

The Cumberland County Board of Education met on April 18, 2023 at 6:00 PM with the following board members present: Alicia Chisolm, Greg West, Deanna Jones, Susan Williams, Nathan Warfel, Jacquelyn Brown, Judy Musgrave, Carrie Sutton and Donna Vann.

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

Others Present:

Dr. Shevelle Godwin - Program Operations Specialist - Ft. Bragg

Representatives – CCAE MEMBERS (*Teachers*)

Representatives – Cumberland County Principals & Assistant Principals Association

Representatives – NAACP

Representatives – District PTA

Representatives - School Nutrition Association

1. OPENING ITEMS

Chairwoman Deanna Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Donna Vann and the Invocation by Susan Williams.

2. RECOGNITIONS

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

Keren Asare - Cumberland International Early College High School

Briyana Tillman- E.E. Smith Senior High School

Elijah Simmons, a representative from the Exceptional Children's department shared his experience with the Board as a Mac Williams Middle student.

Dr. Whitley recognized the following students for their accomplishments with the State:

State Dual Team 3A Tennis Champions - Cape Fear High

Shea Bieniek, Andi Brinker, Brianna Keen, Ansley Thomas, Olivia Arnette, Alexandria Jones, Sophia Lahr, Danielle Fick, Hailey Ross, Sophia Bullard, Anna Piland, and Brooke Bienick (Coaches: Chris Lucas & Lee Osbourne)

State Doubles Runner-Ups 3A State Tennis Championship - Cape Fear High

Anna Piland & Brooke Bienick

Middle School Forensics State Tournament Champions - R. Max Abbott Middle

Duo Interpretation: Abigail Nguyen & Noah Conners

Public Forum Debate: Autry Canady & Campbell Shepard

Career Development State Conference - Outstanding Chapter of the Year

South View JAG Students

Javayah McLaughlin, Jiovani Lopez, Lana "Mix" Rodriguez, Tiana McCoy, Mercedes Pastore, Tyshaun Bowers, and Jabralyn Wilkins (Coach: Dr. Margaret Brown)

Career Development State Conference - 1st Place Creative Decision Making

South View JAG Students

Jiovani Lopez, Lana Rodriguez, Mercedes Pastore, and Tiana McCoy

Career Development State Conference - 1st Place Employability Skills

South View JAG Student

Tyshaun Bowers

Career Development State Conference - 1st Place NCA Chapter of the Year

South View JAG Student

Tiana McCoy

Career Development State Conference - 2nd Place Prepared Public Speaking

South View JAG Student

Javayah McLaughlin

Career Development State Conference -1st Place Career Preparations

South View JAG Student

Jabralyn Wilkins

3. Superintendent's Update

Dr. Connelly shared the following updates with members of the Board of Education and the Public:

Last Nine Weeks Update

During the last nine weeks of the 2022-2023 school year, Cumberland County Schools (CCS) has had a month of excellence and community engagement. Our students have demonstrated their endurance through competitions such as the Regional Science Fair, Battle of the Books, The High School Juried Art Show, the State Quiz Bowl Tournament, and the Middle School Forensics State Tournament. Across the district, Committed Community partners have been supporting innovative opportunities for students and families. Hundreds of attendees have benefitted from events such as Cumberland Family Academy's PUSH motivational presentations with former NFL

player Keith Davis, the Military Financial Aid Night at South View High School, and the 39th Annual Very Special Arts Celebration at the Crown Agri-Expo Center.

Kindergarten Showcase

As this school year ends, CCS looks forward to the next school year and welcoming rising kindergarten students and their families to learn about our exceptional environments during Kindergarten Showcase 2023. At this time, the rising kindergarten student and their family will visit our community of schools to meet our educators and become partners in student success. Kindergarten registration for the 2023-2024 school year will begin on Monday, April 24. Families can visit the Kindergarten section on the CCS website – and find out about upcoming Kindergarten Orientation events.

Community Conversations

In an effort to provide a safe, positive and rigorous learning environment for every student, on Thursday, April 20, from 6:00-7:30 p.m., CCS will host *Community Conversations: "School Safety: Let's Talk About It!"* at the Kiwanis Recreation Center. Everyone is invited to join Dr. Connelly and other district leaders to discuss school safety. While CCS has some great safety protocols in place, the district would still like helpful input about ways we can intensify our safety protocols. For more information and the link to register, visit the front page of the district's website.

