Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
December 10, 2025

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

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Ms. Roach stated I move the board go into closed session pursuant to 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. Bickers seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Roach made a motion to reconvene in open session in the County Meeting Room. Ms. Bickers seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

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 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. Taylor stated there are no closed meeting actions.

Mr. Taylor requested a motion for the consent agenda:

11-1912 November 12, 2025 Meeting Minutes
11-1913 November 3, 2025 Expenditures
11-1914 November 6, 2025 Expenditures
11-1915 November 13, 2025 Expenditures
11-1916 November 19, 2025 Expenditures
11-1917 November 25, 2025 Expenditures
11-1918 Monthly Finance Report
11-1919 Field Trip Requests
11-1920 Enrollment
11-1921 Staff to be Approved List

Ms. Bickers made a motion that we vote to affirm the Supervisors' recommendation for the consent agenda items 11-1912 through 11-1921 as presented. Ms. Greer seconded. No discussion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for Recognitions.

Mr. Wimmer, Mr. Taylor and Dr. Whitmarsh recognized Sarah Perry. Mr. Wimmer shared Sarah Perry has been selected as the QuestBridge Match Scholarship recipient to the University of Virginia. QuestBridge is a program that connects high achieving high school seniors with full four-year scholarships to some of the nation's top colleges and universities. This year only 2,550 students in the United States were able to earn this scholarship and Sarah is one of them. The scholarship covers the full cost of attendance, including tuition, housing and food, books and supplies, and travel expenses.

Dr. Whitmarsh recognized Brooks Taylor. Dr. Whitmarsh shared tonight we would like to honor Mr. Brooks Taylor for his dedicated service to the Midway District and to the Greene County Public Schools as a School Board Member. He joined the board in 2022 stepping into leadership during one of the most challenging times in education. The height of the pandemic. He brought a steady thoughtful presence, a strong voice for families and managed keeping students at the center of every decision. As a parent of four of Greene County Public School students and a proud graduate of William Monroe High School he always invested his time and leadership in the success of our students and community. He helped guide the division through current core initiatives including the construction of the academy Alternative Education building and the ongoing expansion of the addition at the Tech Center. Major projects that will benefit our students for decades. Throughout his tenure school safety has always remained his top priority. He has continually asked how we can enhance our schools to ensure a secure learning environment and strengthen the opportunities for all our students. We are deeply grateful for your

calm student-centered leadership and your trust in the work of our school division. We wanted to thank you for your outstanding service and dedication. We wish the best for you.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for first public comment on matters not listed below on agenda. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments. Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for the Public Hearing on FY2027 Budget Priorities. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no comments. Mr. Taylor closed the Public Hearing on FY2027 Budget Priorities.

Ms. Peregoy presented action item #11-1922, GCPS Technology Update & Policy IIBEA/GAB. Ms. Peregoy shared there were no changes from the presentation that was heard last month and she asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Greer asked if she was any further along in deciding on School AI or Magic School AI.

Ms. Peregoy stated they have compiled survey data from staff and the next step would be to review the data and make the next decision.

Ms. Alberts made a motion to approve the amendments to Policy IIBEA/GAB as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Brunelle presented information item #11-1923, Inclement Weather Decisions. Ms. Brunelle shared how decisions are made during inclement weather. She shared the team make-up and factors to consider. She also shared challenges of inclement weather on our divisions, she shared some scenarios, the daily routine when inclement weather is expected prior to the start of the school day and the county section by section. She also shared the process once a no school decision has been made, now what.

Dr. Pursel, Dr. Payne, Ms. Dojack and Ms. Peregoy presented information item #11-1924, Core Value Spotlight – Culture of Excellence. Dr. Pursel shared we are going to highlight the progress that we are continuing to make within the Culture of Excellence Core Value. Dr. Payne shared details on the Instructional Alignment & Rigor and High-Quality Instructional Materials and High-Leverage Strategies. She then spoke on the picture examples in the packet. Ms. Dojack spoke on Expanding Access to Academic Programs and shared picture examples. Ms. Peregoy spoke on Innovation in the Classroom and shared picture examples and a video. Dr. Payne shared our accountability results were made public yesterday. They came out as we predicted she stated. So, we are excited about how we can take everything we talked about today and continue that improvement. All our accountability results are on DOE website. Dr. Pursel shared our work is never done and the group behind me as well as everyone in the division is working tirelessly to make it a Culture of Excellence for us and follow that Core Value. WE want to make sure we continue to go down the proper pathway with our Culture of Excellence. Together we are building a true Culture of Excellence and one that prepares every student for success and reflects the very best of Greene County Public Schools.

