

The Cumberland County Board of Education met on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM with the following board members present: Alicia Chisolm, Greg West, Deanna Jones, Susan Williams, Nathan Warfel, Jacquelyn Brown, Carrie Sutton, Judy Musgrave and Donna Vann.

Others present were Superintendent Marvin Connelly and Board Attorney Nick Sojka. Associate Superintendents: Jane Fields, Kevin Coleman, Lindsay Whitley, Melody Chalmers McClain, Ruben Reyes, and Jay Toland.

Others Present:

Representative from Ft. Bragg: Dr. Shevelle Godwin

Representative from Cumberland County Principals Association

Representatives from CCAE

Representatives from Retired School Employees' Association

Representatives from Communities in Schools

Representative from NAACP

Representatives from District PTA

## **1. OPENING ITEMS**

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 Nathan Warfel.

## **2. RECOGNITIONS**

The following students served as Student Ex-Officio Representatives and delivered a speech to the Board.

Sarah Black - Cape Fear High School

Kyla Small - Pine Forest High School

Leana McMillan a student representative from the Exceptional Children's department who is classified as a DHH (Deaf or Hard of Hearing) shared her experience with the Board through sign language, and Katelyn Scott provided interpretation.

Dr. Whitley recognized the following:

Shacarra Taylor - CCS 2023 School Counselor of the Year

Larry Moye - Extra Mile Award Winner

Stefanie Boyea - Committed Community Support Award Winner (*January*)

Lindsey Awad - Committed Community Support Award Winner

### **3. Superintendent's Update**

Dr. Connelly shared the following updates:

#### *A Month of Achievement*

He highlighted the following achievements within the district that have recently occurred:

- The announcement of Shacarra Taylor from Cliffdale Elementary School as the 2023 School Counselor of the Year;
- Cumberland County Schools (CCS) Communications and Community Engagement team won 12 blue ribbon awards from the North Carolina School Public Relations Association;
- North Carolina Association for the Gifted and Talented (NCA GT) announced AIG Teacher Sarena Myers as the 2023 NCA GT Outstanding Elementary Teacher of the Gifted Award recipient;
- CCS students 'WOWed' at the North Carolina Scholastic Dance Festival, the U.S. School Debating Championship, and the 2023 Americas Triathlon North American Junior Championships;
- CCS' CTE programs connected students with state-of-the-art technology and companies like Lenovo and Dreamworks;
- CCS' Arts Education have nurtured young artists that are showcasing their talents in the High School Juried Art Show; All-State, District, and All-County Ensembles, and
- The district has crowned winners in the Battle of the Books and Quiz Bowl tourney who are moving onto the next level of competition.

#### *March Observances*

Dr. Connelly shared that March is a month of many celebrations and events which include National Social Work Month, Disability Awareness Month, School Social Worker Appreciation Week, National School Breakfast Week and Women's History Month.

#### *Superheroes Work for CCS*

The Superintendent noted that CCS has 'superheroes' who go above and beyond to support the needs of the whole child. He noted several quick facts about "our hardworking team of premier professionals" that included the following:

- 627 Alternative Licensed Teachers
- 400 International Teachers
- 467 New Teachers who have 0-3 years of experience
- 1,054 new and first-time CCS employees

"While we cannot ignore the impact of having stubborn vacancies and multiple new staff in key roles throughout the district, we are focused more than ever before on raising student achievement and closing academic performance gaps that exist," said Dr. Connelly.

"Together, we are rising. Comprehensive school improvement efforts take time. Despite dealing with the lingering after-effects of a global pandemic, we remain Cumberland Strong and are doing the best we can with what we have."

*Thank you, Committed Community Partners!*

The Superintendent thanked the district's Committed Community Partners for their support of our schools and students. He also encouraged those in the community to get involved as a Committed Community Partner by visiting [www.ccs.k12.nc.us](http://www.ccs.k12.nc.us) and exploring the Community tab.

**Superintendent's Focus Monthly Video**

Dr. Connelly concluded his update with a short video about Super Bowl Champion and CCS graduate Joshua Williams' return home to inspire Loyd E. Auman Elementary School students just two and a half weeks after winning 'the Big Game.'

