Minutes
School Board Meeting/FY2027 Budget Proposal Adoption
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
February 25, 2026

Members Present: Ms. Kelly Greer, Chair; Ms. Cara Bickers, Vice-Chair (attended virtually); Ms. Cherish Alberts, Member; Ms. Rebecca Roach, Member; Mukund Marri, Student Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk.

Ms. Greer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Ms. Greer asked if there was a motion to allow Ms. Bickers to participate electronically in this evenings meeting. Ms. Alberts moved to approve Ms. Bickers' request to participate electronically in accordance with Greene County Public Schools' Policy BDD. Ms. Roach seconded. All Ayes, motion

Ms. Bickers' stated she was missing the meeting due to personal reasons.

Ms. Greer requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms. Roach make a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Alberts seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Greer invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared that February is School Board Appreciation month. In honor of our wonderful School Board our Family and Consumer Sciences Classes created nice treats for you to take home with you and the Primary School students have a card that they signed and we will continue the celebration next month when we have our entire board together.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented action item #11-1958 FY2027 Budget Proposal Adoption. Dr. Whitmarsh shared a chart of FY27 Revenue Projections. Dr. Whitmarsh shared that since the last time we met we did receive our health insurance increase which is at 23.2%. The difference in cost is over $1 million dollars. We are contemplating our next steps. With Local Choice there is a buy out to get out of the program and we are trying to determine what that is. If it's financially feasible to do that and then go out to bid or are there other levers we need to pull. She gave examples like do we cover spouses; do we offer different plans or do we pass along additional costs to our employees. She stated by the way I don't want to do any of that. Dr. Whitmarsh shared a chart regarding salary increases and percentages. She also shared cost for 5% increase for teachers, cost for 1.5% between steps for teachers, cost of 5% raises for remaining staff, and cost for additional positions. Dr. Whitmarsh then shared a chart with FY27 Personnel Increases Proposal with $4.2million dollars in new money. Dr. Whitmarsh shared a chart with FY27 Budget Proposal in the amount of $55,581,929. She stated that is my recommendation that we adopt this budget. Dr. Whitmarsh shared that Sunday was Budget Sunday from the General

Assembly what we heard was what the House is doing and what the Senate is doing for budget. We have not received a calc tool so I don't know how it translates to Greene County. She was really hopeful we would receive more money from the state and it's not looking like it. The House has in their proposal a 2% salary increase and the Senate has 3%. The Governor had 2%. We will get a final State Budget soon. At the same time, we will enter into the same process with the Board of Supervisors and that will start officially on Tuesday, where we all need to be there as we present our proposal to the Board of Supervisors in what we need and why we need it. Dr. Whitmarsh stated her recommendation was to adopt a budget in the amount of $55,581,929.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared additional information on staffing, statistics, our strategic plan, graduates, demographics, story of our budget, how we do the process, looking at salaries and some of the challenges we are facing.

Dr. Whitmarsh recommendation is to adopt the proposal tonight and then we move forward in the process in which time this packet with turn into the School Board Budget Proposal.

Ms. Greer shared that Mr. Mastervich is not here but he did email me to express his support of this proposal.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared that there is a compensation supplement in the state money and if we do not give the minimum raise that we are supposed to give we will not get all the money.

Ms. Alberts asked if there were other parts of the county budget that was affected by the LCI and Dr. Whitmarsh stated no just education.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared that our teacher and staff are very encouraged by the proposed raises on behalf of the School Board.

Ms. Roach asked about what happens if we are denied and Dr. Whitmarsh explained the process.

Ms. Roach stated I have a personal interest in the School Board's budget by virtue of my husband's employment by the School Board and the salary scales included in the budget. However, as the spouse of a teacher at GCPS, I am a member of a large group of individuals in the community who are affected by the School Board's budget and I am able to participate in discussions and votes on the budget fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

Ms. Alberts move to approve the proposed FY2027 budget in the amount of $55,581,929. Ms. Roach seconded. No discussion.

Ms. Greer requested a roll call vote:

Ms. Roach – Aye
Ms. Alberts – Aye
Ms. Bickers – Aye
Ms. Greer – Aye

Ms. Greer gave Rhonda Houchens flowers and a card to show the board's appreciation.

Ms. Greer requested a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting ended at 6:20 pm.

Kelly Green
Chair

Rhonda M. Hutchins
Clerk