Mr. Taylor stated it was time for public comment on information items. Mr. Taylor opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments. Mr. Taylor closed public comment.

Mr. Taylor welcomed Mukund Marri to share Student Board Member Comments. Mukund shared this month we worked with Mr. Wimmer to finalize the student budget and feedback survey that we plan to send out to the student body tomorrow. Our goal with this survey is to gather student responses and their perspective on course offerings, resources and supplies that may be lacking and staffing needs and what students believe should be the top priorities for next years budget planning. Once the survey is released and responses begin coming in we plan to have a clearer picture of what students feel that is working and what still needs attention. We should be able to share this data with you at the next meeting or the one following that. We are also interested in comparing the student's perspectives with the staff survey to see what aligns and to see what the base priorities should be. Mukund stated before he closed he wanted to acknowledge something that has had a significant impact on our school. We lost a classmate and teammate to many of us, Frankie Gault. Frankie was one on the most positive people you could ever want to meet. Known across our school for his smile and the energy he brought into every room. His passing has been incredibility difficult for a lot of students. I thought it was important to recognize him tonight and at the school board meeting. Also wanted to note how quickly the school, community, parents and everyone was able to come together and organize a memorial in less than 24 hours. Mukund thanked everyone for having him again.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1926, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh thanked Mukund for acknowledging the loss. We actually have had two student losses from our community. I appreciate you brining that forward. Dr. Whitmarsh shared we did have a very productive joint meeting with the board of supervisors last night to talk about facilities and field space and future steps we can take together to provide recreational athletic spaces for our citizens to enjoy. We will be moving forward to develop a plan regarding that. We have had a lot of great things going on and some were acknowledged through the presentation. Congratulations to Nathanael Green Dragoneers Robotics Team for finishing first place all around in their division and earning the Champions Award at the Charlottesville Robotics Qualifying Tournament this past Saturday. It earned them a spot in the state competition in January at JMU coached by Jen Rose and Erin Cummings. The Ruckersville Robotics Team won first place in robot decision and second robot mission at their competition this past week. This team is coached by Brantley Ussery and Katrin Glenn. The high school debate Mukund Marri and Kingston Roach placed second in their first competition at Broadway High School. The high school cheer team place first in their regional competition. High School Senior Gloria Danga was elected as the Jobs for America Graduates Virginia State President. She traveled to Washington to meet with the Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates and other government officials as part of the JGV Winner Conference. Our sponsor is Ms. Tynes. A Greene County Public Schools grant proposal submitted in partnership with Albemarle County Public Schools, Charlottesville City Schools for the Go Tech Program was officially approved at the state level by Go Virginia this week. Go Tech provides middle school students with dynamic hands on learning experiences in welding, robotics, engineering, bioscience and

health care. This grant will bring nearly $150,000 in state-of-the-art equipment, curriculum and professional training to support the launch of the Go Tech Program for the 2026-2027 school year. Great award and thanks Ms. Peregoy for leading that charge. Winter band and chorus concert has arrived, middle and high school concert is tomorrow night at 5:30. Nathanael Greene is also tomorrow night at 6:00. Ruckersville will host their chorus concert on December 12th at 5:30 and the middle school/high school band concert will be December 18th at 6:00 in the PAC. The Teen maker market is this Saturday at the high school beginning and 10:00. Thursday, December 18th Ruckersville will be hosting a student/teacher talent show from 5:00 to 7:00. UVA Health Mobile Care will be at JABA's Greene County Community Senior Center every third Tuesday from 2:00-6:00 and it's open to members of the community of all ages. Winter break begins December 22. January 5th will be professional day for staff and students will return January 6. Central Office will be open December 29, 30, and January 2nd. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. Our next regular school board meeting is January 14th and it's our organizational meeting. I also would like to propose we start our school board meetings early beginning at 6:00.

Mr. Taylor welcomed board member comments.

Ms. Roach thanked everyone for the goodies. She congratulated Sarah for winning the scholarship. She stated she appreciate the presentations. She seconded that alerts are coming out earlier giving times for families to prepare. The Core Value Spotlight was good. She appreciates just showing what hard work everyone has done. Seems like our county is doing very well in robotics and everything it's great. I would also like to take a moment to recognize Frankie as well. I know that took a big blow to our community and I feel like we all came together. Prayers as well for his family. Lastly Brooks we are definitely going to miss you. We appreciate your leadership and we will continue to push forward but we will miss you.

Ms. Alberts shared it was truly an honor to serve with Brooks. She shared she had learned so much from him in so many different ways. I was sad not be at the last meeting but I'm glad to be back now and be able to see you and hopefully you will keep in touch. She welcomed Coach Dave and look forward to serving with him. She thanked the student board members. She stated they are doing so much work. She thanked Mr. Wimmer for supporting them and accomplishing. She spoke about Frankie's passing. She wishes everyone an amazing holiday.

Ms. Bicker's spoke about the loss Frankie. She was incredibly impressed how our schools rally around to support students and staff. The holidays are wonderful but they also can be tough to reach out to other around you. She extended appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for meeting with us yesterday. I thought it was an excellent meeting. We could definitely tell we have some of the same desires for our community. It's exciting to see that we will be able to collaborate with them on that. She thanked Brooks and said it's been exciting to sit beside you and work through these things and you will be missed. She congratulated Sarah again and said it was a huge accomplishment. She had to work extremely hard to receive that accomplishment. It's great to see all the things that our students are

doing and learning, animation and rigor. It's great seeing it come together. She thanked everyone for the goodies. Happy Holidays to everyone.
Ms. Greer shared it's truly been an honor to serve with Brooks and she shared she respects him and how he can always find a common ground. You are always level headed and respectful even when there are differences and I just feel like I can talk with you easily about anything. It's been an honor to serve with him. Ms. Greer said she wanted to second how hard it's been with the losses in our community. The memorial on the field was heartbreaking but it was important for the healing to begin. That's what makes Greene so great. She thanked everyone for the Culture of Excellence presentation. She really appreciates the efforts that the school makes with the weather events and just how tricky it is. Kudos to all the students who have had recognitions and achievements along the way. I know the robotics team has a competition this Sunday. Good luck to them. Ms. Greer attend the BRVGS meeting today and I don't have a ton of updates. The allocation for Greene I think was 36. The next step will be in January for students.

Mr. Taylor started with the loss of our students in November was tragic. It effected our whole community and our community as great as it is came together and I would ask that everyone continue to keep those families in their prayers. That's what makes Greene so special. Mr. Taylor spoke about how he was approached four years ago about becoming a School Board Member. Mr. Taylor said it was the furthest thing from his mind but he took it home prayed about it and talked with his wife. So, then he gave it a shot and he was elected and there were conversations and difficult decisions that had to be made. He shared he got to learn so much being a board member. He shared there were so many things that he was naive about. He spoke about the spotlight and he thinks we do a good job with that. Mr. Taylor shared it was a difficult decision not to run for reelection. He shared he will continue to serve in this community. It's a community that he loves, he went to school here, he's a resident here, his family is here. He has been serving the community for 30 years and I will continue that. This has been an absolute honor. He has met a lot of great people. He thanked Dr. Whitmarsh for her leadership and Ms. Houchens, thanked her. She makes the job so easy. He thanked Katie and shared he speaks with her a lot. You always answer the phone. He thanked his colleagues. He shared we can have disagreements but we can sit down and talk it out and form a common ground. Students are first. He wished everyone the best. He said he was raised to leave things better that he found it. He welcomed Mr. Mastervich. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, take time to be with your family and tell them that you love them. He thanked everyone and stated it had been an honor.

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 8:07 pm.

Kelly Greer

Chair

Rhonda Houchens

Clerk