



Cherokee County School District
School Council
Meeting Minutes Notes

Ball Ground STEM Academy
School Council
2/6/2025

MEETING CALLED BY	Melinda Roulier
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Meeting
PRINCIPAL	Melinda Roulier
NOTE TAKER	Hollee Pope
MEMBERS PRESENT	Melinda Roulier, Jennifer Goodwin, Amanda Etris, Austin Herrin, Hollee Pope, William Walker
GUESTS PRESENT	Annette Homiller, Tribal Council Student Representatives

Agenda Items

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	• 2:50 • Pledge of Allegiance led by Tribal Council Student Representatives
Report of the Principal	• Winter Benchmark Data Review – Students completed Winter Benchmarks in December. Teachers, support staff, and admin have been reviewing results to identify areas of successful growth and areas that need further attention to address lower growth. Admin will be facilitating a data dig during PLCs with each grade level to ensure every student has the support necessary to achieve their potential. • Ball Ground Core Beliefs – Final Core Beliefs statements were shared. These statements will be added to our school website and will serve to be the foundation for all decision-making in the future. ◦ We believe every student has the potential to learn, grow, and succeed when supported in a nurturing environment that values their unique interests, strengths, and diverse academic needs. ◦ We believe our passionate and dedicated staff work collaboratively to create a safe, inclusive, and rigorous learning environment that fosters both academic excellence and personal growth for every student. ◦ We believe effective instruction is intentionally designed to provide all students with appropriately challenging, relevant, and STEM-integrated learning opportunities aligned to state standards. ◦ We believe Ball Ground STEM Academy is the heart of our community, where we nurture character, foster global citizenship, and collaborate with families and stakeholders to empower students for lifelong success. • HB 581/CCSD Budget Information – Reviewed details regarding HB581-Floating Homestead Exemption including the Opt-Out Provision and the financial impact on the district. Quick summary ◦ Senior Tax Exemption passed and is a done deal (Roughly \$14million cut to budget) ◦ HB581 Result of 22% boom in property taxes in 22 & 23 that is very atypical. Typical growth is only 5-7%. ◦ Opt-out provision was part of the bill when people voted yes or no ◦ Financial impact to individual households if CCSD opts-out: For average home valued at \$463, 000, savings of \$171/yr or \$14.50/mo ◦ One shot to opt-out...3-year shortfall will be \$58 million if we don't opt-out ◦ School board will have to consider increasing millage rate which would impact individual households about the same, but makes it worse for industry growth ◦ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54zuGBWz86Y&feature=youtu.be



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	▪ Watch from 10:34-14:16 for brief on budget ○ https://www.cherokeek12.net/board-of-education/budget-development ▪ Review for more in depth information ○ https://mediacast.cherokee.k12.ga.us/externalURL/checkout_clean.cfm?ContentID=205812&TransactionID=3847663&Checksum=%20%20404243&RepServerID=&JumpSeconds=0 ▪ 33 minute mark includes budget discussion
Additional Topics of Discussion	• Mrs. Pope shared updates from the Media Center (Media Advisory Committee) ○ Summary of role of the Media Specialist ○ Books – collection analysis (12,116 total titles-21:1 book to student ratio), criterion for selecting books ○ Media Center funding (2 sources-State QBE & Local from Book Fair Fundraisers) ○ Media Center Goals – Author visits, Fall and Spring Book Fairs, purchase new award winning/nominated author books, promote digital citizenship week, promote hour of code, and purchase new poster printer ○ Looking Ahead – CCSD March Reading Initiative, Summer Reading Program, Author Visits
Upcoming Dates	• 2/7 – School-wide STEM Open House (more info below) • 2/7 – Father/Daughter Dance (see flyer) • 2/10-2/14 – Kids Heart Challenge during PE • 2/14 – Valentine's Day & Candy Gram Delivery (see info below) • 2/17-2/21 – February Break-No School • 2/25-27 – Talent Show Auditions • 2/28 – Smencils • 3/3-3/7 – Read Across America Week • 3/10 – STEM Expo, 6-8PM • 3/14 – End of 3rd Quarter • 3/14 – STEM Career Day • 3/15 – Science Olympiad Competition • 3/18 – Donuts with Grownups, PK, KK, 2, 4, 8-9AM • 3/19-3/27 – Spring Book Fair • 3/20 – Donuts with Grownups, 1, 3, 5, 8-9AM • 3/21 – Q3 Report Cards, TRIBE Assembly, World Down Syndrome Day • 3/27 – Buffalo's Spirit Night for PTA • 3/28 – Smencils • 3/31-4/4 – Spring Break • 4/8 – Talent Show Dress Rehearsal • 4/11-4/13 – CCSD Art Festival in Downtown Woodstock • 4/11 – Talent Show, 6-8PM

Closing Items

MEETING ADJOURNED	• 3:53 PM
NEXT MEETING DATE	• 4/10/2025