

Greene County Public Schools January 27, 2021 School Board Budget Work Session WMHS Media Lab

5:30 pm Open Session, motion to move immediately into Closed Session Reconvene in Open Session 6:00 pm FY2022 Budget Work Session

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Todd Sansom, Vice-Chairperson; Ms. Sharon Mack, Member; Mr. Jason Tooley, Member; Mr. Jason Collier, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk.

MEMBERS PRESENT BY ZOOM: Ms. Leah Paladino; Chairperson

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR(S) PRESENT: Mr. Steve Bowman, Liaison

Closed session was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the William Monroe High School Media Lab.

Mr. Todd Sansom requested a motion to allow Ms. Leah Paladino to participate in the meeting electronically, via zoom.

Ms. Mack made a motion to allow Ms. Paladino, Mr. Jason Collier seconded the motion. All ayes from the other members, motion carried.

Ms. Leah Paladino made a motion to move into closed session; Mr. Todd Sansom seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Paladino requested that Mr. Todd Sansom chair the remainder of the meeting as she was having difficulty hearing via Zoom.

Mr. Todd Sansom moved to reconvene in an open session at 7:00 p.m. in the WMHS Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Todd Sansom requested a roll call vote to certify 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. Ms. Mack, Mr. Tooley, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Sansom all certified.

Mr. Sansom indicated there were no closed meeting actions.

Ms. Mack moved to accept the consent agenda, Mr. Collier seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh presented the FY2022 Budget Presentation. She explained that the presentation outlines what division leaders know about the budget and the projected timeline for the budget process. She outlined the influencing factors for the budget, including enrollment projections, VRS, operating expenses, and COVID-19 impact. She explained that the COVID impact is a big influence on the budget so far. She outlined the current projection for state revenues and allocations.

She also outlined the anticipated federal revenues and explained that they are expected to be flat. She described the current expenditure requests and evaluation. She explained that allocating more funds to personnel-related requests is important for the division for things like retention and recruiting.

She said division leaders' current priorities for the FY2022 budget are: student supports, addressing learning loss, and staff recruitment and retention.

Dr. Bryan Huber outlined the priorities associated with student supports. He explained which positions are crucial to fill in order to fulfill current goals. He said most of the positions included in the presentation are necessary to fill learning gaps and offer social-emotional support to students.

Dr. Whitmarsh outlined what division leaders think would be good components of the proposal, including taking corrective action to adjust the current teacher salary scale suppression, an adjustment to the current bus driver salary scale, potentially absorbing costs associated with an expected increase to health insurance, potentially changing the split of the SRO salary and moving all costs to the Sheriff's office.

Ms. Kristie Spencer gave a brief overview of the budget spreadsheet included in the board members' packets. The document compares the FY2021 and FY2022 budgets, including revenue projections, and CARES Act Funding. The document effectively breaks down how costs should be allocated within the division and gives an anticipated grand total.

Ms. Paladino asked for some clarity on positions that plan to be funded with CARES Act money, temporarily. Dr. Whitmarsh explained that division leaders plan to evaluate as those individuals' time with GCPS progresses.

Mr. Tooley asked if a compensation increase in some form could be considered for custodial staff in the division. Dr. Whitmarsh says she would provide data for the request at the board's next meeting.

Mr. Sansom adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Season Paladins

Rhanda M. Houchens