April Observances

April has many observances that our district highly values such as National Autism Awareness Month, School Library Month and National Volunteer Week. Earlier this month, we celebrated National Assistant Principals Week. We are grateful for our premier professionals, who continue to lead and model excellence in education. This month is also Month of the Military Child. More than a quarter of our students are military-connected, and we are dedicated to ensuring their success with specialized support systems and military-friendly practices. Everyone is invited to join CCS on Friday, April 21 for Purple Up! Day as we wear purple to show our support to the children of those who serve our country! This month is also Child Abuse Prevention Month. We support prevention and interventions to keep all children safe.

Superintendent's Focus Monthly Video

Dr. Connelly concluded his update with a short video that highlights student leaders at Terry Sanford High School, who recently partnered with our Communications Department to produce a video about the importance of Student Leadership.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

We received six speakers for Public Comment this evening:

Awsome Dixon, Mary Grooms, Shamike Bethea, Iris'Nahlee Smith, Rodney Turner, and Carmela McKeller-Smith. (6:42 PM – 7:05 PM)

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Donna Vann, seconded by Susan Williams, the Board unanimously approved the Adoption of Agenda.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Nathan Warfel, seconded by Alicia Chisolm, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

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

6.02 CONSIDER Approval of Release of Certain Students

6.03 CONSIDER Approval to Award Carolina Construction of Fayetteville the 2023 HVAC & Window Replacement Contract at Rockfish Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (*Exhibit A*)

6.04 CONSIDER Approval to Award Smith Refrigeration, Inc. the 2023 HVAC & Window Replacement Contract at Grays Creek Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (*Exhibit B*)

6.05 CONSIDER Approval to Award Carolina Construction of Fayetteville the 2023 HVAC & Window Replacement Contract at Eastover Central Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (*Exhibit C*)

6.06 CONSIDER Approval Letter of Commitment to Providing Matching Funds for the NC Advanced Energy Corporation's Renew America's School - Topic Area 2 - North Carolina Project as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (*Exhibit D*)

6.07 CONSIDER Approval of Budget Amendments for Various Funds (2022-23) as recommended by the Finance Committee (*Exhibit E*)

6.08 CONSIDER Approval of 2023 Purchase Agreement for Anatomage as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (*Exhibit F*)

6.09 CONSIDER Approval of 2023 School Library Month Proclamation as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (*Exhibit G*)

6.10 CONSIDER Approval of Proclamation supporting April as 'Month of the Military Child' as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (*Exhibit H*)

6.11 CONSIDER Approval of Proposed Revisions for the 2023-2024 Student Code of Conduct as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (*Exhibit I*)

6.12 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee (*Exhibit J*)

6.13 CONSIDER Approval of Leave of Absence and Special Leave of Absence Requests as recommended by the Personnel Committee (*Exhibit K*)

6.14 CONSIDER Approval of Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee (*Exhibit L*)

6.15 CONSIDER Approval of Teacher Non-Renewal Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee (*Exhibit M*)

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

13.01 CONSIDER Approval of Superintendent's Recommended Budget 2023-2024 as recommended by the Finance Committee (*Exhibit N*)

Mr. Jay Toland requested for approval of the Superintendent's budget for 2023-2024 which would then become the Board of Education's Budget to be presented to the County Commissioners. Upon a motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Carrie Sutton, the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's Recommended Budget 2023-2024.

14. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: None

15. CLOSING ITEMS

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

15.02 Chair Update

Chairwoman Jones shared a couple of recent CCS events to include our students who showed their talent during the High School Juried Arts Downtown and the Margaret Willis Elementary program where students published books.

Mrs. Jones shared appreciation for those students, representatives and citizens that attended the board meeting and congratulated those individuals recognized during the board meeting.

In closing, Mrs. Jones reminded the audience that our next regular board meeting will be Tuesday, May 9th. We look forward to seeing you again next month.

15.03 ADJOURNMENT

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

Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent

MC/lc