

Board of Education  
Work and Executive Session Minutes  
December 13, 2021 6:00 P.M.  
Gilmer County, Georgia

### **Gilmer County Board of Education**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Watkins.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Bramlett, Ronald Watkins (Chairman), Michael Parks, Joe Pflueger and Doug Pritchett (Vice-Chairman),

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Brian Ridley, Samantha Amos, Lindy Patterson, Lottie Mitchell, Carla Foley, Jessica Chastain, Charles Walker, Nicole Pike, Katrina Kingsley, Kelly Arnold, Donna Parks, Melinda Fonteboa, Matt Johnson, Trina Penland, Patricia Partin and Emily Plumley

VISITORS PRESENT: Anthony Stonecipher, Shelia Stoncipher, Kaitlyn Stonecipher, Lonnie Adams from FYN. Gina Watkins, Jeff Watkins and Jim Parmer.

Dr. Ridley recommended approval for the Work Session agenda as presented. Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Parks to approve the Work Session agenda. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

Invocation was led by Clay Elrod from Berean Baptist Church.

The Pledge was led by Dr. Ridley.

Presentations and Recognitions:

- Plainview LED: Assistant Superintendent Mr. Dana Berry spoke to the Board regarding the process of selecting a vendor for the scoreboard at Huff Mosely Stadium and a center hung scoreboard in the Gilmer High gym. Mr. Berry stated the district is waiting on a structure engineer for the gym and a recommendation will be presented at a later date. Mr. Berry noted that all procurement requirements and procedures were followed during the bidding process. Once bids were open 8 companies expressed interest and 6 of those companies sent bids. A committee made up of athletics, band, administration and community members reviewed the bids received and selected Plainview LED and Formetco as the top 2 choices. Principal Ms. Carla Foley, Coach Paul Standard and Mr. Berry traveled to several locations to see both scoreboards in real time. After final presentation from both company's administration anonymously selected Plainview LED to be the new scoreboard vendor. State of the art software from Plainview LED can be intergraded with the new stadium lighting and the software can be student ran. Mr. Berry added that Plainview LED's customer service, warranty and price surpassed Formetco.
- CCMS Fall Sports:
  - Cross Country Coach Adam Palmer and Coach Page Johnstone recognized Dawson Richard, Estephany Becerra and Salma Gonzalez for being Top 10 Region North GA Mountain League Cross Country Runners.
  - Assistant Football Coach Taylor Johnstone recognized the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade football players for becoming the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mountain League Superbowl Champions.

- GHS Fall Sports:
  - Volleyball Coach Donna Parks recognized Elly Callihan as Region 7AAA All Area Team.
  - Athletic Director Mr. Matt Johnson recognized Maddie Rosas Wright and Macy Hamby as Region 7AAA All Region First Team. Jacie Bennett and Taylor Elliott were recognized as Region 7AAA Honorable Mention.
  - Football Coach Paul Standard recognized the following players as All Region 7AAA Teams. Recognitions are as follows;
    - 1st Team: Seth Darling, Kobe Stonecipher and Dominic Taratino
    - 2nd Team: Brock Titus, Herschel Defoor, Wyatt Ledford, Tony Olea, Blake Reece, Will Kiker and Hunter Watkins
    - Honorable Mention: Hunter Brown, Aaron Walker, Aspen Hataway, Blane Banks and Kyle Cowart

### **Consent Items:**

Dr. Ridley noted to the Board that the following Consent Items will be proposed for approval at the Regular Session on Thursday December 15, 2021:

- Board Minutes:
  - November 15, 2021, Work; Executive Session
  - November 18, 2021, Regular Session
- Out of State and Overnight Field Trips (see attached)

