Draft Retreat Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
Lydia Mountain
June 18, 2025

Members Present: Mr. Brooks Taylor, Chair; Ms. Rebecca Roach, Vice Chair; Ms. Kelly Greer, Member; Ms. Cara Bickers, Member; Ms. Cherish Alberts, Member; and Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Lydia Mountain Lodge.

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. Herring presented Cybersecurity Strategies in GCPS. His presentation included why cybersecurity matters in K-12, key threats to schools, real world statistics, how to protect our schools, preventive measures, investment and support needs, known attacks, and work to be done.

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

Ms. Roach made a motion to reconvene in open session. Ms. Alberts seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

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. Alberts – certified
Ms. Roach – certified
Mr. Taylor – certified

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for closed meeting actions.

Ms. Greer made a motion to approve personnel action item 25-01. Ms. Bickers seconded.

Mr. Taylor stated this would be a roll call vote.

Ms. Greer – Aye
Ms. Bickers - Aye
Ms. Alberts – Aye
Ms. Roach – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye

Dr. Payne presented Culture of Excellence: State Assessments and Accountability. The presentation included indicators within each component, mastery component, performance categories, over school performances, changes for 2025-2026, individual groups for accountability purposes, and comparison of risk bands for K-2 VALLSS.

Ms. Brunelle presented Athletic Facilities Community Partnerships. The presentation included WMHS & WMMS Athletics, facility use athletic venues, gymnasiums, maintaining our athletic facilities, introduction of artificial turf, and community partnership.

Ms. Gillette presented Safe, Supportive and Caring Schools: Addressing bullying threats, and aggression. The presentation included compliance, prevention, collaboration, defining the terms, current practices and data – threats, case studies, strengths and challenges and looking ahead to 2025-2026.

Dr. Pursel presented Balanced Calendar. The presentation included impact of balanced calendar, understanding the balanced calendar, what are intersessions, intersession choice, types of intersession, culture of excellence and learning impact, safe, supportive and caring environment, resource stewardship, community connections and partnerships, supporting our exceptional workforce, athletics and extracurricular activities, reasons comparison, implementation phase, lessons learned from Hopewell, and possible next steps to explore.

The board discussed the 2025-2026 School Board Priorities.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Roach made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Meeting ended at 4:02 pm.

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Chair Clerk