

Board of Education  
Work and Executive Session Minutes  
January 24, 2022 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, Penny Clark, T. Steingruber, Carla Foley, Matt Johnson, Todd Gearhart, Jessica Chastain, Bob Sosebee, Stephanie Boiling, Tiffany Boyette, Charles Walker, Darcie Pritchett, Chandra Teague, Trina Penland, Lottie Mitchell, Stephanie Burnette, Kelly Arnold, Nicole Pike, Melinda Fonteboa, Dana Berry, Lindy Patterson and Emily Plumley

VISITORS PRESENT: Amy Filatreau, Payton Headrick, Josh Headrick, Dia Patterson, Maria Ray, Danial Jasinski, Ashley Venter, Jeff Hunter and April Rice.

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

Invocation was led by Steve Fields from Covenant Community Church.

The Pledge was led by Dr. Ridley.

Presentations and Recognitions:

- Awards were presented to the Veteran's Day poster and essay winners. Each school's principal presented their students the award. They are as follows: MVE Poster Winners - Olivia Steingruber – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Lissette Garcia-Garcia – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and Mattelynne Jones – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. CCMS Essay Winners – Payton Headricks – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Bayleigh Jasinski – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and Tabitha Hunter – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. GHS Essay Winners – Lucy Ray – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade and Reagan Boiling – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- Mr. Matt Johnson, Athletic Director recognized the GHS eSports Rocket League Team for making it to the Final Four. Team members are as follows: Ethan Hahling, Dax Roberts, Canyon Adams, Austin Long, Holden Vines, Jackson Fountain and Jaycin Merrell.

#### **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:
  - December 13, 2021 Work; Executive Session
  - December 15, 2021, Regular Session
- Out of State and Overnight Field Trips (see attached)

**Superintendent's Report:****1. Academic Achievement:**

- a. Gilmer High School: Principal Ms. Carla Foley introduced Gilmer High's Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) teachers to the Board. Each CTAE teacher presented to the Board about their pathway, the requirements within the program and the students' hands own activities and experiences.

**2. Parent and Community Engagement:**

- a. Reapportionment: Dr. Ridley stated that the district was contacted by the states Reapportionment office regarding the re-balancing of the Board districts. Dr. Ridley referred to the proposed map provided in the Board folders. The original map that were revised in 2012 show the existing Board district lines. New Board district lines were proposed to accommodate growth within the county and within the districts. Dr. Ridley noted that a recommendation for approval of the proposed map will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday January 27, 2022.

**3. High Performing Culture and Workforce:**

- a. Personnel: Dr. Ridley noted that personnel will be discussed in Executive Session.
- b. Administrative Renewal: Dr. Ridley noted that the administrative renewals are for the 2022-2023 school year and include district office directors along with principals. A recommendation for approval for administrative renewal will be made at the Regular Session, Thursday January 27, 2022.

**4. Operational Effectiveness:**

- a. Board and Vice Chair: Dr. Ridley stated that at the Regular Session, Thursday January 27, 2022, the Board will select a Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2022.
- b. Gym Scoreboard Update: Mr. Dana Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Operations updated the Board on the status of the gym scoreboard. The district is expected to receive the load calculation for the ceiling by the end of the week. The tentative timeline for installation will be during the GHSA "Dead Week". Mr. Berry noted that the gym floors will be refinished once the scoreboard is in place.
- c. 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 AFC Emergency Closings
  - Policy CMA Administrative Rules
  - Policy DFK Gifts and Bequests
  - Policy GCRA(1) Drug Screening of Bus Drivers

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.

- d. 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 JBCAA Student Assignments to Schools
- Policy IDFA Gender Equity in Sports
- Policy IEDA Unstructured Break Time
- Policy IFBC Media Programs
- Policy IFBG Internet Acceptable Use

The policies have been on the district website since the meeting in December. All policies have been submitted to GSBA legal counsel for review. Changes are as follows: Policy JBCAA – Deadline for School Choice moved from March to June. Policy IDFA – Changes are due to Georgia Equity Sports Act; assess equity opportunities by interest surveys. Policy IFBG – Changes are due to duplication of information contained in the policy. 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 January 27, 2022.

5. **Fiscal Accountability:**

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

**Superintendent's Announcements/Comments:**

- Dr. Ridley congratulated the GHS Wrestling team for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state at State Duals and wished the team good luck at the upcoming State Traditional Championship in Macon.
- Dr. Ridley also congratulated Octavia Bushey for being selected as a 2022 spotlight in the GA Junior National Livestock Show Catalog in the area of Dairy Cattle.

**Public Participation:** None

**Executive Session:**

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

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

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Mr. Pflueger and second by Mr. Parks to adjourn. All voted Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07p.m.

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Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

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Mr. Watkins, Chairman

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