



Virtual Regular Meeting Cumberland County Board of Education December 8, 2020

Newly Elected Board Members Take the Oath of Office

Newly elected Board members Deanna Jones and Nathan Warfel took the oath of office administered by Board Paralegal and Legal Assistant Debbie McDaniel. School Board members Alicia Chisolm, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann and Susan Williams were re-elected to serve another term on the Board.

Superintendent Updates the Board

Superintendent Dr. Connelly shared the following updates:

- He extended a hearty **congratulations** to our recently re-elected **Cumberland County School Board members** Alicia Chisolm, Deanna Jones, Carrie Sutton, Donna Vann and Susan Williams. Dr. Connelly welcomed aboard **the newest member**, Nathan Warfel.
- Dr. Connelly congratulated **Nicole Rivers**, Cumberland County Schools' Teacher of the Year who serves as an English Teacher at Gray's Creek High School, who was recently announced as the **2021 Sandhills Regional Teacher of the Year**. She will go on to compete against eight other regional winners from across North Carolina for the state title. This is the second year in a row that CCS has had a regional Teacher of the Year.
- On behalf of the Cumberland County School family, Dr. Connelly extended deepest condolences to the family of highly respected educator **Dr. Phyllis B. Dunham**. Many years ago, she served as a trusted employee of Cumberland County Schools and moved forward to work in numerous capacities as well as at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.
- Dr. Connelly 'shouted out' the E.E. Smith High School family and their 1980 Golden Bull graduate **Glenwood Roane**, who is a pilot for United Airlines. Recently, Roane was in the news for being one of three pilots responsible for flying one million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from Brussels to the US to help prevent the spread of the deadly virus.
- The Superintendent shared that district and school personnel are working diligently to prepare for our transition to Plan B, contingent upon positive COVID metrics. Dr. Connelly said that schools recently hosted virtual parent nights to share re-entry information with families, while the district still encourages everyone to practice the **3Ws** -- **W**ear a mask ... **W**ait 6 feet from others ... and ... **W**ash your hands – simple actions all can do to keep our community safe and allow us to move forward with Plan B.

Board of Education

Alicia Chisolm
Chair
District #1

Greg West
Vice Chair
At Large

Judy Musgrave
At Large

Charles McKellar
At Large

Deanna Jones
District #2

Carrie Sutton
District #3

Donna Vann
District #4

Susan Williams
District #5

Nathan Warfel
District #6

Superintendent
Dr. Marvin Connelly

- Dr. Connelly reported that in the next days, the administration will continue monitoring the metrics in collaboration with local health officials in order to keep the Board apprised if there is a need to make **any adjustments to the previously approved re-entry plan** prior to leaving for Winter Break.

The school system will close for Winter Break on Friday, December 18 and remain closed through January 1. All employees were encouraged to use this break to relax and recharge for the New Year.

Dr. Connelly closed his update by presenting a brief video highlighting CCS' Top 10 Moments of 2020.

Administrative Recommendations

Assistant Principals

Anne Chesnutt Middle
Seventy-First High
South View Middle
Westarea Elementary
Jack Britt High

Aisha Melvin
Eddie Ford, IV
David Simmons
Jernise Rucker
Doris Taylor

School Improvement Plans, Addendums Approved

The Board approved Year 1 of Cumberland County Schools' 2020-2022 School Improvement Plans. With this approval, the Plans will be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. General statute requires that School Improvement Plans be approved by the local Board of Education every two years. Plans for Low Performing Schools must be approved annually.

Board Gives "Thumbs Up" to School Business Modernization Project Contract

The Board approved extending its contract with DavenportLawrence and accepting the cost proposals presented in order to provide the necessary project management services for the district's business modernization project. After a 2018 assessment of the district's business systems and needs, it was determined that DavenportLawrence, Inc., possessed the necessary knowledge and understanding of CCS' complex ERP system and would be able to provide the experienced professionals to assist the district in making the business modernization project successful.

Revised Policies Accepted by Board

The following revised policies were approved by the Board: 1510/4200/7270 School Safety; 2342 Voting Methods; 3300 School Calendar and Time for Learning; 4400 Attendance; and 6305 Safety and Student Transportation Services.

Board Recognitions

Betty Musselwhite, the associate superintendent of School Support Services, introduced the following honorees to the Board to be recognized before they shared words of 'thanks:'

National Board Certification Candidates

CCS' Teachers **Kristy Washington** from **Lewis Chapel Middle School**, **Tara Runion King** from **Gray's Creek High School**, **Erin Draughon** from **Gray's Creek Elementary School**, and **Jennifer Southard** from **Douglas Byrd High School** were recognized by the Board for

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completing the rigorous process of National Board Certification. Each National Board candidate received a \$500 stipend for the completion of the process. The four teachers anxiously await their results.

2021 Board Chair & Vice Chair Named

Members of the Board re-elected Alicia Chisolm as the chair and Greg West as the vice-chair of the Cumberland County Board of Education. Both will serve a one-year term in these positions.

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