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

We received 4 speakers for Public Comment this evening:

Shamika Bethea, Julissa Jumper, Presley Melvin, and Jill Charles

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Nathan Warfel, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of the agenda.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Greg West, seconded by Jacquelyn Brown, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

6.01 CONSIDER Approval of the Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

6.02 CONSIDER Approval of Release of Certain Students

6.03 CONSIDER Approval of Budget Amendments for State Public School Funds, Federal Funds, and Grant Funds as recommended by the Finance Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: (1)Successful Students, (2)Premier Professionals, (3)Exceptional Environment, and (4)Committed Community).

6.04 CONSIDER Approval of 2022-2023 NextWave TEK Convenience Contract to Purchase ClearTouch Panels as recommended by the Finance Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3)Exceptional Environment)

6.05 CONSIDER Approval of Alternative Accountability Models as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (1)Successful Students)

6.06 CONSIDER Approval of 2023 Read Across America Day Proclamation as recommended by the Curriculum Committee

6.07 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (2)Premier Professionals)

6.08 CONSIDER Approval of Leave of Absence Requests as recommended by the Personnel Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (2)Premier Professionals)

- 6.09 CONSIDER Approval of Teacher Assistant to Teacher Partnership Agreement for 2023-2026 as recommended by the Personnel Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (2)Premier Professionals)
- 6.10 CONSIDER Approval of Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (2)Premier Professionals)
- 6.11 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 4110, "Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission" (2023) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (1)Successful Students)
- 6.12 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 4260, "Student Sex Offenders" (2023) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: (1)Successful Students and (4)Committed Community)
- 6.13 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 6220, "Operation of School Nutrition Services" (2023) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3)Exceptional Environment)
- 6.14 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 7241, "Drug and Alcohol of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators" (2023) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (2)Premier Professionals)
- 6.15 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 8350, "Fixed Assets Inventory" (2023) (2nd Reading) as recommended by the Policy Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3) Exceptional Environment)
- 6.16 CONSIDER Approval of Bid Awards for Large Kitchen Equipment (ESSER Funds) as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3) Exceptional Environment)
- 6.17 CONSIDER Approval of Bid Awards for Large Kitchen Equipment (ESSER Funds) as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3) Exceptional Environment)
- 6.18 CONSIDER Approval of 1-Year Contract Extension for Large Kitchen Equipment Repair Services as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3)Exceptional Environment)
- 6.20 CONSIDER Approval of Bid Award to Holmes Security Systems for 2023 Closed Circuit Television Surveillance System Upgrades as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3)Exceptional Environment)
- 6.21 CONSIDER Approval of 2023-24 Bell Schedule Change Proposal for Ramsey Street High and Howard Learning Academy as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (3)Exceptional Environment)
- 6.22 CONSIDER Approval of 2023 National School Social Work Week Proclamation as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC

PRIORITIES: (1)Successful Students, (2)Premier Professionals, (3)Exceptional Environment, and (4)Committed Community)

6.23 CONSIDER Approval of 2023 Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: (1)Successful Students, (2)Premier Professionals, (3)Exceptional Environment, and (4)Committed Community)

6.24 CONSIDER Approval of 2023-2027 Alliance for Leading & Learning (ALL) Grant: Pipeline for the Advancement of School-Based Mental Health Professionals as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: (2)Premier Professionals and (3)Exceptional Environment)

6.25 CONSIDER 2023 Project Success: Second Opportunity to Test Plan as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY: (1)Successful Students)

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

CONSIDER Approval to Purchase CCS Family & Community Engagement Bus as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: (1)Successful Students, (3)Exceptional Environment, and (4)Committed Community)

Dr. Lindsay Whitley provided extended feedback on the project initiative of how it supports the strategic plan. Ms. Musgrave shared questions from a citizen about the initiative and Dr. Whitley provided answers. Upon a motion by Greg West, seconded by Nathan Warfel, the vote passed 6:3 with Musgrave, Sutton, and Jones in opposition.

**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**

Hope Mills Middle student body search inquiry

**15. CLOSING ITEMS**

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

Donna Vann shared her experience with the DHH students who displayed their talents at Mary McArthur's Black History program.

15.02 Chairman's Update

Deanna Jones shared highlights from the Chinese Celebration at 71<sup>st</sup> High school. In honor of Woman's History Month, Ms. Jones ended with a quote from Michelle Obama, "There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

15.03 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

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Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent

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