

Board of Education  
Work and Executive Session Minutes  
May 15, 2023 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. Pritchett.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Brian Ridley, Patricia Partin, Dana Berry, Melissa Oliver, Derek Bowen, Sarah West, Carla Foley, Charles Walker, Tom Griffith, Lindy Patterson, Bob Sosebee, Laura Bramlett, Jessica Chastain, Nicole Pike, Cindy McCook, Melinda Fonteboa, Trina Penland, James Jones and Emily Malone.

VISITORS PRESENT: Mark Cooper, Hollie Cooper, Eli Cooper, Joh Oliver, Jason Smith, Kyle Ray, Victoria Reece, Ethan McCollum, Jon Jones, Amayah Jones, Laura Lyles and Shawn Titus.

Dr. Ridley recommended a motion to approve 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 Reverend Roy Griggs from Pleasant Valley Baptist Church

The Pledge was led by Dr. Ridley.

Presentations and Recognitions:

- Ms. Carla Foley, Gilmer CTAE Director and GHS Early Childhood Education teacher Ms. Mary Ellen Powell recognized Mylie Hanson and Sophia Lykins for winning Gold at the State FCCLA Conference for Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation.
- Young Farmers Teachers from both GHS and CCMS recognized the following students for their achievements in FFA. Recognitions are as follows; Libby Pike, Lucy Ray, Lily Thurman, Hali Hice, Olivia Shull, Madison Bradshaw, Grace Bramlett, Alicia Chastain, Christopher Gaddis, Madelyn Davis, Gracie Gaitnoglou, Chloe Prosser, Savannah Simmons, Riley Powell, Lily Seay, Maci Pettyjohn, Kylie McCook, Annalyssa Brown, Leslie Benetiz, Jack Keener, Michael Bushey, Carter Ottis, Chandler Tuck, Rob Mosley, John Oliver, Sam Jones, Jack Puckett, Ian Haggerty, AJ Callihan, Emma Kate Bramlett, Lillian Boyette, Alayna Berger, Owen Freeman, Madison Hall and Ava Smith.
- GHS Baseball Coach Jeff Thurman recognized the following students for their achievements. Recognitions are as follows; Eli Cooper-Region 7AAA Baseball Honorable Mention, Brock Titus-Region 7AAA Baseball Honorable Mention, Austin Zabala-Region 7AAA Baseball Honorable Mention, Ethan McCollum-Region 7AAA Baseball Honorable Mention and Carter Jones-Region 7AAA Baseball Honorable Mention.

- GHS Track Coach Ashley Dewitt and assistant track coaches recognized the following students for their achievements. Recognitions are as follows; Kendall Sanders-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 110 Hurdles, Michael Little-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x400, James Beach-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x400, Christian Sumner-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x400, John Keener-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x400 and Pole Vault, Matthew Grice-AAA Sectional Qualifier in Pole Vault, Will Kiker Discus-AAA Sectional Qualifier and Region Champion Shot Put and Discus, and Sectional Qualifier in Triple Jump and Long Jump, Joey Royer-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x100, Kayleigh Robbins-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x100, Abbie Elliott-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x100, Amayah Jones-AAA Sectional Qualifier in 4x100- Sectional Qualifier in 200M and Shot Put and Taylor McCormick-AAA Sectional Qualifier in High Jump.
- GHS Girls Soccer Coach Adam Palmer recognized the following students for their achievements. Recognitions are as follows; Sophia Lykins-Region 7AAA Soccer 1st Team All Region, Faith Goodwin-Region 7AAA Soccer 2nd Team All Region, Yenifer Lopez-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention, Carly Becerra-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention and Amayah Jones-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention.
- GHS Boys Soccer Coach Taylor Johnstone recognized the following students for their achievements. Recognitions are as follows; Camden Lyles-Region 7AAA Soccer 1st Team All Region, Talyn Curtis-Region 7AAA Soccer 1st Team All Region, Domingo Lucas Velasquez-Region 7AAA Soccer 2nd Team All Region, Brayner Ortiz-Region 7AAA Soccer 2nd Team All Region, Jorge Flores-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention, Noah Turner-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention, Sebastian Lucas-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention and Lleison Perez-Region 7AAA Soccer Honorable Mention.
- Director of Federal Programs and District Title IX Coordinator Ms. Lindy Patterson recognized Ms. Esmeralda Vazquez as the 2023 Exemplary ESOL Teacher and Ana Martinez Balderas as the 2023 Exemplary English Learner.

