



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Fayetteville, North Carolina

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

### Board Meeting Minutes

Generated by Linda Caesar, Board Clerk

#### Board of Education Members Present:

Jacquelyn Brown, Deanna Jones, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann, Alicia Chisolm, Judy Musgrave, Susan Williams \* Greg West and Nathan Warfel (*absent*)

#### Superintendent's Cabinet Present:

Kevin Coleman, Lindsay Whitley, Ruben Reyes, Jane Fields, Jay Toland, Nick Sojka, Melody Chalmers McClain, Mellota Hill and Dr. Marvin Connelly Jr.

#### Others Present:

Dr. Shevelle Godwin (Ft. Liberty), Rose Ferguson (Community in Schools), and Cumberland County Principals Association (Rep.)

### 1. OPENING ITEMS

**1.01** Chairwoman Deanna Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alicia Chisolm and the Invocation given by Carrie Sutton. (*Procedural*)

### 2. RECOGNITION

**2.01** RECOGNIZE Exceptional Children's Student Representative (*Recognition*)

- Finn is a sixth-grade student at 71st Classical Middle School who shared his academic experiences with the Board.

**2.02** RECOGNIZE Student Ex-Officio Representatives (*Recognition*)

- Talan Goins is a senior at Terry Sanford High School and Neveah Booker is a senior at Alger B. Wilkins High School who both highlighted some of their goals and accomplishments within CCS.

Dr. Whitley recognized the following awards:

**2.03** RECOGNIZE Extra Mile Award Winner (*Recognition*)

- Retired CCS' Driver Education Instructor Phillip Hart, Jr. was recognized for his quick-thinking during a behind-the-wheel lesson in the Gray's Creek area that helped save one life and protect many others on December 29, 2023.

**2.04** RECOGNIZE Committed Community Support Award Winner (*Recognition*)

- R.O.O.T.S. Mentoring in Fayetteville, NC was nominated by Principal Rachael Robinson for their consistent work; both the male and female divisions have been consistent with showing up for her students, and working to redefine the trajectory of the upcoming generations.

### 3. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

**3.01** Superintendent's Remarks - Dr. Marvin Connelly, Jr. (*Information/Report*)

This month, Dr. Connelly updated the Board on various notable points of pride:

#### Observances

Cumberland County Schools is celebrating the following observances during March:

- National Social Work Month
- Music in Our Schools Month
- National School Breakfast Week
- Women's History Month

The month kicked off with an Elementary All-County Chorus Concert (March 1) followed by an All-County Dance Clinic, which helped prepare students for a special performance in this year's Spring Evening of Dance on April 23 in the Crown Theater. Finally, CCS third-grade students are scheduled to visit the same theater on March 25 to see the Fayetteville Symphony in concert, featuring music from Peter and The Wolf.

Dr. Connelly took a moment to commend the outstanding efforts observed among the staff during recent school visits. He was particularly impressed by the commitment to delivering high-quality instruction across the district, finding it truly inspiring. As the academic year approached its final stretch, he emphasized the importance of maintaining a laser focus on the primary objective: providing equitable access to engaging learning opportunities that prepare students to be competitive, collaborative, and successful. Alongside the spring semester festivities, such as graduations and proms, he

underscored the imperative of prioritizing the delivery of excellent instruction. Directly addressing the principals, he emphasized the significance of staying committed to the core mission. He urged them to rally together as a team, making every instructional moment count, with the shared goal of finishing the academic year stronger than ever.

#### NC Alliance of Black School Educators Conference Awards

Dr. Connelly highlighted the proud representation of Cumberland County Schools at the inaugural North Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (NCABSE) Conference.

- He noted Board Member Carrie Sutton's receipt of the prestigious 2024 Local School Board award for her progressive policies benefiting all students in CCS.
- Dr. Latreicia Allen, principal of John Griffin Middle School, was recognized with the esteemed 2024 Risk Taker award for her remarkable dedication to advancing African American students and educators, showcasing her commitment to educational excellence.
- Executive Director of Federal Program Maria Ford's exceptional leadership as the NCABSE Treasurer was acknowledged, emphasizing her significant contributions to the organization's success.
- Dr. Zoletta Taylor, Student Success Facilitator, was celebrated with the 2024 'Rockstar President' award by NCABSE, honoring her outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in orchestrating the inaugural conference. Dr. Connelly commended her dedication to advancing NCABSE's mission and fostering excellence within the organization.

#### Gov. Cooper Visits E.E. Smith High School

Dr. Connelly summarized Governor Roy Cooper's recent visit to E.E. Smith High School, which aimed to showcase North Carolina's public school system. The governor toured classrooms to observe innovative teaching methods and engaged students. He also addressed a significant concern: the potential loss of \$17.2 million for Cumberland County Schools due to funds redirected to private school scholarships. While supporting parental choice, Dr. Connelly emphasized the importance of maintaining funds for public schools. He stressed the value of investing in public education for students, the workforce, and society. Additionally, Dr. Connelly highlighted the district's commitment to personalized learning and urged continued support and advocacy for increased funding for public education.

