

## **Minutes**

Anson County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Monday, August 28, 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, August 28, 2023. Board members present in-person were Marilyn Bennett, Lisa Davis, Carol Gibson, Frank Liles, Dr. Bobbie Little, Judy Little, Beulah Pratt, George Truman and Mike Turner. Others in attendance were Howard McLean (Superintendent), Dr. Josh McLaurin (Executive Administrator), Anne Hyatt (Board Clerk), and Pete Swails (Technology).

### **Call to Order**

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

### **Invocation**

Judy Little gave the Invocation.

### **Adopt Agenda**

Frank Liles made a motion to approve the agenda. Marilyn Bennett seconded the motion, and it was approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Approve Minutes**

Regular Meeting 07/31/23

A motion was made by Frank Liles to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 31, 2023. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Bennett and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Closed Session**

Chair Truman asked for a motion to go into a closed session. Lisa Davis made a motion to go into closed session at 4:03 p.m. for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of the Board pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (a)(6) and for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real estate or to discuss the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (a)(5). The motion was seconded by Carol Gibson and approved by the board. Motion carried.

There was no action taken.

### **Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 5:28 p.m. upon a motion by Frank Liles. The motion was seconded by Mike Turner and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

There was no one who signed up to speak during this section of the meeting.

### **Chair's Report**

Several members commented on attending the employee convocation and the opening day of school.

Dr. Truman asked if we have determined the best way to spend the remaining ESSER funds and if we have to spend that money by September 30. Joy Drake (finance officer) stated that ESSER 2 funds expire September 30, and we must have the money encumbered by then and spent by December 30. She said we have ESSER 3 funds until September 2024.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. McLean gave reports on Budget, Human Resources, Current Job Postings, Instructional/Operational Programs and Community Use of Facilities.

Mr. McLean asked principals to give an update on the first day of school. Principals shared positive remarks about the first day of school and some things they can regroup on for tomorrow. Specifically, Mr. Stinson explained using the new metal detectors made the start of school delayed but they are excited about being better each day with this new process.

Transportation/Weather: Mr. Ross said the storm has taken a slight turn, and we will have possible flooding this week. He said the Department of Transportation (DOT) has been great to work with, and the weather will continue to be monitored. Mr. Ross said he is in communication with principals about reviewing plans with their staff. Lisa Davis commended Mr. Ross for working well with the Department of Transportation.

School Nutrition: Ms. Starling said school nutrition had a great day, and their participation numbers were up from last year.

### Personnel

Dr. McLaurin gave an update on the international teachers by stating he received an email from Global Recruiting with a projected arrival date for teachers for the end of September or middle of October at the latest. He explained they should be here ahead of the projected date. Dr. McLaurin thanked all who have reached out with housing availability and the shower that Anson Women's League facilitated. Dr. McLaurin shared the following personnel updates as it relates to vacancies and new hires:

#### Vacancies Update:

- 2 instructional vacancies at AHS in ELA and History
- 1 vacant AIG teacher at AMS
- 1 elementary media specialist

#### Hired 63 Total Instructional Staff:

- 31 have master's/doctorate degrees
- 19 are international teachers
- 26 are coming from other districts
- 4 are from out of state
- 16 are beginning teachers
- 3 have national board certification
- Average number of instructional staff experience is 10 years

Mr. McLean shared the vacancy numbers from neighboring districts. He also shared that Global Recruiting is not our primary recruiting tool. Dr. McLaurin shared that principals have done a great job recruiting.

Mr. McLean said there had been no budget passed yet, but the Parent's Bill of Rights was passed and approved. He explained that Anson County Board of Education is embracing the Parent's Bill of Rights, which is posted on our website.

Mr. McLean commended Sheriff Howell and Chief Spencer for their help with the opening day of school.

### **Consent Items**

A motion was made by Mike Turner to approve the Consent Items: Personnel Report, CDW Government Google Workspace Contract, Sole Source (Carolina Thomas), Annual Mental Health Plan and Updated Policy 1710/4020/7230 and Policy 1720/7030/7235. The motion was seconded by Frank Liles and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Recess**

Dr. Truman stated the board would go into recess at 6:11 p.m. for five minutes.

### **Closed Session**

Upon a motion by Frank Liles, seconded by Mike Turner the board voted to go into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of the Board pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (a)(6). The board went into closed session at 6:16 p.m. Motion carried.

There was no action taken.

### **Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 7:00 p.m. upon a motion by Frank Liles. The motion was seconded by Mike Turner and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was given by Frank Liles at 7:00 p.m. Lisa Davis seconded the motion, and it was approved by the board. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

---

Dr. George Truman, Chairman

---

Mr. Howard McLean, Secretary