



Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
June 12, 2024

Members Present: Mr. Brooks Taylor, Chair; Ms. Rebecca Roach, Vice Chair; Ms. Kelly Greer, Member; Ms. Cara Bickers, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk.

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Ms. Roach made a motion to move into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(1) and (A) (8) to discuss assignment, appointment, and performance of specific officers, appointees, or employees of the Board and legal matters. Ms. Bickers seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Roach made a motion to reconvene in open session in the County Meeting Room. Ms. Bickers seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Mr. Taylor stated: The Board will certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and identified in the motion to convene in the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered.

Ms. Greer – certified

Ms. Bickers – certified

Ms. Roach – certified

Mr. Taylor – certified

Mr. Taylor stated that Ms. Alberts will not be with us tonight.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms. Roach made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Taylor stated there were no closed meeting actions.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion for the consent agenda:

- 11-1612 May 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- 11-1613 May 3, 2024 Expenditures
- 11-1614 May 8, 2024 Expenditures
- 11-1615 May 16, 2024 Expenditures
- 11-1616 May 23, 2024 Expenditures
- 11-1617 May 29, 2024 Expenditures
- 11-1618 Monthly Finance Report
- 11-1619 Field Trip Requests
- 11-1620 Enrollment
- 11-1621 Staff to be Approved List
- 11-1622 Reappointment of Support Staff
- 11-1623 Superintendent Contract

Ms. Greer made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 11-1612 to 11-1623 as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for first public comment on matters not listed below on agenda. Mr. Taylor stated please state your name and limit your comments to 3 minutes. Your comments shall address the entire board, as opposed to any particular individuals. This is your opportunity to provide input to the board; it is not meant to be a dialogue with the board. If you have specific questions that you would like answered, please put them in writing, along with your name and phone number and submit them to the school board clerk. The appropriate person will follow up with you in a timely manner.

Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

Joanne Woods and Amanda Bagley shared information about summer space camp.

There were no public comments, so Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Dr. Payne presented action item #11-1624, Division Literacy Plan. Dr. Payne shared last month she presented the Division Literacy Plan and this month it is an action item. Her recommendation was to approve the Division Literacy Plan as presented at the May meeting.

Ms. Greer asked if there were changes in the plan. Dr. Payne responded no there were not.

Ms. Roach made a motion to approve the action item 11-1624, Division Literacy Plan as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded.

Ms. Bickers stated she appreciated all the work that went into the plan.

All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Payne presented information/action item #11-1625, Federal Applications I, II, III & IV. Dr. Payne provided an overview of Federal Applications I, II, III & IV. The overview included a review of Federal Programs purpose, results of Comprehensive Needs Assessment, programmatic considerations, and financial breakdown. Dr. Payne shared the majority of the funds are in Title I and she shared what the funds are used for at NGES & NGPS. Title II funds are used across all schools in the division and provides professional development. Title III funds are primarily used for the English Learner students. Dr. Payne shared examples for how funds are being used. Title IV funds are used for improving student outcomes. Dr. Payne shared the federal funds breakdown and anticipated 2024-2025 allocations.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information/action item #11-1625, Federal Applications I, II, III, & IV. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments, so Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Ms. Greer made a motion to approve 2024-2025 Federal Applications Title I, II, III, & IV as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented information/action item #11-1626, Superintendent Designee. Dr. Whitmarsh stated this is a proposal we do annually so someone can sign in my absence with anything in regards to the VDOE. Dr. Whitmarsh stated the proposal is to allow Dr. Kyle Pursel our Assistant Superintendent to serve as Superintendent Designee for the upcoming year.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information/action item #11-1626, Superintendent Designee. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments, so Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Ms. Greer made a motion to approve information/action item 11-1626 Superintendent Designee as presented to approve Dr. Kyle Pursel as the authorized designee to sign in the absence of the division superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented information/action item #11-1627, Authorization to Hire. Dr. Whitmarsh shared at this time we currently have about 20 positions that are unfilled within our school division and we are working hard to find and interview candidates. Things move very quickly during the summer and

in order to be efficient and in order to get work agreements and contracts to new hires I would like to request that I be given authorization to hire prior to September 6, 2024.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information/action item #11-1627, Authorization to Hire. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments, so Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Ms. Greer made a motion to approve the Authorization for Superintendent to Hire as presented to authorize division Superintendent's ability to hire through September 6, 2024. Ms. Roach seconded.

