



**Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Office Meeting Room
12/9/2020**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

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

Ms. Leah Paladino made a motion for the board to enter closed session at 6:00 p.m. in the William Monroe Media Center Lab, Mr. Todd Sansom seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Ms. Sharon Mack called the Greene County School Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the William Monroe High School Performing Arts Center.

Ms. Mack called for a roll call vote to certify the closed meeting and stated there were no closed meeting actions. All the board members certified the closed session.

Ms. Leah Paladino made a motion to amend the agenda, making the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GCPS and GCSO an action item up for discussion and a vote. All ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Leah Paladino made a motion to approve the presented consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Todd Sansom. The board approved the consent agenda 5:0 by a roll call vote.

Ms. Sharon Mack announced that there were no sign ups for public comment and asked those in attendance if they were interested in addressing the Board.

Ms. Mack announced that members of the audience were welcome to address the board regarding the FY2022 budget as part of the Public Budget hearing. She stated there were no sign ups and no one in the audience came forward.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented the added agenda item, the GCSO MOU. She explained that the sheriff's office requested a billing revision to the MOU that was originally presented to the board in September. She suggested revisiting SRO funding during the FY2022 budget planning process. The MOU presented at this meeting mimics one's that were agreed upon in previous years. Leah Paladino moved to accept the revised MOU as presented. Jason Tooley seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried.

Dr. Bryan Huber introduced informational item #11-973, the Return to Learn Update. This update focused on Ms. Sarah Baran's efforts to ensure students in the division have all the necessary resources to navigate the current school year. Ms. Baran outlined how her and her intern, Ms. Morgan Taylor, have been working with parents and students. She explained that the top three areas families have been struggling with are student registration, various barriers for the learning modes adopted due to COVID-19, and bridging the gap between school and home. She explained that home visits and other direct services to families have been the best way to offer support to students. Additionally, she said working with community partners have been a tremendous help with their work.

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh presented information item #11-974, the Superintendent's update. She informed the board that GCPS was the recipient of the top architecture honor from The Virginia School Board Association (VSBA), the Platinum Design Award. She explained what the division was currently doing in terms of the FY2022 budget planning process, including receiving input from building administrators. She announced that the Blue Ridge Governor's School voted to eliminate prerequisites. She said tryouts for winter sports were held just the day before, with all the required COVID-19 precautions. She explained that the number of COVID-19 cases is slowly increasing within the community and school division. She announced that the new COVID-19 dashboard was now available on the division website and at the time showed that 6 students and 6 staff members had tested positive. She said the CDC issued new guidance for close contacts, changing the recommended quarantine time to 10 days, instead of 14 days. She said the Thomas Jefferson Health Department recommends keeping the quarantine timeline to 14 days. She outlined some items that will be covered during the organizational meeting in January, including assigning roles within the school board.

Mr. Jason Collier thanked everyone for their work in the division. He said he was happy to hear that the number of cases is as low as it is. He said he didn't have a lot of new information for PREP.


Mr. Todd Sansom said he was happy to play a small part in the monumental efforts by division staff during the first part of the school year.

Ms. Leah Paladino thanked Ms. Baran and Ms. Taylor for their work in the community. She thanked Ms. Danielle Alicia and Mr. Adam Midock for the holiday gifts. She thanked all the division-level staff members, teachers, and other staff throughout the division.

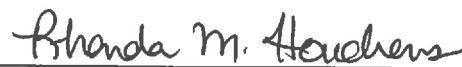
Mr. Jason Tooley thanked Ms. Baran and Ms. Taylor. He said their efforts are ensuring students are safe and healthy all around. He said he is proud that Greene Schools are being used as a model for other divisions as they learn how to navigate the pandemic.

Ms. Sharon Mack wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. She said she anticipates that staff throughout the division will continue to work hard to help students in the new year.

Ms. Mack adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.



Chairman



Clerk