



Regular Meeting

Cumberland County Board of Education

December 13, 2022

Recognition of Ex-Officio Member

Student Government leaders Mary Ledford from Gray's Creek High School and Caden Ketchman from Cumberland Polytechnic High School served as the ex-officio members of the Cumberland County Board of Education (CCBOE). Ex-officio members are given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions, and give input on any topic brought before the Board.

New Board Leadership Embraced

Members of the Board elected Deanna Jones as the chair and Nathan Warfel as the vice chair of the Cumberland County Board of Education. Both will serve a one-year term. Special recognition for exemplary leadership along with a gavel plaque and framed certificate were presented by Donna Vann to the outgoing chair, Greg West, and vice chair, Deanna Jones, respectively.

Re-elected & Newly Elected Board Members Take the Oath of Office

Returning School Board members Judy Musgrave and Greg West along with newly elected Board member Jacquelyn Brown took the oath of office, while their family members, friends and supporters watched. The oaths were given by the Honorable Cull Jordan III, a district court judge.

Superintendent Updates the Board

Dr. Connelly shared the following updates:

Fall Semester Update

He shared that Winter break is around the corner and encouraged everyone to reflect, recharge and renew for 2023. Dr. Connelly shared that CCS will shut down on Tuesday, Dec. 20 after a two-hour early release. Staff will return to work on Jan. 3 to prepare for the return of students on Jan. 5.

2022-2023 United Way Campaign

The Superintendent proudly announced that this year, CCS employees donated \$111,200.49 to the United Way of Cumberland County. The non-profit supports programs that provide resources to families and children in need across the county.

Master Board Level I Status

Dr. Connelly congratulated members of the Cumberland County Board of Education. The North Carolina School Boards Association recently recognized the group for receiving Master Board Level I Status after completing a series of professional development sessions.

Board of Education

Deanna Jones
Chair
District #2

Nathan Warfel
Vice Chair
District #6

Judy Musgrave
At Large

Jacquelyn Brown
At Large

Greg West
At Large

Alicia Chisolm
District #1

Carrie Sutton
District #3

Donna Vann
District #4

Susan Williams
District #5

Superintendent
Dr. Marvin Connelly

Choice Programs

It was shared that CCS Choice Programs launched the Choice Application period on Nov. 22 and hosted an in-person Choice Fair on Dec. 3. Hundreds of families attended the event to learn about the district's unique Choice Programs. Dr. Connelly announced that the application period for the 2023-2024 school year will continue through Jan. 31. He also urged families to check out the new information available on the CCS Choice Programs website and attend the upcoming Choice Nights at schools across the county.

Dr. Connelly concluded his comments with a short video that highlighted the success of the CCS Choice Fair.

Administrative Recommendations

Assistant Principal

E.E. Smith High
Westover Middle

Jeremy Brown
Michael Randall

Central Services

Director of Business Operations
Curriculum Specialist K-5 ELA
Curriculum Specialist 6-12 Science

Beth Gray
Donna White
Kathrine Bianchini

Two 'Thumbs Up' Given to Agreements

The following agreements were approved by the Board:

- 2022-2023 Purchase Agreements with Learning.com, Learning Environments LLC, Y & S Technologies, and McGraw Hill;
- 2022-2023 Memorandum of Agreement between CCS and the Department of Public Health to provide nursing services in schools;
- 2022-2023 Professional Services Agreement between CCS and Soliant Health, LLC to provide Speech Language Interpretations to students; and
- 2023-2025 Broker Services Agreement with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.

School Improvement Plans Get 'Green Light'

Members of the Board approved the 2022-2024 School Improvement Plans from across the district.

Board Approves Three Policy Revisions

The following revised policies were approved by the Board:

- 3225/4312/7320 – Technology Responsible Use;
- 3410 – Testing and Assessment Program; and
- 4050 – Children of Military Families.

Board Recognitions

Dr. Lindsay Whitley, the associate superintendent of Communications and Community Engagement, introduced the following honorees to the Board to be recognized:

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2022 North Carolina School Board Association Art Competition Winners and Honorable Mentions

The following CCS students were recognized:

Chandler Broussard - Eastover-Central Elementary
2nd Place Overall for the K-2 Category

Alina Grigoryeva - Vanstory Hills Elementary
3rd Place Overall in the 3rd - 5th Grade Category

Haven Hizon - Glendale Acres Elementary
Honorable Mention in the K-2nd Category

Lianna Blair - Glendale Acres Elementary
Honorable Mention in the K-2nd Category

Keniel Cervoni - New Century International Elementary
Honorable Mention in the 3rd - 5th Grade Category

Lucas Barosa - Vanstory Hills Elementary
Honorable Mention in the 3rd - 5th Grade Category

Oliver Benander - Vanstory Hills Elementary
Honorable Mention in the 3rd - 5th Grade Category

Extra Mile Award Recipient for November

Natasha Vaughn, the media coordinator at Reid Ross Classical School, was recognized as November's Extra Mile Award recipient. Triahanna Miles, an EC Teacher at RRCS, nominated Vaughn and described her as "dependable, honest, a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on, loving, caring, thoughtful and the list goes on." Miles shared that Vaughn never fails to step in and help out whether it is with front office coverage, assisting with technology needs or supporting students after school with band and orchestra concerts or sports games. According to Miles, on most days, Vaughn arrives for work at 7:30 a.m. and does not leave before 7 p.m. "When so many of us in CCS are struggling mentally and physically, she [Vaughn] is always there with a smile, hug and encouragement," said Miles. "Reid Ross Classical School would not be the same without her. Vaughn is the epitome of 'going the extra mile' in every way."

The Extra Mile Award is designed to acknowledge employees who demonstrate a sustained high level of performance and inspire others to do their best.

Committed Community Support Award Recipient for November

Karen Mantzouris, the director of Public Relations and Marketing at SR-AHEC, was recognized as November's Committed Community Support Award recipient. CCS' Career Pathways Coordinator Taneka Williams nominated Mantzouris because she "demonstrates the very definition of what it means to be a committed partner." According to Williams, Mantzouris has served CCS in multiple capacities consistently for decades. This is her 23rd year as a member of the Health Sciences Academy Advisory Board at Westover High School. She also serves on the District Business Advisory Council and CCS Health Advisory Council through Health Services. Mantzouris was tapped to serve as a representative for CCS on the Portrait of a Graduate Advisory Council to State Superintendent Catherine Truitt. In addition, Williams shared that Mantzouris also hosts CCS teachers and students

with field trips, guest speakers, tours and hands-on information sessions through SR-AHEC whose goal is to facilitate learning in the health services field. "There has never been a time when we call on Karen that she is not fully supportive and works with other SR-AHEC staff members to provide learning experiences during the school year and even during our summer learning programs," said Williams. "Karen goes 'above and beyond' in all that we ask of her with a willing heart to serve the students and community."

The Committed Community Support Award is presented monthly to an individual or group for selflessly supporting the school system and helping students succeed.

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