

The Cumberland County Board of Education met on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM with the following board members present: Alicia Chisolm, Greg West, Deanna Jones, Susan Williams, Nathan Warfel, Charles McKellar, Judy Musgrave, Carrie Sutton 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 Greg West called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nathan Warfel and the Invocation by Deanna Jones.

2. RECOGNITIONS

2.01 RECOGNIZED Student Ex-Officio Officers

Adrianna Herring – Cumberland International Early College
Dawson Jarman - Pine Forest High

2.02 RECOGNIZED National Board Certification Candidates: Nikole McCoy, Amber House, and Shawn Wint-Carter

2.03 RECOGNIZED Extra Mile Award Winners – Beth Heisel and Suzanne Davies

2.04 RECOGNIZED Committed Community Support Award Winner: Sharon Glover of Alliance Health

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

3.01 Superintendent's Update - Dr. Marvin Connelly

Dr. Connelly began: I just came from the STARward STEM Expo at Douglas Byrd High School. Seeing our community come together and support our brilliant student scientists as they reach for the stars reminded me: It is a GREAT day to be a part of Cumberland County Schools! Three student teams from Cumberland County Schools (CCS) will be selected to have their experiments launched to the International Space Station. Engaging learning experiences such as STARward STEM are preparing our students to be future leaders, inventors and responsible citizens.

Last Nine Weeks Update

Last week, several School Board members and I attended the National School Boards Association Conference. During the conference, Board Vice-Chair Deanna Jones accepted the district's 2022 Magna Award on behalf of our district. During the Board Meeting, Dr. Connelly recognized Jovan Denaut for her efforts and presented the award to her, but Ms. Denaut was not able to attend. It is wonderful to see our district's commitment to equity recognized at the national level!

We are coming up on a season of joy, reflection and new possibilities. Of course, I'm talking about Graduation Season! Our seniors are starting their last few weeks here in CCS and years of hard work all come down to the culminating event of graduation.

Our graduating seniors are bright and ambitious students who are planning to attend some of the top colleges and universities in the country, serve in the military And some will even begin their careers. Watch our social media channels and website for exciting stories about these successful students as we get closer to Graduation 2022.

To our graduating seniors, I want to say: Stay focused, enjoy this time and continue making us proud!

To all of our Successful Students, I know you are feeling the pressure with upcoming tests and the end of the year approaching. You are capable of excellence and our Premier Professionals are here to support your success as you have a strong finish to this school year.

Kindergarten Showcase

As this school year closes, and we look forward to the next school year, we welcome rising kindergarteners and their families to learn about our exceptional environments during the new Kindergarten Showcase 2022. Kindergarten registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open now and new CCS families can find resources and information on our website. When we welcome a kindergartener into our classrooms, we are welcoming that child and their family into our community of schools — where our educators and parents are partners in student success. Be sure to check out the Kindergarten section on our CCS website – and find out what’s happening over the next several weeks ... in-person orientation days, community events and more!

Dr. Connelly shared the April Observances: April has many observances that our district highly values such as National Autism Awareness Month, School Library Month, and National Volunteer Week.

Last week, in fact, was National Assistant Principals Week and how fitting that one of our own assistant principals, Dr. Quesha Tillman, was announced as a 2022 National Outstanding Assistant Principal! We are so proud of our premier professionals, who continue to model excellence in education.

This month is the Month of the Military Child. Our district has the third-highest concentration of military-connected students in the country and we are dedicated to ensuring their success with specialized support systems and military-friendly practices. Just last week, South View Middle School hosted its 9th Annual Military Ball for students and families. It was a special night for our military families. Be sure to visit our social media pages to see photos from the event and information on other celebrations taking place throughout the district.

This month is also Child Abuse Prevention Month, and you’ve probably seen blue pinwheels all over the district as we acknowledge the importance of safe, nurturing home environments. Valuable prevention resources and information can be found on our website. We cannot overstate the importance of our families and community working together to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Dr. Connelly ended his comments with a brief video highlighting our commitment to supporting every school in the district. However, some schools need additional support - that's where our PASE support structure comes in.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

We received 9 speakers for Public Comment this evening:

Dwayne Pelham, Anthony Davis, Kimberly Davis, Jared Davis, James Thomas Jones, Vanessa Lacovone, Tasha Wooten (Luther Nick Jeralds’ Athletes), Tubbs (Tony Jones), and Student Ex-Officio Adrianna Herring

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Donna Vann, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda.

6. APPROVE the CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Donna Vann, seconded by Susan Williams, the board voted to approve the Consent Agenda with the agreement to pull item 6.04 for a separate vote by the following vote:

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

Against: Chisolm

Abstained: West (Mr. West's company does business with Holmes Electric - Item 6.02)

6.01 CONSIDER Approval of the Minutes of the March 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

6.02 CONSIDER Approval of the 2022-23 Annual Contract Renewal with Holmes Electric for Security and Fire Alarm Monitoring as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit A)

6.03 CONSIDER Approval of Bid Award for Child Nutrition Large Equipment Repair Services as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit B)

~~6.04 CONSIDER Approval of the FY 2023-27 Capital Improvement Plan Resolution as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee~~

6.05 CONSIDER Approval of the YMCA Aquatic Center Resolution as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit C)

6.06 CONSIDER Approval of the HVAC Replacement for the Central Services Building as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit D)

6.07 CONSIDER Approval of the HVAC/Window Replacement for Mary McArthur Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit E)

6.08 CONSIDER Proclamation for Month of the Military Child as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (Exhibit F)

6.09 CONSIDER Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (Exhibit G)

6.10 CONSIDER Approval of the Summer Reading Program Proposal as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (Exhibit H)

6.11 CONSIDER Approval of the Required Uniform Policy as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee (Exhibit I)

6.12 CONSIDER Approval of Custodial Services Bid for Floor Stripper & Finish as recommended by the Finance Committee (Exhibit J)

6.13 CONSIDER Approval of Technology Bid for Absolute® Software for Student Chromebooks as recommended by the Finance Committee (Exhibit K)

6.14 CONSIDER Approval of Budget Amendments as recommended by the Finance Committee (Exhibit L)

6.15 CONSIDER Approval of the Cooperative Innovative High School Renewal Request as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (Exhibit M)

6.16 CONSIDER Approval of the School Library Month Proclamation as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (Exhibit N)

6.17 CONSIDER Approval of Lexia Learning Systems LLC Purchasing Agreement as recommended by the Curriculum Committee (Exhibit O)

6.18 CONSIDER Approval of Release of Certain Students

6.19 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit P)

6.20 CONSIDER Leave of Absence Requests as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit Q)

6.21 CONSIDER Approval of State Low Wealth Supplement as recommended by the Personnel Committee (Exhibit R)

6.04 CONSIDER Approval of the FY 2023-27 Capital Improvement Plan Resolution as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee (Exhibit S)

Ms. Jones brought back to the floor for discussion on the wording of the resolution. Mr. McKellar elaborated and suggested the wording of the 6th paragraph be changed; viewed in a dictating tone. Upon a motion by Donna Vann, seconded by Alicia Chisolm, the board approved item 6.04 by the following vote:

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

7. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Auxiliary Services Committee Report – Deanna Jones

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

9. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Budget/Finance Committee Report – Carrie Sutton

10. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Policy Committee Report – Charles McKellar

10.01 CONSIDER Approval of Revised Policy 6141, COVID-19 Face Coverings (2nd Reading) (Exhibit T)

With the motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Nathan Warfel, the motion passed by the following vote:

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

11. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Curriculum Committee Report – Donna Vann

12. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Personnel Committee Report – Nathan Warfel

13. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: None

14. CLOSING ITEMS

14.01 Board Member update

14.02 Chairman's Update

Mr. West acknowledged everyone for attending tonight's board meeting both in-person and virtually and the public speakers for their participation. Friday, April 15th, all CCS Facilities will be closed in observance of Good Friday Holiday, which also leads into the week of Spring Break, April 18th – April 22nd for the traditional calendar. Enjoy and take this time for some well-deserved R&R. Our next regular Board meeting will be held on May 10, 2022. We look forward to seeing everyone again in May.

14.03 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent