

The Cumberland County Board of Education met on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM with the following board members present: Alicia Chisolm, Greg West, Deanna Jones, Susan Williams, Carrie Sutton, Nathan Warfel, Charles McKellar, Judy Musgrave and Donna Vann.

Others present were Superintendent Marvin Connelly and Board Attorney Nick Sojka. Associate Superintendents: Ron Phipps, Betty Musselwhite, Joe Desormeaux, Lindsay Whitley, Mary Black, Ruben Reyes, Stacey Wilson-Norman, and Clyde Locklear.

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Alicia Chisolm called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Greg West and the Invocation by Carrie Sutton.

2. Superintendent's Update / District Highlights - Dr. Marvin Connelly

2.01 Superintendent's Update - Dr. Marvin Connelly

Dr. Connelly opened his comments by sharing recognition of our successful students and premier professionals. Our district garnered state and national honors many times during the last month. A few examples include: our 2022 Assistant Principal of the Year was selected as the 2022 North Carolina Outstanding Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year. Two CCS students won awards at the International Science and Engineering Fair, and one of our educators has been selected as a NASA/NC Space Grant Education Ambassador!

Last week, the Cumberland County Department of Public Health announced that they are now authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations to children ages 5 – 11.

Vaccines are available at Cumberland County Department of Public Health, Parks and Recreation Centers near our school campuses, Cumberland County libraries, and Cape Fear Valley Health locations. Let's keep our community safe and work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 – we encourage everyone to take their shot when they are eligible to do so.

November is a month of many recognitions and celebrations across the district and nation. This week, we pause to celebrate School Psychology Week. Our School Psychologists work non-stop to support our students. They are making a phenomenal impact on our successful students. The month of November is also Career Development Month. This is a time of awareness for students and employees to focus on their future career choices.

The month of November is also American Indian Heritage Month, or Native American & Alaskan Native Heritage Month. During this month, we celebrate the heritage, rich diverse cultures, and traditions of Native tribes and individuals across the country. The CCS Office of Indian Education is celebrating American Indian Heritage Month with all students, staff, and community members by broadcasting daily videos of American Indians from across the country representing their respective tribes. At this time, Lindsay Whitley read a proclamation from Gov. Roy Cooper.

Veterans Day is Thursday, November 11. Our veterans have sacrificed so much for our country and the defense of our freedoms. This day provides us with an opportunity to pay tribute to all American veterans and extend our gratitude to those who have served or are currently serving in our U.S. Armed Forces. Dr. Connelly closed his comments with a short video that expresses our appreciation for our nation's veterans and the relationship we are honored to have with our military-connected community.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

We received seven speakers for Public Comment this evening:

James Shaffer

Nyrell Melvin

Susan Brown

Denita Coles

Eronomy Mohammed

Carmela McKellar-Smith

Cynthia Brent

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion by Greg West, seconded by Donna Vann, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda.

5. APPROVE the CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Charles McKellar, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

5.01 CONSIDER Approval of the Minutes of the October 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

5.02 CONSIDER Approval of Student Release List (Students approved to attend school outside of Cumberland County)

5.03 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit A)

5.04 CONSIDER Approval of Leaves of Absence as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit B)

5.05 CONSIDER Approval of Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit C)

5.06 CONSIDER Approval of Proclamation: Career Development Month and CTE Facilitator Day as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (Exhibit D)

5.07 CONSIDER Approval of Recommendation for Auxiliary Services New Trucks and Vans as recommended by the Finance Committee (Exhibit E)

5.08 CONSIDER Approval of Plan for ESSER II Funds designated for recruitment and retention of School Nutrition personnel by the State Board of Education as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit F)

5.09 CONSIDER Approval of HVAC Design Proposal at Loyd Auman Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit G)

5.10 CONSIDER Approval of Chiller Replacements at Cape Fear High School as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit H)

6. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Auxiliary Services Committee Report – Charles McKellar

7. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Student Support Services Committee Report – Susan Williams

8. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Budget/Finance Committee Report – Greg West

9. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Policy Committee Report – Deanna Jones

9.01 CONSIDER Approval of Policy 3620 (First Reading)

Carrie Sutton made a motion to send this item back to Committee for additional input. Deanna Jones seconded the motion and opened the floor for discussion.

After much discussion, the Chair called for a vote on this item. The motion failed based on the following vote:

In favor of sending the item back to Committee – Jones, McKellar, Musgrave and Sutton.

Against sending back to Committee: Chisolm, West, Vann, Warfel, Williams

The chair now called for a vote on item 9.01 as it is on the agenda. Mr. West made a motion to Approve Policy 3620 (First Reading). Donna Vann seconded the motion.

The motion passed by the following vote:

In favor of approval: Chisolm, West, Vann, Warfel and Williams

Against approval: Jones, McKellar, Musgrave and Sutton.

9.02 CONSIDER Approval of Masking Policy Pursuant to SB 654

Ms. Bolden provided an update on the current status in Cumberland County.

Carrie Sutton made a motion to approve Masking Policy Pursuant to SB 654.

Charles McKellar seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following vote:

In favor: Chisolm, Jones, McKellar, Musgrave, Sutton, Vann and Williams

Against: West and Warfel

10. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Curriculum Committee Report – Donna Vann

11. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Personnel Committee Report - Carrie Sutton

11.01 CONSIDER Approval of Qualtrics Vaccine Manager Proposal

Ruben Reyes presented the information regarding the Qualtrics Vaccine Manager Proposal and the background explaining the need, timeline and answered questions of the Board.

Greg West made a motion to approve. Susan Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following vote:

Voting to approve: Chisolm, West, Jones, McKellar, Musgrave, Sutton, Vann and Williams

Voting against: Warfel

12. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Legislative Committee Report – Nathan Warfel

13. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

14. CLOSING ITEMS

14.01 Board Member Update – Mrs. Chisolm praised the Veterans Program she and other Board Members recently attended. She said the program was excellent.

14.02 Chairman's Update

Mrs. Chisolm thanked everyone for attending tonight's board meeting both in-person and virtually and thanked our Public Speakers for their participation.

Our next regular Board Meeting will be held on December 14, 2021. We look forward to seeing everyone again in December.

On behalf of this board, Mrs. Chisolm extended our best wishes to everyone for a **Happy Thanksgiving**.

In closing, Mrs. Chisolm stated: to all of our veterans, *We Salute You!* Thank you for your service and sacrifice.

14.03 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent

MC/ph