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

#### **1. Parent and Community Engagement:**

- a. Shop with a Hero: Ms. Renee with the GBI along with officers from the Ellijay Police Department spoke to the Board regarding the Shop with a Hero Program. Various agencies throughout Georgia participate in this program along with the local East Ellijay Walmart. This program helps provide students with gifts for the holiday season. Students selected in grades 3-5 and are assigned a "Hero" to shop with for the day. Breakfast is donated by local restaurants and provided to students and parents before departure to Walmart. Bus transportation is provided to students and heroes for the police escorted right through town. Students are given gift cards and are allowed to shop with their hero for the day. The program began in 2019 and has benefitted over 200 families in Gilmer County.
- b. School Calendars: Dr. Ridley explained to the Board the process for developing the academic calendars for the 2022-2023 and the 2023-2024 school year. In September a draft version generic academic calendars were presented to principals to share with their schools SGT's and Leadership teams. After reviewing stakeholder feedback, several calendar versions were drafted. Once feedback was received from administration input was received from local businesses as well. Dr. Ridley noted that the calendars contained feedback from all stakeholder groups and will be recommended for approval at the Regular Session, Thursday December 16, 2021.

#### **2. High Performing Culture and Workforce:**

- a. Personnel: Dr. Ridley noted that personnel will be discussed in Executive Session.

**3. Operational Effectiveness:**

- a. 2022 Board Meeting Dates: The 2022 Tentative Board Meeting Dates were presented for the Boards review at the November Work Session. Dr. Ridley noted that if no changes are needed a recommendation for approval will be made at the Regular Session, Thursday December 16, 2021.
- b. Compliance/Policy (First Reading): The following policies were presented for first reading in order to comply with recent changes in the law and/or GSBA recommendations to update the current wording:
  - Policy JBCCA Student Assignment to Schools
  - Policy IDFA Gender Equity in Sports
  - Policy IEDA Unstructured Break Time
  - Policy IFBC Media Programs
  - Policy IFBG Internet Acceptable Use

Dr. Ridley explained that these policies will be posted on the GCSS Website for public review and comment before a second reading at the Board of Education Work Session at next month's meeting. Subject to feedback and public deliberations, these will be voted upon at the Regular Session in January.

- c. Compliance/Policy (Second Reading): Policies presented for first readings in November and have been posted on the GCSS website for public comment and also sent to GSBA for legal counsel review.
  - Policy BCBK Executive Sessions
  - Policy GAK(1) Criminal Background Check
  - Policy DJCB Salary Deductions
  - Policy DJEAC Purchasing and Credit Card Use
  - Policy GAE Complaints and Grievances
  - Policy GBIA Teacher Evaluation Appeals

The policies have been on the district website since the meeting in November. All policies have been submitted remove verbiage that Board members are allowed to check out the district credit card from Policy DJEAC Purchasing and Credit Card Use. No public input was received. Dr. Ridley noted that a recommendation for approval of these policies will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday December 16, 2021.

- d. Scoreboard Recommendation: Dr. Ridley spoke to the Board regarding the presentation presented by Plainview LED. Based upon feedback from the committee involved in the decision-making process and the bids received a recommendation for approval of Plainview LED for the new scoreboard at Huff Mosely Stadium will be made at the Regular Session, Thursday December 16, 2021.

**5. Fiscal Accountability:**

- a. Nutrition: School Nutrition Report – October 2021: Ms. Patricia Partin, Director of School Nutrition presented the School Nutrition Report – October 2021 to the Board.

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- b. Purchasing Policy Expenditures and Approvals – December 2021: Expenditures and Approvals were presented for informational purposes only and exempt from Board approval.
- c. Budget Update:
  - i. FY2020 Financial Summary – October 2021: Ms. Trina Penland, Director of Finance presented the FY 2021 Financial Summary for October 2021 to the Board.
  - ii. 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures – December 2021: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures for December 2021.
  - iii. 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures – December 2021: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures for December 2021.

**Superintendent's Announcements/Comments:** Dr. Ridley announced that the following events were happening in the district this week; CCMS Chorus Concert, GHS Band Concert, GHS Wrestling hosting Senior night, home Basketball Games and the K-12 Chorus Concert being held at EES.

**Public Participation:** None

**Executive Session:**

Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Parks to enter Executive Session for Real Estate, Personnel, School Safety Plans and Litigation. Motion carried. All voted Yes.

Motion by Mr. Pritchett and second by Mr. Pflueger to exit Executive Session. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Parks to adjourn. All voted Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

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Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

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Mr. Watkins, Chairman

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Plumley, Board Clerk