

ASHEBORO CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Professional Development Center
April 10, 2025

Policy Committee Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman
Gidget Kidd, Policy Committee Chair
Adam Hurley

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman
Melissa Calloway

Hailey Lee
Linda Cranford

Other Board Members Present:

Michael Smith

Hilda DeCortez

Staff Members Absent:

Dr. Aaron Woody

Carla Freemyer

Gayle Higgs

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Gidget Kidd, Policy Committee Chair.

Ms. Gayle Higgs reviewed the following policies:

- **4000 Focus on Students** - Reviewed and no revisions recommended.
- **4003 Translating Policies for Students and Parents** - Revisions recommended.
- **4135 Tuition for Discretionary Admissions** - Reviewed and no revisions recommended.
- **5024/6127/7266 Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injector Devices** - Reviewed and no revisions recommended.
- **5028/6130/7267 Automated External Defibrillator** - Reviewed and no revisions recommended.
- **2230 Board Committees** - Revisions recommended.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m. by Gidget Kidd, Policy Committee Chair.

Budget Meeting and Finance Committee

Board Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman
Michael Smith
Gidget Kidd

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman
Phillip Cheek
Melissa Calloway

Hailey Lee
Hilda DeCortez
Linda Cranford

Board Members Absent:

Adam Hurley

Dr. Beth Knott

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Aaron Woody
Carla Freemyer
Scott Bainville
Sarah Beth Cox
Gayle Higgs

Sandra Spivey Ayers
Dr. Ana Floyd
Chandra Manning
Anthony Woodyard
Angel Etheridge

Dr. Wendy Rich
Lee Clark
Jody Cox

Mr. Ryan Patton, Finance Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Ms. Sandra Spivey Ayers, Chief Financial Officer, shared the following Local Current Expense Budget considerations that will be requested from the Randolph County Commissioners:

Continuation costs: \$515,000, this request is to cover anticipated increases which includes state salary increase, insurance increase, retirement increase, and other insurance and utility increases

Expansion costs: \$320,000 – this request is to provide a 1% local supplement increase (to help recruit staff to work for Asheboro City Schools).

Total Increase Requested: \$835,000, approximately an 11.37% increase from 2024-2025.

Our low-wealth funding, which is state funding, based on property tax value and rate, has been cut by \$650,000. We were not expecting the cut, and we have reached out to our commissioners about this. This year we have received \$2.9 million in low-wealth funding.

The commissioners continue to be very generous to us. Our current supplemental tax rate and revenue is 11.53% and we are proposing no change in this percentage for 2025-2026.

Ms. Spivey Ayers reviewed the total budgeted revenues & fund balance appropriated for Local Current Expense including the breakdown of how funds are allocated by category with the school staff and system-wide support.

Ms. Spivey Ayers reviewed the Capital Outlay Budget Considerations as follows for 2025-2026:

Category	Location	Description	Amount
Building Envelope	Loflin Elementary	Replace Doors, Columns, Railings	\$ 250,000
Building Envelope	Loflin Elementary	Replace Roof Section F	\$ 250,000
Mechanical	North Asheboro Middle	Upfit Chiller	\$ 100,000
ADA	North Asheboro Middle	Replace Lift in Gym	\$ 100,000
Exterior Finishes	Loflin Elementary	Update Playground Equipment	\$ 125,000
Athletic Facility	North Asheboro Middle	Install Bleachers at Football Field	\$ 200,000
Athletic Facility	Asheboro High	Shore Up Stadium Seating	\$ 100,000
Total			\$ 1,125,000

The items reviewed need attention in 2025-2026 (schools needing updates). In addition to these projects, some piping at Lindley Park may need to be replaced.

For **Capital Outlay County** appropriation, we are requesting another **\$100,000** for 2025-2026. Costs for repairs and construction continue to escalate.

The projected Capital Outlay total budgeted revenues and fund balance for 2025-2026 is \$33,682,175. This includes County appropriation as well as the funds from the Needs Based Capital Funding.

