

ASHEBORO CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Professional Development Center
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
August 14, 2025

Policy Committee

Committee Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman
Gidget Kidd, Policy Committee Chair

Adam Hurley
Melissa Calloway

Linda Cranford

Committee Members Absent:

Hailey Lee

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman

Other Board Members Present:

Hilda DeCortez

Michael Smith

Dr. Beth Knott

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Aaron Woody
Michelle Harger
Christina Kinley
Angel Etheridge
Deanna Wiles

Carla Freemyer
Sandra Spivey Ayers
Dr. Ana Floyd
Anthony Woodyard

Gayle Higgs
Dr. Wendy Rich
Chandra Manning
Sarah Beth Cox

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Gidgett Kidd, Policy Chair. Ms. Gayle Higgs reviewed the following policies:

- **3320 School Trips**
 - No recommended revisions
- **3450 Class Rankings**
 - No recommended revisions
- **3520 Special Education Programs/Rights of Disabled Students**
 - No recommended revisions
- **4302 School Plan for Management of Student Behavior**
 - No recommended revisions
- **4307 Disciplinary Action for Students with Disabilities**
 - No recommended revisions
- **4340 School Level Investigations**
 - No recommended revisions
- **4351 Short-Term Suspension**
 - No recommended revisions
- **5026/7250 Smoking and Tobacco Products**
 - No recommended revisions
- **5027/7275 Weapons and Explosives Prohibited**
 - No recommended revisions
 - Would like further research on G.S.14.269

- **4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices**

- o Committee will review again in September
- o Various conversations in regard to the law, current expectations in schools, enforcement, and communication

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m. by Gidget Kidd, Policy Chair.

Finance Committee

Committee Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman	Philip Cheek	Michael Smith
Dr. Beth Knott, Finance Committee Chair	Hilda DeCortez	

Committee Members Absent:

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman

Other Board Members Present:

Adam Hurley	Gidget Kidd	Linda Cranford
Scott Eggleston, Board Attorney	Melissa Calloway	

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Aaron Woody	Carla Freemyer	Gayle Higgs
Michelle Harger	Sandra Spivey Ayers	Dr. Wendy Rich
Christina Kinley	Dr. Ana Floyd	Chandra Manning
Angel Etheridge	Anthony Woodyard	Sarah Beth Cox
Deanna Wiles		

Dr. Beth Knott, Finance Chair, opened the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Ms. Spivey Ayers reviewed items included in the Consent Agenda for tonight's Board Meeting. Maira Cortes will be the new Data Manager/Treasurer for Teachey Elementary. An updated list of School Treasurers as well as a new bank signature card for Teachey is included.

Ms. Spivey Ayers discussed the federal allotments previously under review equal to \$430,000 for Asheboro City Schools have been released.

Ms. Spivey Ayers reviewed the 2025-2026 Consolidated Federal Funding Application details. The Consolidated Application includes Title I, II, III and IV federal funds. A summary of how these grant funds are used is included in the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Spivey Ayers discussed the State Budget and concerns over losing Low Wealth funding for 2025-2026. The district is taking a conservative approach by asking each department and each school to cut expenses in supplies by 10%. The State has passed a mini budget bill; SL-2025-89. This bill approves a step increase for years of experience for all staff paid on a state-certified salary scale. The retirement

contribution rate is 24.67% for 2025-2026; this is a 3% increase over 2024-2025. Health insurance premiums are \$8,500 per employee; this is a 5% increase over 2024-2025.

Ms. Spivey Ayers expressed gratitude for the County Commissioners and their continued support of our financial needs. The County Commissioners provided an increase of \$550,000 in Local Current Expense Appropriation for 2025-2026. This increase will help cover the anticipated increase of \$330,000 in salary and benefit expenses as well as cover the \$220,000 recurring costs that were previously covered by the terminated TSL grant funds.

There being no further business, Dr. Beth Knott, Finance Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Board of Education

Board Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman
Gidget Kidd
Dr. Beth Knott
Phillip Cheek
Scott Eggleston, Attorney

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman
Linda Cranford
Adam Hurley

Melissa Calloway
Michael Smith
Hilda DeCortez

Board Members Absent:

Hailey Lee

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Aaron Woody
Deanna Wiles
Sandra Spivey Ayers
Sarah Beth Cox
Scott Bainville
Julie Brady

Dr. Wendy Rich
Chandra Manning
Dr. Ana Floyd
Angel Etheridge
Melvin Diggs
Melissa Rousseau

Anthony Woodyard
Christina Kinley
Carla Freemyer
Gayle Higgs
Michelle Harger

Opening

Chairman Hammer called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Chairman Hammer opened the meeting with a moment of silence, and then he then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Woody shared the following:

- Today, we officially welcomed teachers back for their first workday of the year. The energy and vibrance in our classrooms and hallways were unmistakable. Many of our teachers and staff have been actively engaged throughout the summer, leading camps, hosting student activities, and supporting school projects. Across the district, you'll notice freshly waxed floors, updated media centers and classrooms, fresh paint, and fresh mulch on our campuses as we prepare to welcome families.
- We have updated signage in this building and at our Innovation Center. Several new spaces are nearing completion, and Mrs. Brady will share more details about those later this evening.

Upcoming Events

Monday, August 18 – Districtwide professional development for all teachers, departments, support staff, and employees.

Wednesday, August 20, 4:00–7:00 p.m. – Asheboro High School Open House.

Thursday, August 21 –

- 10:00 a.m. – Convocation at the Performing Arts Center
- 2:00–5:00 p.m. – ECDC Open House
- 3:00–6:00 p.m. – Elementary School Open Houses
- 4:00–7:00 p.m. – Middle School Open Houses

Monday, August 25 – First day of school for all students.

- This year, we have set ambitious goals with targeted expectations for improvement. In the months ahead, Dr. Woody will be discussing strategic plan updates and revisions with you as a Board and with our community. Last week, State Superintendent Green presented his newly approved strategic plan. The plan's vision "**Achieving Educational Excellence**" centers on three core components: High Academic Achievement, Character Development, and making North Carolina public schools the best in the nation. We will be reviewing this plan closely in the coming weeks and completing a crosswalk with our own strategic plan to reflect on alignment.
- Budget & Operations - We continue to maintain strong internal controls to monitor budgets at both the district and school levels. This year, we have faced budget cuts, particularly in federal grant funding, and our state low-wealth dollars and have made strategic adjustments. These include collapsing certain positions, requesting a 10% reduction in departmental and school budgets, and evaluating vacancies to determine whether roles should be collapsed, combined, or redistributed. Our goal is to maintain high-quality programs while remaining transparent and fiscally responsible.
- Looking Ahead - This summer has been one of strong planning, strategic thinking, and collaboration. Our theme for this school year "**Elevate to Excellence**" reminds us that achieving our vision will require commitment, effort, and a shared mindset. The stakes are high, and our students are counting on us to provide every opportunity for them to reach their full potential.

Dr. Woody shared we will have a retirement celebration for Ms. Carla Freemyer, Chief of Human Resources & Support Services Officer tomorrow from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Center.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Michael Smith and seconded by Dr. Beth Knott, the board unanimously approved the following items:

- A. Approval of Minutes for July 10, 2025, Board of Education Work Session, July 10, 2025, Board of Education Meeting, and July 24, 2025, Special Called Meeting
- B. Policies for Approval:
 - Policy 1300 Governing Principle-Parental Involvement
 - Policy 1500 Governing Principle – Safe, Orderly, and Inviting Environments
 - Policy 1510/4200/7270 School Safety
 - Policy 1600 Governing Principle – Professional Development

- Policy 1700 Governing Principle – Overcoming Barriers
 - Policy 1710/4020/7230 Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law
 - Policy 1742/5060 Responding to Complaints
 - Policy 3400 Evaluation of Progress
 - Policy 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability
 - Policy 3620 Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations
 - Policy 4040/7310 Staff Student Relations
 - Policy 4240/7312 Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety
 - Policy 4331 Assaults and Threats
 - Policy 6330 Insurances for Student Transportation Services
 - Policy 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
 - Policy 7130 Licensure
 - Policy 7335 Employee Use of Social Media
 - Policy 7340 Employee Dress and Appearance
 - Policy 7820 Personnel Files
 - Policy 9210 Care and Maintenance of Grounds and Outdoor Equipment
- C.** Personnel (see list below)
- D.** Overnight Field Trip – South Asheboro Middle School FFA to IN for Convention October 2025
- E.** Updated School Treasurers 2025-2026
- F.** Updated Bank Signature List for Guy B. Teachey Elementary School
- G.** Charter Bus Approval 2025-2026
- H.** Consolidated Federal Funding Application Summary 2025-2026
- I.** NC Prayer Certification

**Asheboro City Schools
Personnel Transactions
August 14, 2025**

***A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/SEPARATIONS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Carrouth	Megan	AHS	English	7/28/2025
Hornback	Cyndy	LP	Instructional Assistant	7/31/2025
Robinson	Alex	GBT	Instructional Assistant	8/5/2025

***B. APPOINTMENTS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Headen	Charneka	SAMS	ISS Assistant	8/14/2025
O'Neil	Preston	AHS	LTIP Assistant	8/14/2025

***C. TRANSFERS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Barclift	Tenisha	CO	Substitute to Regular Bus Driver	08/25/2025
Cortes	Maira	CO to GBT	Data Manager/Treasurer	08/4/2025
Little	Delores	CO	Regular to Substitute Bus Driver	08/20/2025

Asheboro City Schools
Personnel Transactions - ADDENDUM
August 14, 2025

***A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/SEPARATIONS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Badillo	Guadalupe	CO	Maintenance/Grounds Keeper	8/15/2025
Key	Whitney	CO	Social Worker	8/11/2025
Lancianese	Toni	CO	Administrative Assistant	9/12/2025

***B. APPOINTMENTS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Acosta-Hernandez	Jose Daniel	LP	Instructional Assistant	8/14/2025
Jasso Rodriguez	Diana	AHS	Instructional Assistant/EC	8/14/2025
May	Brandy	AHS	Graduation Coach	8/15/2025
Thompson	Kip	AHS	Exceptional Children	8/14/2025

Information, Reports, and Recommendations

- A.** Ms. Gayle Higgs, Chief of Human Resources & Support Services Officer, reviewed the following Policies for Review:
- 3225/4312/7320 Technology & Responsible Use
- B.** Ms. Brady, Innovation Lead Teacher, along with Global Innovation Center (GIC), interns Leonardo Acosta, and Jayden Hernandez, shared an update about exciting things happening at the GIC, which included the following information:
- We were able to hire six summer student interns from Asheboro High School through a grant from the NC Business Committee for Education.
 - The interns worked a combined 835 hours over the summer. They helped with summer camps, worked in the labs (assembling/setting up furniture, etc.) and worked with the IT department assisting with preparing devices for the school year.
 - Ms. Brady shared the progress of the following spaces at the GIC: Advanced Modeling Lab, Robotics Lab, Content Creation Studio, SparkNC Learning Lab, Design Thinking Lab, ZSpace Lab, Esports Lab, and the Welcome Center.
 - Summer Fun & Exploration Event showcased the GIC. We welcomed families in the community to see our different labs and the Welcome Center.
 - Esports Bootcamps were held between July 8-August 13. These included SparkNC Unit Completion, Rocket League tournament, Roblox coding, and Minecraft challenges.
 - Freedom School, sponsored by Communities in Schools, brought students to the GIC to visit and participate in the various labs.
 - GIC Vision: To empower students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in the 21st century.

***Action Items**

No Action Items.

Board Operations

- A. Chairman Hammer reviewed information regarding upcoming events.
 - The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be on September 11, 2025, in the Professional Development Center, unless otherwise posted.
- B. Chairman Hammer reviewed the updated Board of Education Meeting Schedule 2025-2026.

Closed Session

Under NC General Statute 143-318.11.A1, to prevent disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States or not considered a public record within the Meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, upon motion by Michael Smith and seconded by Melissa Calloway, the Board unanimously agreed to enter closed session to discuss the Superintendent's annual evaluation at 7:20 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business and upon motion by Linda Cranford and seconded by Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman, the board unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary