



**Alleghany County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Alleghany County Board of Education, Central Office Conference Room
85 Peachtree St, Sparta, NC 28675
December 8, 2020**

Present: Amy Bottomley, Jason Carpenter, Steve Carpenter, Donna Rea, and Jason Williams.

Staff members present and participating: Chad Beasley; Superintendent, Scott Carter; Associate Superintendent, Fred Johnson; Board Attorney.

I. Moment of Silence.

II. Call to Order. Superintendent, Chad Beasley called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

III. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Beasley asked for nominations for Board Chair. Steve Carpenter nominated Donna Rea. Donna Rea nominated Amy Bottomley. Mr. Beasley asked for votes for Donna Rea. There were two votes cast by Jason Carpenter and Steve Carpenter. Mr. Beasley asked for votes for Amy Bottomley. There were two votes cast by Donna Rea and Jason Williams. Amy Bottomley abstained from voting. Mr. Beasley noted that there could not be a tie. Mr. Beasley asked for another vote. Amy Bottomley added that she would cast her vote for Donna Rea. The final vote was Donna Rea with three votes cast by Amy Bottomley, Jason Carpenter and Steve Carpenter and Amy Bottomley with two votes cast by Donna Rea and Jason Williams. Mr. Beasley asked Donna Rea if she would accept the position as Board Chair, she agreed. Mr. Beasley turned the meeting over to Donna Rea for Vice Chair. Steve Carpenter and Jason Williams nominated Amy Bottomley. Chair Donna Rea asked for additional nominations, there were none.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance – Donna Rea, Board Chair asked Amy Bottomley, Board Member to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. Public Comments – Mrs. Rea called for public comments. There were none.

VI. Approval of Agenda. Jason made a motion to approve the agenda. Amy Bottomley seconded the motion. The board approved 5-0.

VII. Approval of Minutes. Jason Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes as presented for November 17, 2020. Steve Carpenter seconded the motion. The board approved the motion 5-0.

VIII. Announcements-Reports

A. Superintendent's Report—Mr. Beasley

1. Recognition - Bright Idea Winners. Mr. Beasley noted that we had seven Bright Idea Winners in the county. Some of the teachers did not feel comfortable attending the meeting with the COVID numbers rising. They will be invited to attend in January. Dana Russell attended the meeting to talk about her grant. Her grant was an award of \$500. Her grant was titled, Keeping Our Students Safe - CAREERSAFE OSHA 10-Hour (Health Care) Certification. The grant offers Health Science students in grades 10-12 the opportunity to acquire their OSHA 10-Hour General Industry certification which teaches students about the most common hazards in the healthcare industry. Mr. Beasley presented Ms. Russell with a Certificate of Achievement. Ms. Russell noted that this is her second grant that helps with funding certification.

2. Update on Remote Learning and Plan B - Heath Vogler gave an update on the Remote Learning Plan and Plan B for the second semester. No changes to Plan B Face-to-Face format moving into the second semester. There is an increase in students/parents choosing this option. Data as of 12/7/2020: K-5, 109 students returning to Plan B Face-to-Face; 6-8, 34 students returning to Plan B Face-to-Face; 9-12, 25 students returning to Plan B Face-to-Face. Due to decreased numbers of students/parents choosing the remote option, there are a few changes to this plan.

Reduction of remote learning staff, five teachers will return to Plan B, face to face instruction to serve increased student numbers. Five teachers will remain fully remote, serving K-4 students and the 5th and 6th grade students will Zoom into regularly scheduled classes in the same way that 7-12 students were doing this fall. There are approximately 135 K-8 students fully remote and approximately 75 9th-12th grade students.

