

Board of Education
Board Retreat and Budget Hearing Minutes
March 24, 2023, 9:00 A.M.
Gilmer County, Georgia

Gilmer County Board of Education

Members and Staff present: Dr. Brian Ridley, Michael Bramlett, Doug Pritchett, Jacob Calliahn, Michael Parks, Joe Pflueger, Trina Penland, Lottie Mitchell, Lindy Patterson, John Call, Jessica Chastain, Patricia Partin, Tom Griffith, Samantha Kelley and Emily Malone

Guest present: Dr. Steve Miletto, NGRESA

- I. The meeting was called to order at **9:00 am** by Chairman Doug Pritchett.
- II. Dr. Ridley recommended that the board approve the agenda for the retreat. Motion by Mr. Parks and second by Mr. Pflueger. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- III. Dr. Ridley explained that according to Roberts Rules of Order when a meeting resolves itself into Committee of the Whole, discussion is freer and limitations are removed regarding the number of times a board member can speak in a debate. Dr. Ridley recommended that the board resolve itself to a Committee of the Whole to participate in the annually required 3 hours of whole board training. Motion by Mr. Callihan and second by Mr. Parks. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- IV. **9:00am-12:00pm**: Board participated in whole board training conducted by Dr. Steve Miletto from NGRESA. Dr. Miletto trained the Board as a committee of the whole on CCRPI. Dr. Ridley recommended a motion to exit Board training. Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Callihan to exit Board training. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- V. **12:00pm-12:45pm**: Lunch – Dr. Ridley recommended a motion to adjourn for Lunch. Motion by Mr. Parks and second by Mr. Pflueger to adjourn for Lunch. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- VI. **12:45pm**: Board Self-Assessment – Motion by Mr. Bramlett to recess for break after the Board Self-Assessment second by Mr. Callihan. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- VII. **1:00pm**: Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Pflueger to resume the Board Retreat. Motion Carried. All voted Yes. Dr. Ridley invited district administrators and academic coaches to speak to the Board. Speakers were as follows:
 - Lottie Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent
 - Lindy Patterson, Director of Federal Programs and District Title XI Coordinator
 - Dana Berry, Assistant Superintendent
 - Jessica Chastain, Director of Student Services
 - Nicole Pike, Director of Compliance and Assessment
 - Samantha Kelley, Director of Transportation
 - Tom Griffith, Director of Maintenance and Facilities
 - John Call, Director of Technology
 - Patricia Partin, Director of Nutrition

- VIII. **3:00pm:** Academic Coaches and teachers from Clear Creek Elementary, Mountain View Elementary and Ellijay Elementary spoke to the Board regarding literacy, learning programs and student success within the district. Academic Coaches and teachers are as follows: Dana Penland-Academic Coach, Amy Kiser-Academic Coach, Torri Hensley-K-CCES, Melodie Waddell-1st-MVE, Caitlin Standard-1st-EES, Rebekah Buchanan-2nd-CCES, Meredith Wimpey-3rd-CCES, Sarah Thorne-ESOL-MVE, Katie Chastain-4th-MVE, Christina Dowdy-5th-CCES, Melodie Watkins-5th-EES and Jessica Gearhart-ESOL-EES.
- IX. **4:00pm:** Dr. Ridley recommend to move from Committee of the Whole to Regular Session to conduct the first of two required annual Public Budget Hearings. Dr. Ridley stated the public hearing has been advertised in the local paper, GCSS website and posted outside the Administrative Technology Office as required by law. Motion by Mr. Parks second by Mr. Bramlett to move into Regular Session. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.
- Dr. Ridley noted that the advertisement for the budget hearing was in accordance with O.C.G.A. 20-2-167 which provides the opportunity for public comment on the budget for the 2023-2024 school year. Dr. Ridley stated the board is planning the 2nd required Public Budget hearing for the Regular Session in May. At which time the board will seek public input and approve the FY24 tentative budget for advertisement in the local media. Dr. Ridley explained a special called meeting would be held after advertising the tentative budget for the minimum of 14 days or the board will plan to approve the final budget at the boards Regular Session in June. Dr. Ridley stated the budget is primarily developed by working from this year's numbers and investigating possible changes towards next year.
 - Chief Financial Officer, Trina Penland and Dr. Ridley presented five-year budget projections focusing mainly on estimated changes in revenues and expenditures for FY24.
- XI. **Public Participation:** None
- X. **Adjourn:** Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Callihan to adjourn the Budget Hearing. Motion Carried. All voted Yes. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

Mr. Pritchett, Chairman

Submitted by: _____
 Emily Malone, Board Clerk