

Board of Education
Called Meeting
May 31, 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: Ronald Watkins (Chairman), Doug Pritchett (Vice-Chair), Michael Bramlett, Michael Parks and Joe Pflueger

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Brian Ridley, Lottie Mitchell, Sarah West, Lindy Patterson, Jessica Chastain, Dana Berry, Samantha Amos and Emily Plumley

VISITORS PRESENT: Lonnie Adams from FYN

Dr. Downs recommended approval for the Called Meeting agenda with the addition of Fiscal Accountability and to add District Furniture Approval as the first line item. Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Pritchett to approve the Called Meeting agenda. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

Consent Items: Motion by Mr. Pritchett and second by Mr. Parks to approve the Consent Items. Motion Carried. All voted Yes, as follows:

- Out of State/Overnight Field Trips:
 - Student Activities/Athletic-Based Field Trips (See Attachment)

Superintendent's Report:

a. High Performing Culture and Workforce:

- i. Personnel: Dr. Ridley recommended approval of personnel as presented. Personnel was placed on display for the public information during this meeting. Motion by Mr. Pritchett and second by Mr. Pflueger to approve personnel. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

b. Operational Effectiveness:

- i. Verkada Proposal Approval: Assistant Superintendent Mr. Dana Berry spoke to the Board regarding vape detection technology Verkada. Mr. Berry explained to the Board that this school year that over 100 vape incidents were reported across the district. This has resulted in over 20% of the district's student discipline issues. Verkada's devices/software detects smoke or vape in the air and is capable in detecting the kind of substance that is being used. Once smoke is detected the device takes a picture of the student and alerts administration. Administration will receive the picture, the location and the suspected substance information on their cell phones to allow for immediate action. Mr. Berry also noted that a test device was installed outside of the bathroom at GHS and 16 incidents were reported. Dr. Ridley added that the proposal will be tabled for approval until the June Regular Session.

c. Fiscal Accountability:

- i. District Furniture Approval: Dr. Ridley presented to the Board the need for furniture with in the district. Dr. Ridley recommended a motion to approve the District Furniture to not exceed \$92k. Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Parks to approve the District Furniture purchase. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

d. FY 2023 Budget:

- i. Dr. Ridley explained that the district has worked through the process of creating a tentative budget by following the budget development calendar. The process began last fall with the admin team reviewing needs and foreseen changes to initiative and plans for the upcoming year. During this time meetings were held with principals and department heads and the first Public Budget Hearing on March 18, 2022 as part of the annual Board Retreat to allow for public comment. Dr. Ridley noted that this was the second Public Budget Hearing and was advertised on the district's website as well in the local newspaper. Dr. Ridley opened the floor for public comment and no comment was received.
- ii. Ms. Trina Penland, Director of Finance presented the Board with the FY 2023 tentative budget.
- iii. Approval to Advertise FY 2023 Tentative Budget: Dr. Ridley recommended a motion to approve the FY 2023 Tentative Budget for advertisement. Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Pritchett. Motion Carried. All voted Yes. Dr. Ridley noted that a recommendation for the final approval and adoption of the FY 2023 Tentative Budget will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday June 23, 2022.

Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Pritchett all voted Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Dr. Brian Ridley., Superintendent

Mr. Watkins, Chairman

Submitted by: _____
Emily Plumley, Board Clerk