

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

5:00 p.m. - Regular - Administrative Offices - Board Room

**Thursday, December 15, 2022**

**BE IT REMEMBERED:** The Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on December 15, 2022, 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:

George Sieburg, Board Chair

Amy Ray, Vice Chair

James C. Carter, Member

Liza Kelly, Member

Rebecca Strimer, Board Member

Sarah Thornburg, Member

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Causby, Interim Superintendent; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Accountability and Instruction; Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; April Dockery, Executive Director of Operations; Kim Robinson, Executive Director of Student Services; Tanya Presha, Academic and Program Support Coordinator; Amanda Rigsby, Transportation Operations Coordinator; Dr. Kim Dechant, Director of Recruitment and Induction; Dillon Huffman, Public Information Officer; Sarah Cain, Executive Director, Exceptional Children and Federal Programs; Laura Parks, Director of Secondary Education; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology and Media Services; Shannon Baggett, Principal Montford North Star Academy; Derek Edwards, Principal, Asheville High; Jo Landreth, Principal Asheville Middle; Chris Campbell, Attorney; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by the Board Chair, James C. Carter.

**OATH OF OFFICE NEW MEMBERS**

Judge Jacqueline Grant

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Board Officers Vote for Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair for the next two years:** Chris Campbell, Attorney

**Nominations for Board Chair:**

James C. Carter, Board Chair - Yes

Liza Kelly, Member - Yes

Amy Ray, Member - Yes

George Sieburg - Yes

Rebecca Strimer, Member - George Sieburg

Sarah Thornburg, Member - Yes

George Sieburg is at this moment elected Board Chair of Asheville City Board of Education.

**Nominations for Vice Chair:**

George Sieburg, Board Chair - Yes

Liza Kelly, Member - Yes

Amy Ray, Member - Yes

James C. Carter, Member- Yes

Rebecca Strimer, Member - Yes

Sarah Thornburg, Member - Amy Ray

Amy Ray is elected as the Board Vice-Chair of the Asheville City Board of Education.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Hardison 4th Grade Class,  
Lucy S. Herring Elementary

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

George Sieburg made a motion to amend the agenda to add a calendar change. Sarah Thornburg approved the motion to amend the agenda to add a calendar change. James C. Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**GOOD NEWS:**

April Dockery, Executive Director of Operations presented:

- Asheville Middle School Quill Team competes in state writing championship
- ACS honors teachers who exceed growth with students
- SILSA, AHS, AMS, Ira B Jones, MNSA, Claxton, Lucy S. Herring, and Hall Fletcher - these Schools met and exceeded growth expectations.
- Rotary Club announces Asheville's Teachers of Excellence, Susanna Cerrato
- ACS Winter Shows are now showing!

**TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2022 PRESENTATION:**

Dr. Dechnat introduced Lynn Cook, HomeTrust Bank Senior Vice President, and Sr. Commercial Relationship Manager who presented David Kotchmar, ACS 2022 Teacher of the Year with a check.

**EDUCATOR ADVISORY COUNCIL PRESENTATION:** Susanna Cerrato, Educator Advisory Facilitator shared the following information:

Vision

Mission

Teach21

Goals

EAC Members

2021-2022 Outcomes

2022-2023 Objectives

Current Focus

EAC Facilitators

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following names were called to make a public comment:

### **In-Person**

Craig White

Daniel Withrow

### **Virtual**

No virtual comments

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

- Work Session Minutes November 7, 2022
- Closed Session Minutes November 7, 2022
- Regular Meeting Minutes November 16, 2022
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2022-2023
- [Asheville City Schools Traditional Calendar 2023-2024](#)
- [Camcor, Inc. Proposal Agreement](#)

James C. Carter motioned to approve the consent agenda. Sarah Thornburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Amended Personnel Report No. 5. James C. Carter motioned to approve personnel report No.5. Sarah Thornburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Calendar Optional Teacher Workday January 2nd with no school for students. Amy Ray approved the motion to approve the calendar change to make an optional teacher workday on January 2nd no school for students. Sarah Thornburg approved the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. [APS building as an emergency shelter MOU](#). James C. Carter motioned to approve the APS building as an emergency shelter contingent on zoning approval from the City of Asheville. Amy Ray approved the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **FINANCE**

- December payroll checks have been processed and will be paid to all employees on December 19th.
- The January payroll will remain the same and folks will receive checks on January 31, 2023.

### **MAINTENANCE**

- The unit ventilators are onsite at Hall Fletcher Elementary and ready to be installed during the holiday break.



- A new high-efficiency boiler should arrive at Hall Fletcher Elementary soon to be installed in January.
- Building G, the new building at Asheville High will open in January.
- New attic fans have been installed at Asheville High School and should be up and running by the end of the week.

## EQUITY

- In partnership with the Asheville City Schools Foundation, students from Asheville High and SILSA participated in a two-day workshop from the Racial Equity Institute. This is an excellent
- Opportunity for students to explore and discover a deeper analysis of History, Civics, Economics, Psychology, and Justice.

## CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

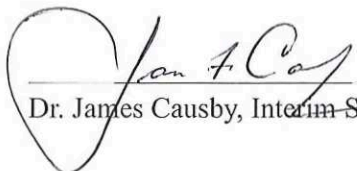
- We are finalizing preparations for Remote Learning Days for inclement weather. A website has been created that houses all of the resources for [Remote Learning on Inclement Weather Days](#). Choice boards are completed for each grade K-5 (color-coded by grade) and students will be taking those home before the winter break. The website also includes links to optional enrichment activities. Students in grades 6-12 will complete assignments on our learning management system, Canvas.
- We are preparing for open enrollment. The elementary magnet school night will be January 12, 5:30-8:00 pm at Asheville Middle School. Open enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is from Feb. 6-Mar. 13, 2023.
- We are planning for summer programming in 2023! Summer program dates will be solidified by January and the lead for each program will be identified by February.
- CTE: The CTE department has created a [Career Development Framework](#) and a [Career Development Continuum](#). CTE has also created a [CTE Month Activities](#) plan for February.
- Exceptional Children: [Headcount is complete!](#) We currently have 532 students qualifying for our services. That is approximately 13% of our district's student population.
- Technology: The Newline classroom display installation is not yet scheduled but coming in the new year. The total project for AHS/SILSA, Jones, Claxton, Herring, Montford, and Hall Fletcher is expected to take 6 weeks or less (1 week for most schools and 2 or more for AHS/SILSA).

## OPERATIONS

- The Reunification Exercise with Montford North Star Academy went well this week. We want to thank the staff, students, and families for participating.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

  
 Dr. James Causby, Interim Superintendent

  
 George Sieburg, Board Chair