

Gates County Board of Education
December 13, 2021
Regular Session

The Gates County Board of Education met for their regularly scheduled open session on Monday, December 13, 2021 at T. S. Cooper Elementary School in the media center. The meeting was conducted by Chairman Ray Felton. Board members Vice Chairman Ms. Glendale Boone, Mrs. Sallie Ryan, Mr. Leslie Byrum and Ms. Amanda Heimbecker were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Barry Williams, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Tammy Boone, Human Resources director Mrs. Chante Jordan, Board Attorney Mr. John Liedy, and Clerk to the Board Mrs. Jacqueline Davenport.

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 p.m by Chairman Felton.

Chairman Felton yielded the floor to Dr. Williams to conduct the yearly nomination and election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board.

Ms. Glendale Boone made the motion for Mr. Ray Felton to remain board chair. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sallie Ryan. A roll call vote was called by Ms. Davenport. All voting members unanimously voted for Mr. Felton to remain chairman.

Ms. Glendale Boone made the motion for Ms. Sallie Ryan as Vice Chairman. Ms. Amanda Heimbecker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called by Ms. Davenport. All voting members unanimously voted Ms. Sallie Ryan to become Vice Chairman.

Ms. Glendale Boone made a motion to amend the consent agenda by adding information concerning the Gatesville Roof Project and additional cost of \$32,960.49. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leslie Byrum. A vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Felton then asked for everyone in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The public comment section was opened for those in attendance. Ms. Virginia Sumner, Ms. Sabrina Sheline, Ms. Amanda Smith and Ms. Sheri Earhart all reminded the board of the recent mask survey and asked that the board take into consideration the majority opinion from the community when making their decision on the continuation of the current school board mask policy.

Dr. Williams introduced Ms. Lola Rountree, Director of Testing and Accountability, to recognize Ms. Krystle Williams for National Teacher Board certification and Ms. Karen Greene for renewal of board certification. Ms. Sandy Savage was also recognized for renewal but was not in attendance.

The following students were recognized as the top three winners of the annual Board of Education Holiday Art contest: Skye Murray (3rd place, Central Middle School), Mackenzie

Evans (second place, Gates County High School) and Alyssa Scott (1st place, Gatesville Elementary). Alyssa's drawing was used for the district-wide Christmas cards that were delivered to each employee, several area businesses and leaders, and all North Carolina Superintendents.

The members of the board gave their monthly report with several members commenting on the annual Gates County Lion's Club Christmas parade. Mr. Felton mentioned the exciting news for the high school's NNCDD. Chief Howard has arranged a program with NASCAR that will allow the cadets to present colors on August 15, 2022 during one of the smaller televised races. Mr. Felton pointed out that all of this was due to the efforts begun by Dr. Williams to initiate the new cadet program in Gates County Schools.

Ms. Pittman provided the board with several financial reports and informed them it could possibly be February before she will be able to provide them with budget amendments. Ms. Pittman noted that the daycare currently shows a surplus but that is only due to a recently received grant. Ms. Pittman also pointed out that her initial report provided to the board noted a few out of district students whose parents had not paid their tuition. Finance was able to acquire payment for those students prior to the meeting.

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of November 15, 2021 regular session minutes
2. Approval of Farm Land Lease to James E. Brinkley
3. Legislative and Other Policy Updates
 - a. Approval of Policy 1720/4030/7235: Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
 - b. Approval of Policy 2125/7315: Confidential Information
 - c. Approval of Policy 1510/4200/7270: School Safety
 - d. Approval of Policy 1310/4002: Parental Involvement
 - e. Approval of Policy 3100: Curriculum Development
 - f. Approval of Policy 3225/4312/7320: Technology Responsible Use
 - g. Approval of Policy 3420: Student Promotion and Accountability
 - h. Approval of Policy 3460: Graduation Requirements
 - i. Approval of Policy 3410: Testing and Assessment Program
 - j. Approval of Policy 2302: Remote Participation in Board Meetings
 - k. The Records Retention and Disposition Schedule: Updated October 2021
 - l. Public Schools Records Retention and Disposition Schedule: Updated October 2021
4. NC Health and Human Services Contract: Jeremy Wright
5. Agreement between UNC for TEACCH Autism and Gates County Schools
6. ProCare Therapy Agreement (Speech Services)
7. ProCare Therapy (EC Teacher contract)
8. GCHS Beta Club Fieldtrip
9. HOSA overnight trip, GCHS
10. Test to Stay Research Program

11. Proposed Calendar Changes
12. Updated Gatesville Elementary Roof Project

Ms. Glendale Boone made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda, including the additional item (#12) for the Gatesville Elementary Roof Project. Ms. Amanda Heimbecker seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Following a discussion, Ms. Sallie Ryan made the motion that the current mask policy remain in effect until January 20, 2022 so the additional precautionary measure could continue following the holiday break, and until mandatory semester state exams are completed. After January 20, providing the number of positive cases in the county remain low, masks will become optional for everyone. The board will revisit the issue and look at the number of cases during the January meeting. Ms. Amanda Heimbecker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken by Mr. Felton. In a 4 to 1 decision, the vote passed, with Mr. Byrum dissenting.

The next board meeting will be held on January 10, 2022 at Gatesville Elementary.

With there being no further business, Ms. Sallie Ryan made the motion to go back into closed session. Ms. Glendale Boone seconded the motion. The open session was closed by Mr. Felton at 7:10 p.m.

The open session was re-entered at 8:55 p.m. in order to approve the closed and open sessions business.

Ms. Heimbecker made the motion to approve the closed and open sessions business and adjourn the meeting. Mr. Byrum seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman