

MINUTES
DAVIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, August 6, 2024

The Davie County Board of Education met at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 6, 2024, in the Boardroom at the DCS District Office Mebane Education Center, 1200 Salisbury Road, Mocksville, NC 27028.

Board Members Present:

W.G. "Dub" Potts, Chair

Marie Helms, Vice-Chair

Joe Caudle

Paul Drechsler

Wendy Horne (left at 6:15 p.m.)

Con Shelton

Staff Present:

Jeff Wallace, Superintendent

Jinda Haynes, Assistant Superintendent

Jennifer Lynde, Chief Academic Officer

Jill Wilson, Board Attorney

Clay Harris, Chief Operations Officer

Carol Stuart, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education

Absent:

Cammie Webb

Open Session

Chair Potts called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Paul Drechsler made the motion to adopt the agenda for Tuesday, August 6, 2024. Joe Caudle seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Chair Potts offered the invocation. Joe Caudle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wendy Horne made the motion, seconded by Con Shelton, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, July 2, 2024, regular Board of Education meeting, as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

Board Report

Chair Potts mentioned that the Davie County Early College High School started classes that day, August 6, 2024. He informed the group that Beginning Teachers (BT) will report on August 14, 2024, for training. On August 23, 2024, the district convocation will be held at 8:15 at the Davie

County High School. August 28, 2024, is the first day students return to school. Finally, on September 3, 2024, the Board of Education will meet at the normal 6:00 p.m. time.

Vice chair Marie Helms spoke about the legislation committee that she is a part of. There are 20 BOE members who are nominated to serve, and they meet three or four times a year. She encouraged the board members to complete the survey to gather ideas on which topics are most important to be addressed. Some of the topics that she, along with other districts, are concerned about are as follows: the school calendar, teacher pay, recruitment and retention, funding for EC and AIG, school capital, safety, and technology, the model used to grade schools, and psychological and behavioral support. Larger districts have different views, so she is glad she is a part of this committee representing a smaller district. Many policies have changed because of this group meeting, so being a part of this committee is worth it and makes an impact. At the next meeting, they will determine the topics.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wallace welcomed everyone and thanked Mrs. Helms for sharing the information. He mentioned that many NC school leadership associations have similar interests: salary, calendar, and funding. It is important to speak as one, especially from a rural, smaller perspective.

Early College had its first day of school; he confirmed it was a good day. A spirit rock was donated and placed on their grounds, and their open house was last night. Superintendent Wallace explained why we start school on a Wednesday: The calendar committee asked for a shorter week for the beginning because it is beneficial, especially for younger students, and more successful.

Enrollment is not static. When DCS had a demographer conduct a study, it was projected that enrollment would be approximately 6,074 students; we have 6024 students enrolled. This will change in the first twenty days of school. As a district, this is our third consecutive year with an increase.

A great admin retreat took place last week. The focus was on being intentional with our time, working with each other and with students, and holding each other accountable. Professional learning teams will monitor real-time data. We need parents to help and partner with us. He expects every child to feel comfortable going to some adult within the school and be able to share issues.

A new GPS tracking system on 63 buses meets both DMV and DOT guidelines. The parent app, "Where's the Bus," will be available in the near future. DCS and the YMCA will extend another three-year 21st Century Grant. It provides over half a million dollars for after-school tutoring and care to students who attend WRD, CZE, and CES. In 2020, we rolled out 1-to-1 technology. Each rising 6th and 9th graders are issued a Chromebook. After three and four years,

respectively, the devices are collected and issued to elementary schools for students to use at school. Grades 2–12 are 1-to-1. Summer is a time to refresh, but it is also a busy time. Our goal is to continue improving. Superintendent Wallace is excited to have kids and teachers back.

Chair Potts encouraged everyone to immediately use the Where's the Bus app, which is so helpful.

Mrs. Helms commented that, while in Raleigh, one in every four students is going to private schools, Davie County has increased from 6,000 to 6024 students. We are doing a good job.

Superintendent Wallace noted that there had been a slight modification to Policy 4270 since it was published on Friday, August 2, 2024. In section D, Removal from and Return to Play, the first sentence is repeated twice. The 2nd change is in items F and H, where it was designed for middle and high school; the statements now reflect this clarification. Mr. Wallace verified that the policy now reflects these changes in the digital agenda and is in accordance with the law. Mr. Wallace mentioned that there is an injunction around Title IX. The NC School Board Association advised districts to talk to their school attorney for guidance on the next steps.

Recognitions

None

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Haynes added an addendum to the agenda. Joe Caudle made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Con Shelton seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. Jinda introduced Megan Gorski as the new assistant principal at Mocksville Elementary School. She has thirteen years of experience. She is from Statesville but comes to us from Wilkes County Schools. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Education from Appalachian State University. Started as a teacher's assistant. She then taught for nine years, including 1st, 3rd, and 5th grade. She served two years as an instructional specialist and stepped into many administrative roles to help. She went back to Appalachian State University to earn her Master's Degree in Administration and completed her internship. She has a great passion for education.

Business Items

Marie Helms made the motion to adopt the Spring 2024 Policy Updates. Wendy Horne seconded the motion. Paul Drechsler explained that normally policies are usually a state-wide issue that requires updates occasionally. Superintendent Wallace reminded the Board that most spring policies were provided at the last board meeting. It is his recommendation to approve these updates. The motion carried 6-0.

Public Address to the Board

Jill Wilson informed the Board that no one signed up for public comment.

Closed Session

Chair Potts called for a motion to go into closed session at 4:34 p.m. to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to the North Carolina General Statutes listed on the agenda, to review personnel and property matters protected by State Law, and to discuss student concerns made confidential by General Statutes, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Wendy Horne made the motion, seconded by Paul Drechsler. The motion carried 6-0. The Board went into closed session at 4:34 p.m.

Wendy Horne left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made to increase Superintendent Wallace's contract. The addendum states:

Section 2. is amended as follows: The Superintendent's term of employment is extended through June 30, 2028.

Section 3.(a) is amended as follows: The Superintendent's salary shall be increased by 5% from the 23-24 salary for fiscal year 24-25. All other terms and conditions regarding compensation remain in place.

Section 3.(f) is amended as follows: For the 2024-25 year only, the Board agrees to pay the sum of \$6,000 in addition to any sums already provided for in the Superintendent's employment contract to be paid to a qualified retirement plan as described more thoroughly in this Section. This amendment will have no effect on future years of the Superintendent's employment with DCS.

All other items and conditions contained in the Contract remain in full force and effect throughout the term.

Section .4 is amended as follows: The Superintendent's in-county travel allowance is increased to \$600.00 per month. All other terms and conditions in this provision remain in place.

The motion was made by Marie Helms and seconded by Paul Drechsler. The motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Joe Caudle made the motion to adjourn, with a second from Con Shelton. The motion was approved with a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



W. G. Potts, Chair



Jeff Wallace, Secretary

WGP:JW:cs Approved: