

Cumberland County Board of Education
Fayetteville, North Carolina
December 10, 2019

The Cumberland County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., in the Central Services Board Room, with the following board members present: Donna Vann, Alicia Chisolm, Porcha McMillan, Susan Williams, Carrie Sutton, Charles McKellar, Joe Sorce, Judy Musgrave, and Greg West.

Others present were Superintendent Marvin Connelly, Associate Superintendents, Mary Black, Ron Phipps, Ruben Reyes, Clyde Locklear, Betty Musselwhite, Lindsay Whitley, Joe Desormeaux and Stacey Wilson-Norman; Board Attorney Nick Sojka; representatives of the principals association, Ft. Bragg Liaison, district PTA representative, representatives of the NCAEOP, NAACP, CCAE, Child Nutrition Services, Retired School Personnel and representatives of the teacher assistants association.

1. OPENING ITEMS

Chairman Donna Vann called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The Panthers Strings from Max Abbott Middle School played our National Anthem, followed with the invocation by Alicia Chisolm.

2. RECOGNITIONS

The Board RECOGNIZED Student Representatives Melissa Chuy, Student Government representative from Jack Britt High School and Cristal Chamorro, Student Government Representative from Wilkins High School. Melissa and Cristal were given the opportunity to address the Board on a topic of their choice.

The Board RECOGNIZED Patience Weddel as the Amazing Acts of Character Recipient for the Month of October

The Board RECOGNIZED Sharon Bowden as the Extra Mile Award Winner for this month.

The Board RECOGNIZED the following National Board Stipend Recipients:

Kelly Arnold
Henrietta Corbett
Andrea Farr Peart
Marta Godo DeLucas
Nikole McKoy
Jennifer Nance
Asteria Roseboro

3. PUBLIC FORUM

One citizen spoke tonight: Carmella McKeller-Smith

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion by Greg West, seconded by Susan Williams, the Board adopted the agenda unanimously.

5. Chairman Donna Vann called for a motion to **APPROVE the **CONSENT AGENDA**.**

Upon motion by Greg West, seconded by Alicia Chisolm, the Board unanimously approved the **Consent Agenda**.

5.01 CONSIDER Approval of the Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Board Meeting

5.02 CONSIDER Approval of Release of Certain Students

5.03 CONSIDER Approval of Personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee

5.04 CONSIDER Approval of Leaves of Absence and Special Leaves of Absence as recommended by the Personnel Committee

5.05 CONSIDER Approval of Administrative Recommendations as recommended by the Personnel Committee

5.06 CONSIDER Approval of PWC Utility Easement at W.H. Owen Elementary as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee

5.07 CONSIDER Approval of Synovia GPS Transportation Contract Renewal as recommended by the Auxiliary Services Committee

5.08 CONSIDER Approval of Agreement between CCS and Cumberland County CommuniCare SPARCS Services as recommended by the Student Support Services Committee

5.09 CONSIDER Approval of Budget Adoption FY 2019-2020 as recommended by the Finance Committee

5.10 CONSIDER Approval of Fund Balance Transfer Resolution FY 2019-2020 as recommended by the Finance Committee

5.11 CONSIDER Approval of Approval of New / Revised Policy 7241 (to be adopted as temporary policy as of Jan 1, 2020) as recommended by the Policy Committee (First Reading)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Auxiliary Services Committee Report - Porcha McMillan

6.1 CONSIDER Approval of Donation of Land adjacent to College Lakes Elementary (Seeking Board approval to accept donation if due diligence is satisfactory)

Mr. West made a motion to approve the land donation if due diligence is satisfactory. Mr. Sorce seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

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

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

9. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Policy Committee Report – Judy Musgrave

9.01 CONSIDER Approval of New / Revised Policy (3620) (First Reading)

Before calling for a motion on item 9.01, Mrs. Musgrave stated her displeasure with this policy and wanted to share that she does not support the policy revision. Mr. McKellar stated his concern over the issue of this item coming to the Board on the discussion agenda after the item did not receive approval in Committee. Mr. Sojka helped to clarify that our Board policy 2230, D states Items receiving some support but less than a unanimous vote shall be placed on the discussion agenda in the posture in which

that item was brought before the committee; therefore this item, receiving a 2-2 vote in Committee has been placed on the Discussion agenda tonight for full Board consideration.

Carrie Sutton made a motion to approve item 9.01. Alicia Chisolm seconded the motion.

Policy 3620 (First Reading) was approved by the following vote:

In favor: Sutton, Chisolm, Vann, West, Sorce, Williams

Against: McKellar, McMillan, Musgrave

10. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Curriculum Committee Report – Carrie Sutton

11. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Personnel Committee Report – Carrie Sutton

11.01 CONSIDER Approval of Additional Administrative Recommendations

Upon a motion by Susan Williams, seconded by Carrie Sutton, the additional Administrative Recommendations were unanimously approved.

11.02 CONSIDER Motion to go into CLOSED SESSION to preserve the confidentiality of matters protected from disclosure pursuant to G.S. 115C-319, and to preserve the attorney-client privilege pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Upon a motion by Carrie Sutton, seconded by Joseph Sorce, the Board unanimously approve to go INTO Closed Session at 7:15 pm.

