Cherokee County Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting - Work Session
03/20/2025 05:15 PM
1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees - Voting Members

Janet Read Welch, Board Chair
Patsy Jordan, Vice-Chair
Kelly Poole, Board Member
Chance Beam, Board Member
Robert Rechsteiner, Board Member
Erin Ragsdale, Board Member
Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Board Member

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair, Janet Read Welch called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

II. SUPERINTENDENT WELCOME
Dr. Davis welcomed everyone in attendance and recognized the hard work of the school board during their appreciation month. The Superintendent then proceeded to share the Key Priorities Quarterly Report

III. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

1. **Academics and Accountability:**
   a. **Dr. Debra Murdock, Chief Leadership and Operations Officer**
   Presented 2025-2026 School Year Outlook
   b. **Dr. Josh Heath, Chief Academics and Accountability Officer**
   Presented Policy BAB Cohesive System of Teaching and Learning Accountability Report
2. **Finance:**
   a. **Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer**
   Presented the FY26 Funding Outlook and Budget Recommendation
   b. **Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer**
   Provided the monthly finance report, as information
3. **Capital Outlay:**
   a. **Trey Moores, Chief Support Services Officer**
   Provided the monthly Capital Outlay report, as information
4. **Legislative Report:**
   a. **Mike McGowan, Chief of Staff**
   Provided Legislative update for 2025

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:31 p.m., a motion was made by Kelly Poole and seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison and carried to enter Executive Session for the following purposes: The Board approved with a 7/0 vote.

- *Personnel [O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)]*
- *Legal [O.C.G.A. 50-14-2]*
- *Real Estate [O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4)]*

Kelly Poole made a motion at 7:04 p.m., which was seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, to suspend the executive session that was entered during the work session. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote.

Kelly Poole made a motion to return to the work session and resume the executive session at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

V. ADJOURNMENT

Kelly Poole made a motion to adjourn the work session at 8:38 p.m., seconded by Patsy Jordan. The Board approved with a 6/0 vote (Robert Rechsteiner was not present)

X

Janet Read Welch
School Board Chair

X

Mary Elizabeth Davis
Superintendent

Cherokee County School District

Cherokee County Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting - Business Session
03/20/2025 07:00 PM
1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees - Voting Members

Janet Read Welch, Board Chair
Patsy Jordan, Vice-Chair
Kelly Poole, Board Member
Chance Beam, Board Member
Robert Rechsteiner, Board Member
Erin Ragsdale, Board Member
Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Board Member

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair, Janet Read Welch called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
Chance Beam made a motion to amend the superintendent's recommended agenda, and Robert Rechsteiner seconded the motion. The motion carried to include Action Item 10: Obtain an External Agency to Perform a Forensic Audit of the District's Financial Records. The School Board then adopted the amended agenda for the March 25, 2025, meeting, with a 6/1 vote (Kelly Poole opposed).

IV. SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS/REMARKS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. RECOGNITIONS

1. **Special Olympics State Winter Games Gold Medalists**
2. **U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Candidates**
3. **CCSD Media Specialist of the Year**
4. **All-State Art Symposium Honoree**
5. **Regional First Lego League Robotics Competition Winners**
6. **STAR Students and Teachers**
7. **Spelling Bee Winners**
8. **Middle School Academic Bowl Team Champions**
9. **Elementary School and Middle School Reading Bowl Champions**
10. **Georgia High School Association State and Regional Champions**
11. **School Board Appreciation Week**

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one addressed the Board during Public Participation.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Patsy Jordan and seconded by Erin Ragsdale and carried the Board approved the minutes of the Work Session and Business Board Meeting held on February 13, 2025. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

On a motion by Kelly Poole and seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison and carried the Board approved the minutes of the Public Hearings held on February 13, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

VIII. ACTIONS

1. **Table Superintendent's Recommended Tentative FY26 Budget and Millage Rate**
   Patsy Jordan made a motion to table the superintendent's recommended tentative FY26 Budget and Millage Rate, seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

2. **Instructional Resources Material Adoption English Language Arts (K-12) and Mathematics (K-12)**
   Patsy Jordan made a motion to adopt and award:
   Savvas-all English language arts course instructional materials
   Savvas all Kindergarten through 8th grade mathematics instructional materials
   Cengage Learning high school mathematics instructional materials
   The motion was seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

3. **School Board Literacy Policy IFAD on First Reading**
   Kelly Poole made a motion to approve School Board Literacy Policy IFAD on first reading, seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

4. **Intergovernmental Agreement for Tax Assessment Consulting Services**
   Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison made a motion to approve Intergovernmental Agreement for Tax Assessment Consulting Services, seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 6/0 vote (Kelly Poole Abstained)

5. **Facility Improvement Recommendation Teasley Middle School Drive**
   Patsy Jordan made a motion to award Summit Construction and Development for the facility improvements at Teasley Middle School drive*, seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote*

6. **Georgia Department of Education Resolution Five-Year Facility Plan**
   Kelly Poole made a motion to approve Georgia Department of Education Resolution Five-year Facility Plan, seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

7. **Partnership Agreement Renewal – Winship**
   Janet Read Welch made a motion to approve partnership agreement renewal with Winship, seconded by Patsy Jordan or Kelly Poole. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

8. **GSBA School Board Delegate and Alternate**
   Patsy Jordan nominated Kelly Poole to serve as the 2025 GSBA Delegate, seconded by Janet Read Welch. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

   Kelly Poole nominated Erin Ragsdale to serve as the 2025 GSBA Alternate, seconded by Patsy Jordan. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

9. Human Resources Employment Recommendations and Reappointments

Kelly Poole made a motion to approve human resources employment recommendations and reappointments, seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 5/1/1 vote (Patsy Jordan Abstained and Robert Rechsteiner Opposed)

10. Obtain an External Agency to Perform a Forensic Audit of the District's Financial Records.

Chance Beam made a motion to approve an external agency performing a forensic audit of the district's finances, seconded by Robert Rechsteiner. The Board approved with a 5/2 vote (Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison and Kelly Poole Opposed)

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION (as needed)

X. ADJOURNMENT

Kelly Poole made a motion to adjourn the Business Board Meeting at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Janet Read Welch. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote.

Kelly Poole made a motion to return to the work session and resume the executive session at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Erin Ragsdale. The Board approved with a 7/0 vote

X

Janet Read Welch
School Board Chair

X

Mary Elizabeth Davis
Superintendent