtual
Rebecca Strimer, Member - Virtual
Sarah Thornburg, Member - Virtual
Jesse Warren, Member

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Jim Causby, Interim Superintendent; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; April Dockery, Executive Director of Operations; Dillon Huffman, Public Information Officer; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant

The meeting began at 5:05 p.m.

INFORMATION AGENDA

The purpose of this meeting was to share potential budget considerations for the 2023-2024 fiscal year request to the Buncombe County Commissioners.

Dr. Caubsy presented the following information on the Education of the Budget for clarification and discussion:

[Budget Presentation](#)

The following items were presented for consideration:

1. Which potential cuts does the Board of Education want in the proposed budget?
2. Which potential increases does the Board of Education want in the proposed budget?
3. Which potential cuts or increases do they want to delete from the list?

Areas for potential reduction and areas of increase:

- **Staff Reduction Areas:**
 - Asheville High School and SILSA
 - Asheville Middle School
 - MNSA
 - Elementary Schools

- PreK
- Central Staffing
- Exceptional Children's Program
- **A Shift of Funding Areas:**
 - Mental Health Liaison
 - 8 Reset Classroom Teachers
- **Other Areas of Reduced Expenditures:**
 - Supplies/Materials
 - Travel/Professional Development
 - Food, etc.
 - Special Events
 - Overtime
 - Evaluate and Adjust Funding for Staff Cell Phones and Student Hot Spots
- **Increased Cost Areas - funded by local funds:**
 - Salaries
 - Benefits included in Salary Recommendations
 - Utilities - funded by local funds
 - Charter Schools - funded by local funds
 - Other Possible Considerations

The overall consensus was to:

- Increase tuition for out-of-district students at the high school.
- No cut to the proposed counselor position at Asheville Middle School.
- Decrease the number of enhancement teachers in elementary as long as they will get enhancements with the reduction (Liza and Jesse would like to keep all enhancement teachers).
- The majority was in favor of cutting one Pre-K Coordinator.
- All were in favor of the proposed cuts at the Central Offices.
- No cuts to EC teachers unless it is through attrition.
- Reduce expenditures to support educators the most.
- Increase salaries the district is behold to certified staff on what the state recommends and somewhat with classified staff. Looking at classified staff supplements and supplements for recruitment and retention of teachers, how do we support the current staff certified and classified and how do we recruit those who want to come to our district?
- Stair step with Principal and Assistant Principal supplements. If there is a decrease in APs due to attrition, what will the duties look like for the other APs and how will those duties be compensated?
- What are we doing with spaces that we lease and how can we decrease those expenditures? This is something that will be looked at with the new Superintendent.

Dr. Causby and Georgia Harvey will develop an initial budget recommendation that will be brought to the BOE at the April 11th regular meeting.

Additional comments:

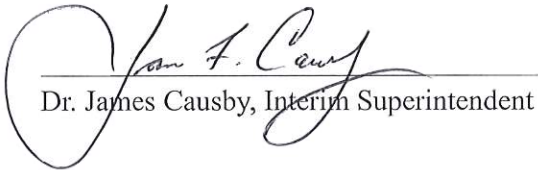
Mr. Carter suggested polling staff about supplements (not sure how it affects the budget).

Dr. Causby - staff cuts will come through attrition, not elimination of positions/jobs.

ADJOURNMENT

George Sieburg motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. James Carter approved the motion. Sarah Thornburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- George Sieburg, Board Chair - Aye
- Amy Ray, Vice Chair - Virtual - Aye
- James C. Carter, Member - Virtual - Aye
- Liza Kelly, Member - Virtual - Aye
- Rebecca Strimer, Member - Virtual - Aye
- Sarah Thornburg, Member - Virtual - Aye
- Jesse Warren, Member - Aye


Dr. James Causby, Interim Superintendent


George Sieburg, Board Chair