Mr. Taylor shared this is something we have done in the past.

All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Spencer presented information/action item #11-1628, Deferred Compensation Plan. Ms. Spencer shared this is an information/action item that would allow us to engage in a local agreement with TCG Advisors to provide another 457 Deferred Compensation Plan option for our employees. It is a voluntary benefit for retirement option savings. There is no cost to the school division and a local agreement has already been negotiated. The IRS requires a Plan Resolution to be passed by the school board in order for the school division employees to participate in the plan.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information/action item #11-1628, Deferred Compensation Plan. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments, so Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Ms. Bickers made a motion to adopt the resolution approving GCPS participation in the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan administered by TCG Advisors and allow division staff to execute the resolution.

Ms. Roach seconded.

Mr. Taylor asked if there was a match to it. Ms. Spencer responded no. Mr. Taylor stated it was so important to save.

All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Payne presented information item #11-1629, SOL Accountability Update. Dr. Payne shared how the state accreditation is determine currently and the information that we currently have on how it's changing. Dr. Payne shared school quality indicators, performance level descriptions, triennial accreditation, academic achievement, achievement gap, absenteeism, graduation & completion index, drop out rate, and college, career and civic readiness. Dr. Payne shared federal accountability indicators, preliminary results, and action steps for 2024-2025 school year.

Dr. Pursel presented information item #11-1630, Policy Updates. Dr. Pursel presented the May 2024 policy updates. Dr. Pursel shared the policies are in the packet along with a summary sheet of policies changes. Dr. Pursel highlighted some of the policy changes.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information items. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Taylor stated no one signed up and no one wanted to speak so he closed the floor for the second public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1631, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh shared we do finally have a state budget which removed the bonus and added funds for compensation and we also received additional at-risk funds and we are working through the requirements on all those monies. I will share more information as it is available.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared the great things happening in Greene on May 18th we celebrated class 2024 graduation. It was a great ceremony even though we had to relocate into the gym. School ended on May 24th and we had a retirement breakfast May 29th and Ms. Alberts came and welcomed everyone. We celebrated nine retirees with a total of nearly 300 years in education and 250 combined years of service to GCPS. Summer school is going on June 3 -28. We have 27 students working at the high school to recover more than 70 credits plus 7 students from the academy working on credit recovery and we have 31 in summer PE and 44 enrolled in economics & personal finance, we have 56 at the middle school, and we have an adaptive summer school going on with 19 student participants, we have new comer's academy at the middle school for English Language Learners, then we have our 142 elementary students. Our new alternative ed building is coming along nicely and we expect to be completed by the end of the summer. We are working through some items with the Tech Center project. We have lots and lots of summer maintenance projects happening. We have painting, ceiling tile replacement, roof repairs, technology upgrades as well as all the normal maintenance and repairs. We will have the School Board Retreat on July 10th and our next regular School Board Meeting on August 14th.

Mr. Taylor welcomed board member comments.

Ms. Greer thanked Dr. Payne for all the information she provided and all of her hard work. She stated it's great to hear about summer school and to hear how many kids are involved.

Ms. Bickers shared she enjoyed the beginning of the meeting with the summer school update. She stated she appreciated all the work and thought process that goes into the presentations. She stated there are some great plans in place and a lot work to be done.

Ms. Roach she thanked Ms. Woods for her presentation and the gift. It's great to see what's going on in our school buildings. She thanked Dr. Payne for her presentation and she appreciates the responses and the information that was provided. Ms. Roach stated she wants to make sure our teachers are supported. She encouraged them to reach out to the board. We can facilitate your questions and concerns to the right people. I wanted to let the community and teachers know we are here and if there is ever a concern or an issue we are here to help.