Total proposed Local Appropriation Requested will be \$9,359,333. This includes \$8,177,158 – Current Expense and \$1,182, 175 – Capital Outlay.

Ms. Spivey Ayers asked the board to approve the budget request as presented. Upon motion by Gidget Kidd, and seconded by Phillip Cheek, the board voted unanimously to approve the budget request as presented.

Next, Ms. Spivey Ayers reviewed the overall 2025-2026 Budget Information with a breakdown in each category (local current expense and other, federal grants, local capital outlay, local capital outlay – construction, school nutrition, enterprise fund). The total budget is projected to be \$97,457,833.

The State Public School fund projected budget is \$39,700,000. Ms. Spivey Ayers stated that we try to include staff salaries in state funds as much as possible.

Federal grants - the projected budget for 2025-2026 is \$3,475,000. The reduction over the past few years is due to the expired ESSER funds.

School Nutrition Budget projected: \$5,000,000. Most of this is funded by Federal reimbursements.

Fund 7 – Enterprise Fund – total projected budget is \$400,000. Enterprise means it operates like a business.

Fund 8 – Other Designated Accounts Budget includes Smart Start, NC PreK, ECDC, nurses etc. The total projected budget for 2025-2026 is \$1,603,500.

With no further business, Ryan Patton, Finance Committee Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Board of Education

Board Members Present:

Baxter Hammer, Chairman
Melissa Calloway
Dr. Beth Knott
Gidget Kidd
Madison Hildebrandt, Attorney

Ryan Patton, Vice Chairman
Linda Cranford
Adam Hurley
Hailey Lee

Hilda DeCortez
Michael Smith
Phillip Cheek

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Aaron Woody
Chandra Manning
Gayle Higgs
Jennifer Page
Dr. Ana Floyd
Barb Skelly
Kerry Garner
Julie Brady

Carla Freemyer
Christina Kinley
Dr. Wendy Rich
Sarah Beth Cox
Deanna Wiles
Angel Etheridge
Amanda Hinshaw

Anthony Woodyard
Sandra Spivey Ayers
Nikki Domally
Jody Cox
Scott Bainville
Kerry Garner
Allison Currin

Opening

Chairman Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Chairman Hammer opened the meeting with a moment of silence. Chairman Hammer then invited students from Balfour Elementary School to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon motion by Phillip Cheek, and seconded by Hailey Lee, the board unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

Special Recognitions

- A. Ms. Nikki Domally, Principal, Balfour Elementary School, with the help of Ms. Kerry Garner, Instructional Facilitator, teachers Ms. Amanda Hinshaw and Allison Currin, and students, presented the School Spotlight. The presentation was titled *Literacy at Balfour: Strengthening Foundations* and highlighted the ways Balfour supports instructional improvements in literacy and motivates

students to read outside of school.

- B. Ms. Nikki Domally, Principal, Balfour Elementary School, recognized C4 Church and Mr. Les Denman and Ms. Diane Denman, members of C4, as their community partner spotlight. Ms. Domally shared various ways the church and Mr. and Ms. Denman support Balfour students and staff.
- C. Ms. Sandra Spivey Ayers, Chief Financial Officer, introduced Ms. Bobbie Smith, Sodexo General Manager, who recognized student Lilliane Klingenberg from Donna Lee Loflin Elementary, the Future Chef Winner, for her turkey burger entree. Lilliane's name was submitted to enter a regional competition.
- D. Ms. Sandra Spivey Ayers, Chief Financial Officer, introduced Mr. Russell Leboff and Mr. R.G. Leboff of HES Facilities Management. Mr. Russell Leboff complimented Asheboro City Schools for outstanding leadership and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work with ACS. Mr. R.G. Leboff presented a plaque, naming Asheboro City Schools as HES Partner of the Year for the state of North Carolina, and presented a monetary donation. Ms. Lourdes Martinez, HES Regional Manager for Asheboro City Schools, expressed her appreciation for HES and Asheboro City Schools.
- E. Ms. Chandra Manning, Director of Communications & Talent Development, presented Points of Pride, which featured a variety of student, staff, and district highlights. These included:

Elementary Battle of the Books: Balfour Elementary students are the Battle of the Books champions this year. Charles W. McCrary was the runner-up. Balfour competed at the Regional EBOB and placed fourth.

AHS Drone Soccer: The Asheboro High School Comets drone soccer teams competed in the regional competition on March 22 at Virginia Tech. AHS Team Black Hawks won first place and AHS Team Fire & Ice placed second. Both teams will compete in the U.S. Drone Soccer Nationals on May 3 in upstate New York.

Future Chef Winner: Donna Lee Loflin Elementary student Lillianne Klingenberg won first place in the Future Chef Competition with her turkey burger entrée.

McCrary's Unite Club: Members of McCrary's Unite Club harvested kale, spinach, and collard greens from their garden. The N.C. Agricultural Extension Office joined them and showed them how to make delicious kale salad.

N.C. Reading Conference: Dr. Woody and Ms. Laurie Johnson, Early Literacy Specialist, shared a presentation at the N.C. Reading Conference titled *Building Systems for Success* which explained our district-wide approach to the Science of Reading.

World Down Syndrome Day: March 21st was World Down Syndrome Day and students across the district showed support by participating in the #LotsOfSocks campaign.

Heritage Language Academy (HLA): The HLA Showcase was held on Saturday, March 22, which included presentations, food and fellowship at North Asheboro Middle School. The group moved to UNCG afterward for a graduation ceremony. Also, thanks to the generosity of Tommy and Nancy Teague and the Teague Foundation, student participants were able to purchase \$35 worth of books at Barnes & Noble in Greensboro.

Seussical The Musical: The Park Street Players brought joy and whimsy to the stage with Seussical the Musical with performances over three days.

AHS Sports Media Class: Cindy Farmer with Fox8 visited the Asheboro High School Sports Media class for her "What's Right with Our Schools" segment that aired Monday. Wes Berrier and students shared their experience with designing and running the Daktronics scoreboard.

District ESL Teacher of the Year: Ms. Pam Clinard of Donna Lee Loflin was named ESL Teacher of the Year. Ms. Clinard is a truly humble servant who works tirelessly to help her students succeed. Congratulations Ms. Clinard!

School Library Month/Librarian Day: April is School Library Month, and we appreciate our incredible teacher librarians who serve as the bridge to learning in our schools

Assistant Principal Appreciation Week: This week is Assistant Principal Appreciation Week. Our assistant principals are incredible and are often working behind the scenes at schools. They are relationship builders, instructional leaders, and logistical wizards and we greatly appreciate them.

Superintendent's Report

- **Principal Check-Ins (Mid-Year Evaluations):**

Dr. Woody met each of our nine principals over the past two weeks. These check-ins have focused on practice and performance, outcome projections, and planning for both the remaining seven weeks of this school year and the start of the 2025-26 school year. Our central office support staff have been actively present in schools, conducting walk-throughs and offering targeted instructional support. All feedback is anchored in each school's continuous improvement plan, and our approach remains data-driven, clear in expectations, and focused on progress monitoring and support.

- **Administrative Leadership Team Meetings:**

Building on the momentum from our Board of Education Retreat in February, our Administrative Leadership Team has continued to focus on alignment—between the district, our schools, and our classrooms. This foundational work is setting the stage for more frequent and meaningful updates during board meetings next school year. We are looking at ways to provide even greater updates to our board and our community on quarterly progress connected to individual school Continuous Improvement Plans.

- **Upcoming July Board Retreat:**

We plan to have a summer retreat and board meeting on Thursday, July 10. We'll be sharing more details soon regarding the agenda and location. We plan to hold a district leadership retreat on July 8 and 9 with planned sessions with the Board of Education members on the 10th.

- **NC State AIM Research Project – K-2 Teachers:**

Last week, our kindergarten through second grade teachers completed the NC State AIM (All In Math) professional development, led by Dr. Anna Floyd, our Curriculum Math Specialist. Over 40 hours of deep training in content and discourse were provided. Next year, our third through fifth grade teachers will take part in this same transformative training. We believe AIM will be a powerful tool in helping all learners make meaningful gains in mathematics.

