Cherokee County School District

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Minutes of Work Session Board Meeting | 02/13/2025 – 5:15 PM

Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility | 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114

The Cherokee County Board of Education called the board meeting work session to order at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2025. The meeting was conducted in person and available to the public via live Internet streaming. Present were School Board Vice-Chair Patsy Jordan; Members Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Kelly Poole, Erin Ragsdale and Robert Rechsteiner. Superintendent Dr. Mary Elizabeth Davis; and Attorney Abby Roach.

Call to Order

Patsy Jordan called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. followed by Superintendent Davis welcoming everyone.

Superintendent Reports

Academics and Accountability:
Dr. Josh Heath, Chief Academics and Accountability Officer
Presented Policy (BAB) Cohesive System of Teaching and Learning

Finance: Monthly Finance Report
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer
Provided the Monthly Financial Report, as information

Finance: FY26 Budget Development
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer
Presented the Funding Outlook and Budget Development

Capital Outlay: Monthly Capital Outlay Report
Trey Moores, Chief Support Services Officer
Provided the Monthly Capital Outlay report, as information

Agenda Action Items

Discussion Only: Consent agenda items for action at the 7:00 PM business meeting will be determined during work session and noted below:

1. **Intent to Opt Out of Homestead Exemption Resolution:**
   Ken Owen presented a resolution to opt out of the statewide floating homestead exemption. The Board will act on this item individually during tonight's Business Session.

2. **Instructional Materials Policy (IFAA) on Final Reading:**
   Dr. Josh Heath presented the new Instructional Materials Policy (IFAA) on final reading. The Board moved this item to the consent agenda for the Business Session.
3. **Bond Resolution:**
   Ken Owen presented a resolution to issue 2025 General Obligation Bonds for the purpose of refunding the Series 2015 General Obligation Bonds. The Board moved this item to the consent agenda for the Business Session.
4. **Resolution Recognizing PTA Day in the Cherokee County School District:**
   Barbara Jacoby presented a resolution to recognize the Cherokee County PTA in conjunction with National PTA founders' day. The Board moved this item to the consent agenda for the Business Session.
5. **District 3 School Board Member Appointment:**
   School Board Attorney, Abby Roach provided a briefing to the school board regarding the appointment of the vacant District 3 School Board seat. The Board will act on this item individually during tonight's Business Session.
6. **Human Resources Employment Recommendations:**
   Dr. Davis provided employment recommendations. The Board moved this item to the consent agenda for the Business Session.

Executive Session

On a motion by, Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison seconded by Erin Ragsdale and carried, the board moved to go into Executive Session at 5:56 p.m. to address a student discipline matters (O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-757). *Consent 5- 0 Vote*

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison and carried to return to Open Session at 6:04 p.m. *Consent 5-0 Vote*

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried to uphold the findings and disposition of the Cherokee County School District Tribunal panel hearing for appeal case #24-221878. Consent 5-0 Vote

Adjournment

The School Board adjourned the Work Session at 6:05 p.m.

School Board Chair

Secretary

Cherokee County School District

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Minutes of Business Board Meeting | 02/13/2025 – 7:00 PM

Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility | 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114

The Cherokee County Board of Education called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2025. The meeting was in-person and available to the public via live Internet streaming. Present were School Board Chair Janet Read Welch; Vice-Chair Patsy Jordan; Members Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Kelly Poole, Erin Ragsdale and Robert Rechsteiner. Superintendent Dr. Mary Elizabeth Davis and Attorney Abby Roach.

Call to Order

Janet Read Welch called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Adoption of Agenda

On a motion by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried, the Board approved the Superintendent's agenda for the February 13, 2025, School Board Meeting. *Consent 6-0 Vote*

School Board Remarks

No school board members offered comments during this time.

Recognitions

The Cherokee County School Board Recognized the following:

1. Cherokee County Council PTA Appreciation
2. Cherokee County School Police Department Appreciation

Public Participation

One member of the public signed up to address the School Board.

Minutes for Approval

On a motion by Kelly Poole, seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, and carried. The Board approved the minutes from the January 16, 2025, Work and Business School Board Meetings, as well as the February 5, 2025, Exemption Hearing. *Consent 6-0 Vote*

Consent Agenda

On motion by Erin Ragsdale, seconded by Patsy Jordan, and carried, to approve items A2-A4 and A6 as presented in Work Session and determined as consent items. *Consent 6-0 Vote*

Agenda Action Items

1. **Intent to Opt Out of Homestead Exemption Resolution**
   As an individual item, Chair Janet Read Welch asked for a motion for A1 Intent to Opt Out of Homestead Exemption Resolution, as presented in the Work Session. Kelly Poole made a motion for Cherokee County School District to Opt Out of Floating Homestead Exemption, which was seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried. Consent 6-0 Vote
2. **Instructional Material Policy (IFFA) on Final Reading** *Consent 6-0 Vote*
3. **Bond Resolution** *Consent 6-0 Vote*
4. **Resolution Recognizing PTA Day in Cherokee** *Consent 6-0 Vote*
5. **District 3 School Board Member Appointment**
   As an individual item, Chair Janet Read Welch asked for a motion for the selection of the District 3 School Board Member appointment to serve through December 2026. Robert Rechsteiner made a motion to move to a paper ballot vote, seconded by Patsy Jordan.

   Under the direction of the school district attorney, ballots were cast by each member of the school board and Chance Beam was appointed as the District 3 School Board Member to serve through December 2026.
6. **Human Resources Employment Recommendations** *Consent 6-0 Vote*

ADJOURNMENT

The School Board adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

_____ _____

School Board Chair Secretary