

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 26, 2018, 4:30 p.m.
Anson County Schools' Administrative Office
Board Room

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 26, 2018. All members were present. Others in attendance were Michael Freeman (Superintendent), Howard McLean (Associate Superintendent), Marty Godwin (Assistant Superintendent), Holly Berry (Chief Finance Officer), Mike Flake (Board Attorney) and Anne Hyatt (Board Clerk).

I. Call to Order

Chair George Truman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

II. Invocation

Chair Truman asked Frank Liles to give the Invocation.

III. Conflict of Interest Statement

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chair George Truman reminded Board Members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. There were no conflicts of interest communicated by the members. Chair Truman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to his attention. He further explained it would then be the member's duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

IV. Adopt Agenda

Mike Turner made a motion to approve the agenda. Beulah Pratt seconded the motion and the agenda was unanimously adopted by the Board. Motion carried.

**V. Approve Minutes
(Regular Meeting 01-16-18)**

A motion was made by Carol Gibson to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 16, 2018. The motion was seconded by Mike Turner and approved by the board. Motion carried.

VI. Closed Session

- Matters Related to Personnel

George Truman entertained a motion that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11(a) (6). This motion was made by Lisa Davis, seconded by Beulah Pratt and unanimously approved by the board. Prior to the board going into closed session, Dr. Truman asked to address the board regarding moving forward to acquire a new middle school and to do some significant remodeling at the high school. Mike Turner stated how we are spending money toward the upkeep and the maintenance of the school buildings. Dr. Truman said if we decide tonight to move forward, it's still going to take 4-5 years to finish building and he asked if we actually have that much time at the middle school. Gay Lookabill asked if we owned the property where the proposed facility will be built. Dr. Truman said we

first need to approve to move forward and further explained to Ms. Lookabill that we own some land and the county commissioners own some land. Mr. Freeman shared an approximate estimate from Pinnacle Architects for a new gym and renovated gym at Anson High School. He said to renovate the existing gym, the cost would be over three million dollars and to build a new gymnasium of the same size, the cost would be over seven million dollars. Mr. Freeman told the board he thinks they should make a request in the budget to renovate the gym.

Dr. Truman asked Superintendent Freeman to bring back a resolution that the board approves to move forward with building a new middle school and renovating the high school. Lisa Davis mentioned including the State Board of Education information in the resolution regarding the commissioners approving House Bill 866. She further stated if the commissioners approve the house bill, it could help put a bond referendum on the ballot for the whole state which will benefit each local county toward school construction cost. Mike Turner made a motion for Superintendent Freeman to compose a resolution as stated above. Gay Lookabill seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried.

Dr. Truman said he would like a sub-topic on the agenda that discusses the updates on the topic discussed above.

The Board went into closed session at 4:57 p.m.

There was no action taken.

VII. **Reconvene Open Session**

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

VIII. **Recognition**

The board recognized the spelling bee participants that participated in the district-wide spelling bee contest.

IX. **Public Comment**

There was no one signed up to speak during this section.

X. **Chair's Report**

Public Engagement: Several board members discussed schools they have recently visited and events and activities they have participated in at the schools and within the community.

XI. **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Freeman gave a report on Human Resources, Budget, Current Job Postings, Facilities, Current Projects and Instructional Programs.

Mr. Freeman explained to the board he was invited to meet with the Governor of NC along with a select few other superintendents. He said the meeting revolved around current and pressing issues superintendents and schools are facing. Mr. Freeman stated the Governor mentioned there would be future meetings as well. Mr. Freeman also acknowledged Nicole Sikes for being on the Governor's teacher council. He explained the Governor and superintendents discussed relationships with community college systems.

Community Use Facilities – Mr. Freeman told the board there would be no more facility rentals accepted for the AHS Stadium area due to the pending construction to the track and surrounding areas. Mr. Freeman said he will alert the athletic department to schedule as many away games as possible at the beginning of the Fall sport season.

During Mr. Freeman’s report on facilities, he shared the following update for current projects:

- **Softball Field Lighting at Anson High** – project is in process and it should be completed by the first home softball game.
- **Safe Schools** – Mr. Freeman stated the community has been on heightened alert lately due to the nation’s violence. As a result of the situation in Florida, he said there has been a lot of attention in NC with potential threats at schools, etc. Mr. Freeman said to be proactive and to keep the community informed as much as possible, he will hold a public forum on Monday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lockhart/Taylor Ingram Banquet Room along with district administration, Sheriff Reid, Chief Spencer, Rodney Diggs with Emergency Management and Marc Sessions with the Fire Department.

Dr. Truman asked what the status was on the sound system for the board room. Mr. Freeman explained there is a proposal on the table that is being reviewed. He said he will keep the board updated on this project.

Dr. Truman commended those board members and staff that go to Raleigh on behalf of the school system.

XII. **Consent Items**

Mike Turner asked to pull the 2018-2019 school calendar from consent items due to the concerns with not having Easter Monday as a non-student day. Mr. Freeman requested the board to move forward with approving the 2018-2019 school calendar pending the April amended dates to be presented at the March board meeting.

Upon a motion by Frank Liles, seconded by Marilyn Bennett, the following consent items were approved by the board: Personnel Report, Budget Amendments, 2018-2019 Board of Education Meeting Dates and Policy 7410. Motion carried.

New Business

2018-2019 School Calendar

Upon a motion by Lisa Davis, seconded by Carol Gibson, the board voted to approve the 2018-2019 school calendar pending approval of the April 2019 amended dates to be presented in March. Motion carried.

XIII. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:26 p.m. by Frank Liles, seconded by Carol Gibson and approved by the board. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Dr. George Truman, Chairperson

Mr. Michael Freeman, Secretary