3. COVID Update. Mr. Carter noted that the bus routes have been updated for the students returning. If there are any 6th- 8th grade students on the bus, students have to sit one to a seat. The number of currently positive students is seven. Most of these are from the same household at the same school. They had not been at school so we did not have to close any schools or classrooms. One staff member is positive. Three staff members have been quarantined and thirty-four students are quarantined. Received new guidance from App Health. The quarantine time is now 10 days with no symptoms, seven days with a negative test after the fifth day. Mr. Carter added that as of December 8th, 2020 we have received \$743,955 in funds to use for COVID and Personal Protective Equipment supplies. COVID monies came from 25 different allotments and Alleghany County Schools has used 12 of those pots. All funding must be allocated to COVID relief in the following categories: Gloves, masks, protective eyewear, face shields, protective barriers, protective gowns or clothing. Funds may also be used for sanitizer, wipes, soaps, thermometers and other areas related to prevention. This money was also used to buy student devices and compensate remote teachers. We received some funding this month that had to be used before the end of December. This was used to purchase additional hand sanitizer and portable temperature checks.

4. Ethics Training. NWRESA will be offering an Ethics Training by webinar by Campbell and Shatley. Mr. Johnson added that the Legislature states that every board member has to have two hours within twelve months after being elected. Mr. Johnson added that he knows Campbell and Shatley attorneys and that the training will be well worth the time. The board agree that they would like to move ahead with the Ethics training.

IX. New Business

1. Facilities Plan Approval. Mr. Carter informed the board that most of the items in the plan are roofing needs. The majority of the costs are roofing needs at all schools. The cost has been projected for one to five and five to ten years. There are also some paving needs. He added that the Schneider Electric contract is going to cover some of the heating and air needs that would normally be included on the Facilities Survey. Mr. Carter added that the Heat and Air at Sparta School gym is on the Capital Outlay as a number one need and that is why it isn't included in the plan. Mr. Steve Carpenter asked about the possibility of forming a middle school. Mr. Beasley answered that he has discussed the notion of having a magnet middle school and keeping Glade Creek and Piney Creek as K-8 schools. The parents would have the opportunity to bring them to Sparta if they chose. Mr. Beasley added that the state has some magnet schools that focus on STEM that he would like the board to see. Mr. Beasley added that it is not his plan to close any schools down.

Jason Williams made a motion to approve the Facilities Plan. Jason Carpenter seconded the motion. The board approved the plan 5-0.

VIII. Old Business

A. Final Reading - Fall PLS 2020. Mr. Johnson added that these policy updates are recommended to comply with changes in Legislation from the North Carolina General Assembly or changes in policies required by new court decisions or changes in regulations from the US Department of Education. Steve Carpenter made a motion to approve the final reading of the Fall PLS 2020 policies. Jason Williams seconded the motion. The board approve 5-0.

IX. Closed Session. Steven Carpenter made a motion to go into closed session. Jason Williams seconded the motion. The board voted 5-0 to enter closed session at 6:18pm for the following purposes: to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential under state or federal law, including but not limited to N.C.G.S. 115C-3129, N.C.G.S. 115C-402, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (1); to consult with its attorney in order to preserve the attorney client privilege, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3); to consider the qualification, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of employment of an individual public officer or employee, or prospective public officer or employee, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (6).

X. Open Session. Steve Carpenter made a motion to enter Open Session at 8:45pm. Jason

Carpenter seconded the motion. The board approved the motion to enter open session 5-0.

A. Personnel Report. On a motion by Steve Carpenter, seconded by Jason Carpenter, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the personnel report as presented:

New Hires Recommendations:

Jarred Cornette - History Teacher @ AHS

Resignations:

Shannon Chandler - Cafeteria Manager @ PCS (12/11/2020)

Elizabeth Wilson - EC Teacher (1/3/2021)

Retirement:

Cheri Choate - ELA Teacher @ AHS (1/1/2021)

Coaches:

Middle School Basketball

Jonathan Bobbitt- 7th/ 8th Girls Coach

Sydney Jones - Assistant Girls 7th/ 8th

Kaleb Redd - 7th/ 8th Boys Coach

XI. Adjourn. Jason Carpenter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steve Carpenter. The board approved the motion 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Chairman

Secretary