



Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
WMHS Performing Arts Center
February 9, 2022

Members Present: Mr. Todd Sansom, Chair; Mr. Jason Tooley, Member; Ms. Sharon Mack, Member; Mr. Brooks Taylor, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk; Ms. Jennifer Walker, Deputy Clerk.

Member(s) of The Greene County Board of Supervisors Present: Mr. Steve Bowman, Liaison

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the William Monroe High School Digital Media Classroom.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to move into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code sections 2.2-3711(A)(1), (A)(2) to discuss personnel and student matters. Ms. Mack seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Mack made a motion to reconvene in open session in the WMHS PAC. Mr. Tooley seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the WMHS Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Sansom stated: The Board will certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and identified in the motion to convene the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. Mr. Tooley, Ms. Mack, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Sansom, all certified.

Mr. Sansom requested to approve the agenda.

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Tooley seconded. Mr. Sansom requested roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Nah

Ms. Mack – Aye

Mr. Taylor – Nah

Mr. Sansom – stated chair vote will not matter; a two/two vote will not pass.
Motion did not pass.

Mr. Taylor stated he would like to make a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion of current COVID protocols. Mr. Tooley seconded. Ms. Mack asked if there was a particular place that this would be inserted in the agenda. Mr. Taylor stated action item. After some discussion Mr. Taylor stated information and action. Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Nah
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

Motion to amend the agenda passes three to one vote. Discussion of current COVID protocols will be added to the agenda after number 10 information/action item – Resolution Supporting the Donation of a Potential Elementary School Site.

Mr. Sansom invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion for closed meeting actions.

Ms. Mack made a motion to approve religious exemption #22-06. Mr. Tooley seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation on discipline matter 02-22-01. Ms. Mack seconded. No discussion. All ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to approve the consent agenda:

- 11-1181 January 12, 2022 Meeting/Annual Organizational Meeting Minutes
- 11-1182 January 21, 2022 Special Called Meeting Minutes
- 11-1183 January 13, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1184 January 14, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1185 January 21, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1186 January 24, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1187 January 27, 2022 Expenditures
- 11-1188 Monthly Finance Report
- 11-1189 Field Trip Requests
- 11-1190 Enrollment
- 11-1191 Staff to be Approved List

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom stated it was time for first public comment on matters not listed below on agenda. Mr. Sansom opened the floor for public comment.

Bonnie LaFontaine shared she was a teacher and a resident in Greene County. She shared her concerns as an employee with GCPS.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented information/action item 11-1192, Resolution Supporting the Donation of a Potential Elementary School Site. In 2016, administration of GCPS's discovered a need for a new elementary school as a result of an extensive Facilities Assessment Study. She shared the 2016 facilities study project priorities and maps outlining the potential elementary site.

Mr. Tooley made a motion to approve action item 11-1192, Resolution Supporting the Donation of a Potential Elementary School site as presented. Ms. Mack seconded. Mr. Tooley stated he felt comfortable making a motion approving this but as everyone agrees there is still a lot of work to be done. Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Sansom offered public comment on Resolution Supporting the Donation of a Potential Elementary School Site. No one spoke so Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Mr. Sansom offered board discussion on current COVID Protocols.

Mr. Taylor shared concerns regarding the schools' current contact tracing and quarantine procedures for asymptomatic students. He stated that was his reason for amending agenda.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to end all contact tracing and quarantine practices for asymptomatic student and staff effective immediately. Mr. Tooley seconded.

Mr. Sansom offered board discussion.

Mr. Tooley spoke in favor of the motion.

Ms. Mack spoke regarding the motion.

Dr. Whitmarsh asked question about contacting parents regarding an outbreak and asked for clarification.

The board members and Dr. Whitmarsh had lengthy discussion.

Mr. Sansom offered public comment on COVID Protocols.

Bubby Barre spoke regarding the motion. He shared his experience with his own children.

Jennifer Peters spoke regarding contact tracing. She is a parent of two children that attend GCPS. She shared her experience with contact tracing.

Gigi Taft spoke regarding contact tracing and quarantines.

Jaelyn Barre a student at GCPS shared her concerns with contact tracing and quarantines.

Chelsea Mapanoo spoke regarding contact tracing and notifying parents of outbreaks.

Brian O'Regan requested the board not support the motion at this time. He shared his concerns.

Mr. Sansom ended public comment.

At this time there was more board discussion.

The board then took a recess.

Mr. Sansom called the meeting back to order.

Mr. Taylor stated the amended motion to end all contact tracing and quarantine practices for students and staff unless there is an outbreak as defined by the Virginia Department of Health effective the start of school on February 14th. Mr. Tooley seconded. No discussion.

Mr. Sansom requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Tooley – Aye
Ms. Mack – Aye
Mr. Taylor – Aye
Mr. Sansom – Aye

All Ayes. Motion carried.