#### CCS Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Connelly concluded his update to the Board with a video clip of this month's CCS Alumni Spotlight. It featured South View High School graduate Susan Faircloth Dees, who currently works as the Chief Nursing Officer at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

### **4. PUBLIC FORUM**

**4.01** The Board Clerk will invite registered speakers to the microphone. Speakers will need to follow the protocol shared during registration. (*Procedural*)

- There were no public speakers present when called upon.

### **5. Adoption of Agenda**

**5.01** CONSIDER Adoption of Agenda (*Action*)

- Motion to Adopt the Agenda
- Motion by Susan Williams, second by Alicia Chisolm.
- Final Resolution: Motion Carries
- **Yea:** Jacquelyn Brown, Alicia Chisolm, Deanna Jones, Judy Musgrave, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann, Susan Williams
- **Not Present at Vote:** Nathan Warfel, Greg West

### **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**6.01** CONSIDER Approval of the Consent Agenda (*Consent*)

- Resolution: Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda
- Motion by Donna Vann, second by Carrie Sutton.
- Final Resolution: Motion Carries
- **Yea:** Jacquelyn Brown, Alicia Chisolm, Deanna Jones, Judy Musgrave, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann, Susan Williams
- **Not Present at Vote:** Nathan Warfel, Greg West

Action (Consent), Minutes: 6.02 CONSIDER Approval of the Minutes of the February 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

Action (Consent): 6.03 CONSIDER Approval of Release of Certain Students

Action (Consent): 6.04 CONSIDER Revised Policy 2310, "Public Participation at Board Meetings" (2024) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee

Action (Consent): 6.05 CONSIDER Revised Policy 4720, "Surveys of Students" (2024) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee

Action (Consent): 6.06 CONSIDER Revised Policy 6220, "Operation of School Nutrition Services" (2024) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee

Action (Consent): 6.07 CONSIDER Approval of The Apple iPads for Early Learners Initiative for EC and EC Pre-K Students as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee

Action (Consent): 6.08 CONSIDER Approval of 2024 National School Social Work Week Proclamation (March 3-9, 2024) as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee

Action (Consent): 6.09 CONSIDER Duke Energy Permanent Utility Easement at Rockfish Elementary School as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee

Action (Consent): 6.10 CONSIDER Approval of HIL LLC Consultants Agreement for January-June 2024 as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.11 CONSIDER Approval of Contract to Audit Accounts FYE 2024 as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.12 CONSIDER Approval of UKG Kronos Installation and Collaboration for Time and Attendance Software as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.13 CONSIDER Approval of Budget Amendments for Various Funds (2023-2024) as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.14 CONSIDER Approval of New Participant for MAC Consortium as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.15 CONSIDER Approval of 2024-2025 Budget Parameters as recommended by the Finance Committee

Action (Consent): 6.16 CONSIDER Approval of Metronet Purchase Agreement for Wide Area Network Infrastructure Upgrade (FY 2025-2027) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee

Action (Consent): 6.17 CONSIDER Approval of 2024 Project Success: Second Opportunity to Test as recommended by the Curriculum Committee

Action (Consent): 6.18 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee

Action (Consent): 6.19 CONSIDER Approval of Leave of Absence Requests as recommended by the Personnel Committee

Action (Consent): 6.20 CONSIDER Approval of Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee

Action (Consent): 6.21 CONSIDER Approval of State Salary Supplement for Teachers as recommended by the Personnel Committee

Action (Consent): 6.22 CONSIDER Approval of the Opportunity Culture Scope of Work as recommended by the Personnel Committee

Action (Consent): 6.23 CONSIDER Approval of Superintendent Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee

**7. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Auxiliary Services Committee Report - Nathan Warfel**

**8. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Student Support Services Report - Donna Vann**

**9. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Policy Committee Report - Susan Williams**

**10. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Curriculum Committee Report - Judy Musgrave**

**11. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Legislative Committee Report - Alicia Chisolm**

**12. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Personnel Committee Report - Greg West**

**13. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Budget/Finance Committee Report - Carrie Sutton**

**14. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**14.01** CONSIDER Approval of Board Members' Professional Development (*Action*)

- Resolution: Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda
- Motion by Carrie Sutton, second by Susan Williams
- Final Resolution: Motion Carries
- **Yea:** Jacquelyn Brown, Alicia Chisolm, Deanna Jones, Judy Musgrave, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann, Susan Williams
- **Not Present at Vote:** Nathan Warfel, Greg West

**15. CLOSING ITEMS**

**15.01** Board Members' Update (*Limited to comments regarding school system business and school systems events only*)

- Score updates were shared, 3 of our high schools are in the Regional Basketball Finals.
- Highlights shared from our Local Delegation Luncheon at EE Smith.
- Highlights shared from our All-county concerts, how beautiful music and talents were showcased by our students.
- Recommend seeing the EKG program - The Educating Kids about Gun Violence
- National School Breakfast Week (March 4-8) - Thank you to our Cafeteria Workers who are dedicated to keeping our students fed.

**15.02** Chairwoman's Update

- Ms. Jones gave closing remarks including a quote from Michelle Obama in celebration of Women's History Month: "There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

**15.03** ADJOURNMENT

- @ 6:40 PM
- [March 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Live Video Recording](#)