

Board of Education
Work and Executive Session Minutes
March 14, 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, Carla Foley, Katrina Kingsley, Mary-Melissa May, Nicole Pike, Charles Walker, Samantha Amos, Tiffany Boyett, Jessica Chastain, Bob Sosebee, Melinda Fonteboa, Ashley Stover, Jordan Hice, Stephanie Burnette, Kelly Arnold, Patricia Partin, Lindy Patterson, Dana Berry, Trina Penland and Emily Plumley.

VISITORS PRESENT: Larry Lykins, Law Lykins, Derek Mulkey, John McGlover, Cody Bearden, Lonnie Adams from FYN.

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 Cody Bearden from Boardtown Baptist.

The Pledge was led by Dr. Ridley.

Presentations and Recognitions:

- Dr. Ridley announced that this week March 14-18, 2022 is Board Appreciation Week. Throughout the state of Georgia Boards are recognized for their service and dedication to their district and the students. Dr. Ridley presented the Board with certificates and thanked them for their service.
- Dr. Ridley also recognized EES Assistant Principal Ms. Ashley Stover as the GHS STAR teacher. GHS STAR student Ms. Kinsleigh Purvis nominated Ms. Stover. Dr. Ridley and the Board congratulated Ms. Stover on her achievement.
- GHS Boys Basketball Coach Jordan Hice recognized the following seniors for making the Basketball 7AAA All Region Team. The team members are as follows: Ethan Banks - Basketball 7AAA All Region Team, Cade Carter - Basketball 7AAA All Region Team and Lewis Mulkey - Basketball Region 7AAA Honorable Mention.
- GHS Swim Head Swim Coach Mary-Melissa May, Assistant Coach Alton Guidry and Page Johnstone recognized Payton Woodring as GHSA State 2nd Place in 100 Back and 3rd Place in 100 Fly and Law Lykins as GHSA State Qualifier in 50 Free.
- GHS Head Wrestling Coach Josh Ghobadapoor along with the assistant coaches recognized the team for being named GHSA AAA Wrestling State Champion for 2022. Wrestlers were also recognized and awarded certificates for qualifying and placing. Wrestlers are as follows:

- Juan Rafael - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 106 lbs State Champion
- Carson Farist - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 113 lbs State Runner-Up
- Arturo Gonzalez - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 120 lbs State 3rd Place
- Bregan Berry - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 126 lbs State 5th Place
- Kellen Watts - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & State Qualifier 132 lbs
- Carson Bentley - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 138 lbs State 5th Place
- Frisly Ambrocio - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & State Qualifier 145 lbs
- Miguel Jacinto - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 152 lbs State Runner-Up
- Diego Jacinto - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 160 lbs State Runner-Up
- Daniel Reynoso - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 170 lbs State 5th Place
- Hunter Brown - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & State Alternate 182 lbs
- Owens Moss - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 195 lbs State 3rd Place
- Dylan Galloway - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 220 lbs State Champion
- Tony Olea - AAA Traditional Sectional Qualifier & 285 lbs State 3rd Place
- Linda Tercero - GHSA Girls Traditional State Qualifier 142 lbs
- Itzzy Xec-Luna - GHSA Girls Traditional State Qualifier 142 lbs
- Hannah Mayo - GHSA Girls Traditional Qualifier 152 lbs
- Taylor Sciesser - GHSA Girls Traditional State 3rd Place 172 lbs

Consent Items:

Dr. Ridley noted to the Board that the following Consent Items will be proposed for approval at the Regular Session on Thursday March 17, 2022:

- Board Minutes:
 - February 14, 2022, Work; Executive Session
 - February 17, 2022, Regular Session
- Out of State and Overnight Field Trips (see attached)

Superintendent's Report:

1. Academic Achievement:

- a. Newcomers' Academy: Director of Federal Programs Director and District Title IX Coordinator Ms. Lindy Patterson spoke to the Board regarding the districts Newcomers' Academy. Starting in the fall semester of the 2022-2023 SY, middle and high school English Learners will have a chance to enter the Newcomers' Academy. The academy focuses on academic language as English Learners transition back to their homeschool.
- b. Graduation Requirements: Dr. Ridley spoke to the Board regarding the graduation requirements beginning the 2022-2023 SY. Currently students at Gilmer High School are required to have 24 credits to graduate. With the updated requirements students must have 26 credits to graduate. These credits will include a CTAE pathway from the Gilmer College and Career Academy and a World Geography course. The new requirements will not affect those currently enrolled at Gilmer High School. The requirements will also be reflected in the Student-Parent Handbook.

2. Parent and Community Engagement:

- a. Steering Committee for GCCA: Dr. Ridley updated the Board on the progress of the new Gilmer College and Career Academy. Currently the Steering Committee is being formed and will be made of 12-20 community stakeholders. Dr. Ridley noted that the Board will be updated on the progress of the GCCA.

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

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

4. **Operational Effectiveness:**

- a. Gym Scoreboard Update: Mr. Dana Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Operations updated the Board on the status of the gym scoreboard. Mr. Berry asked the Board to review the quotes received from Plainview LED. Quotes received were for 2 different options. Dr. Ridley noted that a recommendation for approval of either option will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday March 17, 2022.
- 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 DIE Fraud Prevention
 - Policy EBBF Safety Inspections
 - Policy JB Student Attendance
 - Policy JBC(1) Homeless Students

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 April.

- c. Compliance/Policy (Second Reading): Policies presented for first readings in January and have been posted on the GCSS website for public comment and also sent to GSBA for legal counsel review.
 - Policy IHE Promotion and Retention
 - Policy IHF Graduation Requirements
 - Policy JGF Student Safety
 - Policy JGF(2) Seclusion or Restraint of Students

The policies have been on the district website since the meeting in January. All policies have been submitted to GSBA legal counsel for review. Changes are as follows: Policy JGF Student Safety to remove verbiage "industrial arts". 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 March 17, 2022.

5. **Fiscal Accountability:**

- a. Nutrition: School Nutrition Report – December 2021: Ms. Patricia Partin, Director of School Nutrition presented the School Nutrition Report – December 2021 to the Board.
- b. Classified Pay Scales: Dr. Ridley presented the Board with the FY23 Classified Salary Schedule. Dr. Ridley noted that the pay scales also include temporary retention raises which will become permanent once approved. A recommendation for approval will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday March 17, 2022.
- c. Purchasing Policy Expenditures and Approvals – March 2022: Expenditures and Approvals were presented for informational purposes only and exempt from Board approval.

d. Budget Update:

- i. FY2020 Financial Summary – January 2022: Ms. Trina Penland, Director of Finance presented the FY 2021 Financial Summary for January 2022 to the Board.
- ii. 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures – March 2022: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures for March 2022.
- iii. 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures – March 2022: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures for March 2022.

Superintendent's Announcements/Comments:

- Dr. Ridley reminded the Board about the upcoming Board Retreat on Friday March 18, 2022 at the LWEC Professional Learning Room beginning at 9 a.m. Dr. Ridley also noted that the Public Budget Hearing will also be held at the LWEC at 4 p.m.
- Pre-K registration will be April 14, 2022 at the Larry Walker Education Center and Kindergarten registration will be held May 2 – 13, 2022 at the Board of Education Administrative and Technology Offices.

Public Participation: None**Executive Session:**

Motion by Mr. Pritchett 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. Pflueger 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 8:05p.m.

Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

Mr. Watkins, Chairman

Submitted by: _____
Emily Plumley, Board Clerk