

**Minutes**  
**Anson County Board of Education**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, February 27, 2023, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Anson County Schools' Administrative Conference Room/Board Room**

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 27, 2023. Board members present in-person were Marilyn Bennett, Lisa Davis, Carol Gibson, Frank Liles, Bobbie Little, Judy Little, Beulah Pratt, George Truman and Mike Turner. Others in attendance were Howard McLean (Superintendent), Marty Godwin (Assistant Superintendent), Anne Hyatt (Board Clerk), Mike Flake (Board Attorney) and Pete Swails (Technology).

**Call to Order**

George Truman opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Invocation**

Frank Liles gave the Invocation.

**Adopt Agenda**

Mike Turner made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Bennett and approved by the board. Motion carried.

**Approve Minutes**

**Regular Meeting 01/30/23**

A motion was made by Mike Turner to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Carol Gibson and approved by the board. Motion carried.

**Closed Session**

A motion was made by Frank Liles to go into closed session at 4:03 p.m. The motion was seconded by Lisa Davis and approved by the board. Motion carried.

There was no action taken.

**Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 5:31 p.m. upon a motion by Frank Liles. The motion was seconded by Beulah Pratt and approved by the board. Motion carried.

**Public Comment**

Joan Shay was present to follow-up on the boards' experience with being substitutes in the schools. She wanted to thank Chris Stinson for restraining the student to help with school order and he did a good job. Ms. Shay said staff members are doing so much to help students and unless you have been there you can't see how hard they have worked. She asked the board how was their experience as a substitute, where did the board substitute and did any members substitute. She also asked if board members visited the schools and what was the experience. Ms. Davis explained that legally board members can't substitute in a school.

Board members confirmed they visited schools. Ms. Shay said someone should have told her that board members aren't allowed to sub and she understands now where priorities stand.

#### Chair's Report/Board Member Engagement

Lisa Davis stated she visited the middle school and elementary schools. She said she has visited the classrooms and during class change. Ms. Gibson mentioned she visited Wadesboro Primary School and looks forward to returning for future visits. Mr. Turner said he visited Ansonville Elementary School for their Science Night.

#### New Middle School Project Update

Dr. Truman explained the bids came in for the middle school too high and the board is continuing to look for options but no action will be taken tonight.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. McLean gave reports on the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA), Budget, Current Job Postings, Instructional/Operational Programs, Discipline Report, Community Use of Facilities, Discussion of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Placement for 2023-2024 and the Internet Safety Policy.

#### Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA)

Mr. McLean said all nine schools have gone through the CNA and received their reports to unpack them and make improvements as needed. He explained the district office will go through the CNA as well starting tomorrow. Dr. Susan Silver was present from the NC Department of Public Instruction and explained they have completed the needs assessment at the schools and will begin the district level tomorrow. Dr. Silver also introduced Jamie Stroud and Kelly Batts as part of the CNA Team. She explained it is an excellent model for the district office to go through the assessment as well.

FY 2021-2022 Annual Audit Presentation: Mr. Travis Hardee was present to give the Annual Audit Presentation for fiscal year 2021-2022. Mr. Hardee said there was an unmodified opinion issued on the basic financial statements and other programs audited. He explained that an unmodified opinion is the best opinion you can receive. Lastly, Mr. Hardee explained there were no findings in the audit report. Dr. Truman thanked Mr. Hardee for the thorough presentation. Mr. McLean also thanked Mr. Hardee for the presentation and told the board if they have questions to let him know.

#### North Carolina Instructional Leadership Academy (NCILA/Relay) – Jennifer Collard

Mrs. Collard was present to share an update on NCILA. She explained there are some exciting updates with NCILA and she introduced Mr. Stinson so he could share a principal perspective on some great things he is doing at Anson High School. She explained by the end of the month, the goal is for all principals to have minute-by-minute routines and plans implemented. Mr. Stinson said there is a protocol that they call "see it, name it and do it" where there is a lot of coaching and learning involved. He explained one of the plans is the start of the school day and strong classroom start. He said administration will then circle back during planning periods to offer feedback of see it, name it and do it and what could be done differently.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Placement for 23-24 School Year

Mrs. Collard shared the review of data that was requested. She explained the testing information and mentioned they will continue to add to the report. Mrs. Collard also shared

the grade span configuration information from across North Carolina. Dr. Truman asked what the benefits are that show the best configuration. Dr. Truman also asked if the elementary schools have the capacity or what that capacity looks like. He explained he thinks parents should have input. Ms. Bennett said she thinks teachers should have input. Ms. Collard also shared discipline data with the board to compare to previous years. Mr. McLean asked for next steps the board would like to take from this point. Lisa Davis said it's her opinion to go ahead with the transition of moving the 6<sup>th</sup> grade back to the elementary schools. Dr. Little said why is it even being discussed when there are no plans for a 6<sup>th</sup> grade wing at the new school. Dr. Little said it's her choice not to move them back. Dr. Truman said he needs to know if the schools can accommodate the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Dr. Truman asked the elementary principals if they had room if 6<sup>th</sup> grade was moved back to the elementary schools. All principals stated they do have room with some concerns that can probably be worked out. Mr. McLean stated the numbers at the elementary schools have been stable the last few years. Dr. Truman said he thinks this topic needs to be on the March agenda as an action item.

#### Internet Safety Policy

Mr. Swails said the policy is on the agenda for the public to ask questions if needed and it revolves around being compliant with the Child and Internet Protection Act. There were no questions or comments from the public.

#### **Consent Items**

Chair Truman asked for a motion to approve the consent items. The motion was made by Lisa Davis to approve the consent items (Personnel Report, Budget Amendments, Twin Valley Golf Club/Anson County Schools Proposal (Junior Golf), Sole Source Justification Form for Apple Inc. Education, Contract to Audit Accounts (Amendment) and the 2022-2023 Summer Program Plan. Carol Gibson seconded the motion and it was approved by the board. Motion carried.

#### **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was given by Mike Turner at 7:20 p.m. Frank Liles seconded the motion and it was approved by the board. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

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Dr. George Truman, Chairman

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Mr. Howard McLean, Secretary