

ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

5:00 p.m. - Regular - Administrative Offices - Board Room

Monday, August 8, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED: The Asheville City Board of Education met in a regularly called session on August 8, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at the Administrative Office - Board Room at 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina, where and when the following business was transacted.

The following Board members were present:

James C. Carter, Board Chair

Martha Geitner, Vice Chair

George Sieburg, Member

Peyton O'Conner, Member

Shaunda Sandford Jackson, Member

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Mark Dickerson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Melissa Hedt, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and Accountability; Georgia Harvey, Executive Director of Finance; Dillon Huffman, Communication Specialist; Nathan Haugaard; Technology Specialist; Kidada Wynn, Executive Director of Student Services; Kristy Coats, Facilities Director; Marta Alcala-Williams, Executive Director of Equity and Family Engagement; Kimberly Jones, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by the Board Chair, James C. Carter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Asheville City Schools Elementary Students

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

James C. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda. George Sieburg approved the motion. Martha Geitner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GOOD NEWS:

April Dockery, Executive Director of Operations presented:

Asheville City Schools Beautification Day with students, staff, and community members who came to all school campuses and assisted with weeding and mulching. Thank you all for your support!

Leadership Conference at Western Carolina University for District Leadership and School Leadership. Thank you to all of the local businesses that contributed donations!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following names were called to make a public comment:

In-Person

Shifra Alhers

Virtual

Syberia Lundy

CONSENT ITEMS

- Special Called Work Session Minutes June 6, 2022
- Closed Session Minutes June 6, 2022
- Regular Meeting Minutes June 13, 2022
- Closed Session Minutes June 16, 2022
- Special Called Work Session Minutes June 30, 2022
- Special Called Closed Session Minutes June 30, 2022
- Special Called Work Session Minutes July 25, 2022
- Student Releases to Buncombe County 2022-2023
- Contract - BCHHS - Nurse Health Services

Martha Geitner motioned to approve the consent agenda. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Personnel Report No. 1

George Sieburg motioned to approve personnel report No.1. Martha Geitner seconded the motion. Shaunda Sandford Jackson abstained. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

2. District AIG Plan

Martha Geitner motioned to approve the District AIG Plan. George Sieburg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. School Capital Fund Commission Appointment - The term will end in 2024.

George Sieburg nominated himself for the appointment. Martha Geitner motioned to approve the nomination. Shaunda Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

4. Work Session Meeting Minutes December 6, 2021 - *Final Approval*

For Final Approval, Martha Geitner motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes on December 6, 2021. George Sieburg seconded the motion. Peyton O'Conner voted nay. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

5. Special Called Open Hearing Minutes December 7, 2021- *Final Approval*

For Final Approval, Martha Geitner motioned to approve the Special Called Open Hearing Minutes on December 7, 2021. George Sieburg seconded the motion. Peyton O'Conner voted nay. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

6. Regular Meeting Minutes December 13, 2021 - *Final Approval*

For Final Approval, Martha Geitner motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes on December 13, 2021. George Sieburg seconded the motion. Peyton O'Conner voted nay. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Kristy Coats shared an update about changes with custodians. There will be some adjustments to the Budd Group contract. With the change, the Budd Group will be placed at Asheville High School. The three custodians at AHS will be moved to currently vacant positions in the Elementary Schools. As we hire new custodians the AHS custodians can stay at their new location or return to AHS. With this change, the district will have five open positions. There will be 12 custodians from the Budd Group at AHS. Dr. Causby noted that we are only doing this because we don't have applicants. Everyone will remain employed.

Kidada Wynn shared an update about the Education and Career Academy. Mrs. Wynn and her team are working diligently to solidify some space for the academy. An MOU Lease agreement that can house up to 50 students has been submitted to the attorneys for review and is now being reviewed by David Nash, Executive Director with the Housing Authority City of Asheville. Once it is completed by Mr. Nash, the MOU will be presented to the Board of Education for approval.

FINANCE

- Georgia and her team are continuing with the audio process and building budgets for the current year.

MAINTENANCE

- Canopies are down at Asheville High School, which opened up the space and looks great!
- We have moved preschool classrooms into their new spaces.
- A great community effort to beautify our campuses was held this past Saturday.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- We will be attending the Work/Life Balance Job Fair on Thursday, August 11th from 11 am - 4 pm at the WNC Ag Center. We are looking to hire teachers, IAs, bus drivers, maintenance, and school nutritionists. Principals and hiring managers will be joining us.
- We currently have around 50 total employee vacancies in ACS.

EQUITY

- We have 5 Racial Equity Ambassadors present at our leadership conference this past week! They did great. Principals have asked if they can present at each school.
- All principals and APs have attended the two-day Phase I REI as requested by the board minus the new ones and some may attend this coming weekend.
- All the nurses in our schools have also gone through the rei workshop.

STUDENT SERVICES

- Kidada Wynn and her team will continue with the ACS Education and Career Academy. To date, we have 40 interested students.
- High school counselors are back working on schedules for the coming year.
- High school counselors are working to ensure our recently graduated students are ready to start their new college careers. They packed comforters, irons, linens, etc for several of our students.
- Our mental/behavioral health team will be training all student support specialists, ISS staff, and instructional assistants on restorative practices, suicide assessments, threat assessments, and trauma-informed classrooms/care. We all will be equipped to facilitate and manage the RESET rooms on each of our campuses. This training will be on August 25, 2022.

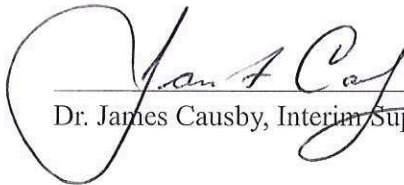
- We have commitments from 13 school-based therapists this school year; this is 9 more than what we had at the end of last school year. This includes a clinician joining us from Appalachian Mountain Community Health Centers. Save the date of the ribbon cutting ceremony symbolizing this great new partnership on August 24, 2022, at 4 pm on the campus of Asheville High/SILSA.

OPERATIONS

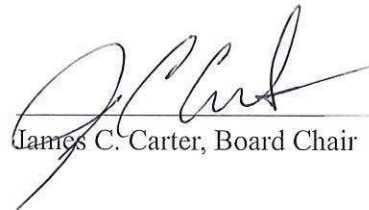
- We have started Mandatory Central Office Safety and Reunification Training. It went really well and we will soon be having this training in our school.
- Dillon Huffman is working this week to get the word out about the change in meal prices for this coming school year, as well as, making sure families are aware of the bus information we shared last week.
- We are in the process of creating ads for employment across the state. We have ads running right now on WLOS, Citizen-Times, Charlotte Observer, Raleigh News and Observer, social media, indeed, etc. Dillon also got some ads with Spectrum and iHeart Radio going today.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Dr. James Causby, Interim Superintendent



James C. Carter, Board Chair