Ms. Katie Brunelle presented information item 11-1193, WMHS Spotlight. Ms. Brunelle, Principal at WMHS, introduced the students that were participating in the presentation. Ms. Brunelle shared details about the high school's enrollment, school's vision and mission statements, where the school has been and where it is now. Ms. Eberhardt, Assistant Principal at WMHS, gave an overview of personalized student experience, advisory services, counseling, student opportunities and administration/student

check-ins. Ms. Shipmen, Assistant Principal at WMHS, gave an overview of the special education services which included collaborative classes, adaptive programs, case management and transition plans, and peer mentorship. Mr. Wimmer, Assistant Principal at WMHS, shared the alternative education programs at the high school. There are two programs ACE and PRIDE. Ms. Brunelle gave an overview of virtual learning classes and enrollment totals. Ms. Peregoy, Principal at GCTEC, shared the career and technical education programs. Ms. Jess Lamb, Instruction Coach at WMHS, shared details regarding professional development, performance assessments, instructional support and building community. Ms. Brunelle gave an overview of the counseling department and shared a video of students. Ms. Brunelle shared upcoming events.

Board members thanked the high school for presentation, gifts and food.

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh presented information item 11-1194, FY2023 Budget Presentation. Dr. Whitmarsh provided the board with a full budget presentation. She began her presentation with the school's vision and mission statements and Greene County School Board Priorities. Dr. Whitmarsh gave an overview of enrollment, economically disadvantaged students, English learners, student disabilities and education workforce landscape. She shared the education program enrollment trends, profession in national crisis, issues facing educators and retirement/leaving plans. She shared the top 10 critical teacher shortage endorsements in Virginia and local impacts. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the state revenue for FY2022 \$20,956,459 based on 2875 ADM in December 2020. For FY2023 budgeted ADM 2820 with projection of \$24,995,396. The current state budget includes 5% salary increase for each year FY23 & FY24 based SOQ positions. She shared the break down of the state revenue that includes one-time school construction incentive of \$1,986,403. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the estimated federal funding for FY2023 remains flat at \$2,080,000. She also shared local revenue amounts from 2019. There has not been much change. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the current Governor's budget proposal is recommending maintaining not lowering VRS rates. She said she did not know if the general assembly will ratify the lower rate of 17.16%. Health insurance projected increase is 8.5% - 9.5%. Dr. Whitmarsh shared the budget survey results, expenditure requests and evaluation, scope of requests of personnel \$679,000 and non-personnel \$598,000. She shared the staffing requests, cost for possible salary increases, salary and scale compression costs. Dr. Whitmarsh shared regional salary data on Bachelors Degree and Masters Degree. She reviewed operational costs, debt schedule and the FY2023 Budget Proposal in the amount of \$47,459,556.

Mr. Sansom opened the public hearing on FY2023 Budget. He welcomed public comment on the FY2023 Budget.

No public comments.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared the details of the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Mr. Sansom opened the public hearing on Interim School Board. He welcomed public comment on the Interim School Board member vacancy.

Tracy Bizzarri shared she is a Greene County native and married with children. She spoke regarding her interest in the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Nary Kitson shared she is a previous GCPS teacher. She shared her interest in the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Martha Ledford shared she has been a teacher and in administration for over 30 years. She shared her interest in the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Becky Roach shared she is a parent of two sons that attend GCPS system and a resident of Greene for the last 15 years. She shared her interest in the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Brian O'Regan is a resident of Greene County for the last 10 years. He shared his advice to the board regarding the Interim School Board Member vacancy.

Marnie Deaton, parent of nine children that attend or will attend GCPS, she shared her comments and others that were compiled for Nary Kitson.

Gigi Taft spoke in favor of Becky Roach for Interim School Board Member.

Jennifer Miller stated she was a teacher in Greene and husband is a current teacher. She is also a parent of children that attend GCPS. She shared her support for Nary Kitson Interim School Board Member.

Chelsea Mapanoo spoke in favor for Nary Kitson as Interim School Board Member.

David Brunelle shared he was one of the applicants for Interim School Board Member and a parent of a high school student. He spoke regarding his interest as an Interim School Board Member.

Mollie Davis stated she was a Greene County resident and a parent of children that attend GCPS. She shared her support for Tracy Bizzarri as Interim School Board Member.

Jennifer Peters stated she is a parent of two children that attend GCPS. She shared her support for Tracy Bizzarri as Interim School Board Member.

Mr. Sansom closed public comment.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the Superintendent's Report item #11-1195, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh thanked all the talented students who shared their gifts with us tonight and she thanked the WMHS administration. The strategic plan focus group has been meeting and have been working on a

draft plan. The General Assembly session is moving along and we are watching the numbers. February 23 is the budget adoption meeting, February is School Board Appreciation Month and she thanked the board for their efforts. CTE Month takes place each year in February and celebrates the value of CTE. February is Black History Month another long standing celebration for our schools throughout February. February is National School Counseling Month and next week is school kindness week. Dr. Whitmarsh shared schools and offices will be closed Monday, February 21st in observance of President's Day. Candidate interviews will take place February 22 and board meeting on February 23rd.

Mr. Tooley thanked staff for all they do. He told Ms. Brunelle that was a great presentation. He congratulated the Greene County Technical Education Center. He again thanked all staff.

Ms. Mack thanked high school for all the gifts. She stated she looked forward to getting to know all the applicants.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for coming. He requested prayers for fallen officers. He thanked students for gift. He thanked all teachers and staff.

Mr. Sansom thanked law enforcement for what they do. Mr. Sansom recognized Mr. Bowman for attending all the meetings. He also thanked Mr. Herring. He stated he was looking forward to getting to know applicants.

Mr. Sansom requested a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Mack made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Tooley seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.



Chair



Clerk