#### **Consent Items:**

Dr. Ridley noted to the Board that the following Consent Items will be proposed for approval at the Regular Session on Thursday May 18, 2023:

- Board Minutes:
  - April 17, 2023, Work; Executive Session
  - April 20, 2023, Regular Session
  - Out of State and Overnight Field Trips

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

##### **1. Academic Achievement:**

- a. ACCESS Scores: Director of Federal Programs and District Title IX Coordinator Ms. Lindy Patterson spoke to the Board regarding the districts ACCESS scores. ACCESS tests are administered annual to English Learners in grades K-12 and tests students on their listening, speaking and writing abilities. Students who meet the exit criteria in scores are able to exit the program. Since 2020 the districts exit percentage rate has gone up.

**2. Parent and Community Engagement:**

- a. Summer Camps: Ms. Lindy Patterson also spoke to the Board regarding the districts upcoming summer camps. Ms. Patterson noted that the flyers for all the summer camps can be found on the district's website.

**3. Operational Effectiveness:**

## a. High Performing Workforce:

- i. Personnel: Dr. Ridley noted that personnel will be discussed in Executive Session.
- ii. Supplement Schedules: Dr. Ridley presented the Board with the Activities Supplement Schedules along with the school's administrator supplements. Dr. Ridley noted that a recommendation for approval will be made on Thursday.

## b. Operational Services:

- i. 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 DI Accounting and Reporting
  - Policy DCL Fund Balance
  - Policy GARH Employees Leaves and Absences
  - Policy GCRH Classified Personnel Vacations
  - Policy IFCB Field Trips and Excursions

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 June.

- ii. Compliance/Policy (Second Reading): Policies presented for first readings in February and have been posted on the GCSS website for public comment and also sent to GSBA for legal counsel review.
  - Policy BHB Nepotism
  - Policy DC Annual Operating Budget
  - Policy IDDD Gifted Student Programs
  - Policy JBCC Student Assignment
  - Policy BCBBD Board Meeting Agendas

The policies have been on the district website since the meeting in April. All policies have been submitted to GSBA legal counsel for review. No public input was received. Dr. Ridley asked that these policies be moved to the Consent Agenda and also noted that a recommendation for approval of these policies will be made at the Regular Session on Thursday May 18, 2023.

## c. Maintenance and Facilities:

- i. Board Resolution – Renewal of LFP: Dr. Ridley presented the Board with the Board Resolution – Renewal of LFP which allows the district to begin developing a new five-year local facilities plan. Dr. Ridley noted that the resolution will be moved to

the Consent Agenda and a recommendation for approval will be made at the Board's Regular Session, Thursday May 18, 2023.

- ii. Mobile Classroom Surplus: Dr. Ridley spoke to the Board about the need to surplus the mobile classrooms located on the Oakland campus. The district will award the buildings to the highest bidder. Dr. Ridley noted that the surplus will be moved to the Consent Agenda and a recommendation for approval will be made at the Regular Session, Thursday May 18, 2023.

## 5. **Fiscal Accountability:**

- a. Nutrition: School Nutrition Report – March 2023: Ms. Patricia Partin, Director of School Nutrition presented the School Nutrition Report – March 2023 to the Board.
- b. Budget Update:
  - i. Purchasing Policy Expenditures and Approvals – April 2023: Expenditures and Approvals were presented for informational purposes only and exempt from Board approval.
  - ii. FY2023 Financial Summary – March 2023: Ms. Trina Penland, Director of Finance presented the FY 2022 Financial Summary for March 2023 to the Board.
  - iii. 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures – May 2023: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures for May 2023.
  - iv. 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures – May 2023: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the 2020 ESPLOST Expenditures for May 2023.
  - v. School Activity Accounts – March 2023: Ms. Trina Penland also presented the Board the School Activity Accounts – March 2023.

**Superintendent's Announcements/Comments:** None

**Public Participation:** None

## **Executive Session:**

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

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

## **Adjourn:**

Motion by Mr. Bramlett and second by Mr. Callihan to adjourn. All voted Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

---

Dr. Brian Ridley, Superintendent

---

Doug Pritchett, Chairman

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