Upon a motion by Donna Vann, seconded by Alicia Chisolm, the Board members present voted unanimously to come OUT of Closed Session at 7:30 pm. (Mr. McKellar was not in the room at the time of the vote)

Mrs. Vann called on Dr. Connelly for his Administrative Recommendation. Dr. Connelly recommends Ms. Corine Warren at principal of Ben Martin Elementary. Upon a motion by Greg West, seconded by Carrie Sutton, the Board unanimously approved Dr. Connelly's recommendation.

12. DISCUSSION AGENDA: Legislative Committee Report – Charles McKellar

13. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

13.01 CONSIDER Fines and Forfeitures Resolution

Mr. McKellar stated that he has spoken to both Marvin Lucas and Elmer Floyd regarding the Resolution. Both are hopeful it will pass but still must go through further Legislative process.

Mr. West made a motion to approve the Fines and Forfeitures Resolution. Mrs. Williams seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

13.02 CONSIDER Nominations for 2020 Chairman

Mrs. Vann opened the floor for nominations for the 2020 Chairman.

Mrs. Musgrave nominated Porcha McMillan. Ms. Sutton nominated Alicia Chisolm.

With no other nominations, Susan Williams made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Sorce seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

Mrs. Vann called for a vote, by show of hands, for Porcha McMillan as 2020 Board Chairman. Voting in favor of Mrs. McMillan were Judy Musgrave, Porcha McMillan and Charles McKellar.

Mrs. Vann called for a vote, by show of hands, for Alicia Chisolm as 2020 Board Chairman. Voting in favor of Mrs. Chisolm were Vann, Chisolm, West, Williams, Sorce and Sutton.

13.03 CONSIDER Nominations for 2020 Vice Chairman

Mrs. Vann opened the floor for nominations for the 2020 Vice Chairman.

Mrs. McMillan nominated Mrs. Musgrave. Mrs. Williams nominated Greg West.

With no other nominations, Greg West made a motion to close nominations. Mrs. Williams seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

Mrs. Vann called for a vote, by show of hands, for Judy Musgrave as 2020 Board Vice Chairman. Voting in favor of Mrs. Musgrave were Judy Musgrave, Porcha McMillan and Charles McKellar.

Mrs. Vann called for a vote, by show of hands, for Greg West as 2020 Board Vice Chairman. Voting in favor of Mr. West were Vann, Chisolm, West, Williams, Sorce and Sutton.

Congratulations were made to Mrs. Chisolm and Mr. West.

(7:40 pm Mrs. Musgrave left the meeting at this time)

14. CLOSING ITEMS

14.01 Special Recognition of 2019 Vice Chairman, Alicia Chisolm and 2019 Chairman, Donna Vann
On behalf of the Board, Mr. West presented Mrs. Vann with a gavel plaque and Mrs. Chisolm with a framed certificate to thank them for their service as Board Chair and Vice Chair for 2019.

14.01 Superintendent's Update - Dr. Marvin Connelly

Dr. Connelly began his comments by thanking the Board for the opportunity to serve as the leader of our great school system stating so much work is being done to help our students be successful in the classroom and beyond.

First, Dr. Connelly congratulated Mrs. Chisolm and Mr. West.

He then shared highlights of the many great things happening across our school system:

- Starting in the new year, we are launching the Leading Beyond the Classroom pathway. The pathway is one of our Strategic Plan initiatives.
- Congratulations to Maureen Stover, CCS Teacher of the Year, who has been named the 2020 Sandhills Regional Teacher of the Year.
- CCS has been granted the Going the Distance Award by the Dept of Public Instruction for our outstanding strategy and increased participation in the Summer Meals Program. During the summer of 2019, CCS' Child Nutrition Services served more than 100,000 free meals to our community.
- Last week we hosted another successful community forum, in partnership with the NAACP and other local organizations.
- The holiday season is in full swing. Our school system will shut down on December 20 and remain closed through January 3.

In closing, Dr. Connelly shared a video that features FFA students at South View High School and a unique new venture, *Farm to Table*.

14.03 Board Members' Update (Limited to comments regarding school system business and school systems events only)

The Board had a brief discussion regarding a recent Op Ed in the newspaper. The discussion was regarding Policy 2220 and the Chairperson of the Board is the spokesperson for the Board.

14.04 Chairman's Update

Mrs. Vann stated, as a CCS graduate and a retired CCS educator, it has been her pleasure to serve as the 2019 Board Chair.

She shared many noteworthy accomplishments – some noted below:

- The highest graduation rate in CCS' history
- 85% of teachers who taught EOC and EOG courses met or exceeded growth expectations.
- \$92 million in scholarship funding awarded to the Class of 2019
- Comprehensive budget process

- Outstanding process to develop our Strategic Plan. The plan will serve as the foundation for the success and improvement over the next five years.
- Most notable is the continued good news regarding the health of our Superintendent, Dr. Marvin Connelly.

Additionally, Mrs. Vann shared some challenges:

- Less than needed funding
- 23 schools designated as low-performing

As she prepares to pass the gavel to the new chairperson, she encourages every person on the Board to work collaboratively with each other, Dr. Connelly and his team.

She closed by thanking everyone for their attendance this evening and hopes to see everyone again in January. On behalf of the Board, she wished everyone safe and happy holidays.

14.04 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Dr. Marvin Connelly, Superintendent
MC/ph