- **Business Advisory Meeting:**

On Wednesday, April 2, Sara Beth Cox, Director of Career & Technical Education (CTE), lead a dynamic session with 20 different business leaders here in the Asheboro/Randolph County community. We listened to perspectives on work force development, career placement skills, and the ever-changing needs our employers are looking for in our graduates. Some of these included, problem-solving, critical thinking, strong work ethic, cell phone displacement, and collaboration and communication skills. Our next meeting will take place on October 21st, and we invite board members to attend.

- **A Word of Appreciation:**

As we head into a well-deserved spring break tomorrow, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks on behalf of our leadership team and this board to our incredible teachers, staff, and administrators. Their dedication and sacrifice in service to our students inspire me daily. The work of Asheboro City Schools is driven by one purpose: student success.

Public Comments

Ms. Erin Shellman shared her concern about NC HB58 and cited research as it relates to the size of the school board and the impact of partisanship on student achievement.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Melissa Calloway, and seconded by Gidget Kidd, the board unanimously approved the following items:

- A. Approval of Minutes for March 13, 2025, Board of Education Meeting
- B. Personnel
- C. Overnight Field Trip – Asheboro High School DECA to Florida
- D. 2024-2025 Facility Rental Fees Update
- E. Budget Amendment F-02

**Asheboro City Schools
Personnel Transactions April
10, 2025**

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

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Grieshaber	Paul	CO	Bus Driver	4/1/2025 (rescinded)
Jaimes	Maria Angelica	AHS	Instructional Assistant - EC	4/2/2025

***B. APPOINTMENTS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Ross	Moneka	CO	Bus Driver	3/24/2025

***C. LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Scherer	Katie	NAMS	ELA/Social Studies	12/30/24 - 06/30/25

D. TRANSFERS

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Woodle	Timothy	CO	Bus Driver to Sub Bus Driver	3/14/2025

**Asheboro City Schools Personnel
ADDENDUM
April 10, 2025**

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

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Alston	Donyelle	AHS	In School Suspension/Inst. Asst.	4/30/2025
Zinn	Elizabeth	BAL	2nd Grade	6/12/2025

***B. APPOINTMENTS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Trogdon	Jaylin	CO	Bus Driver	4/3/2025

***E. ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENTS**

LAST	FIRST	SCHOOL	SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE
Higgs	Gayle	CO	Chief HR and Support Services Officer	7/1/2025 - 06/30/2029

Information, Reports, and Recommendations

- A. Ms. Gayle Higgs, Director of Support Services, shared the following Policies for Review:
- 1310/4002 Parental Involvement
 - 1725/4035/7236 Title IX Sexual Harassment - Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process

- 1726/4036/7237 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process
- 2302 Remote Participation in Board Meetings
- 3000 Goals and Objective of the Educational Program
- 3100 Curriculum Development
- 3200 Selection of Instructional Materials
- 4140 Foreign Exchange Students
- 4150 School Assignment
- 4310 Integrity and Civility
- 5010 Parent Organizations
- 6402 Participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses
- 7130 Licensure
- 7360/8225 Crowdfunding on Behalf of the School System
- 9115 Prequalification of Bidders for Construction Project
- 9120 Bidding for Construction Work
- 9125 Participation by Minority Businesses
- 3540 Comprehensive Health Education Program
- 1720/4030/7235 Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
- 3130 Grouping for Instruction
- 3620 Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations
- 4329/7311 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited
- 5240 Advertising in Schools
- 6220 Operation of School Nutrition Services
- 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
- 7232 Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
- 8220 Gifts and Bequests
- 1705 Race and Equity
- 1700 Governing Principle – Overcoming Barriers

***Action Items**

- A. Ms. Sarah Beth Cox, Director of Career & Technical Education (CTE), shared a presentation and requested approval of a new CTE course titled Coding in Minecraft – Expert Coding. Upon motion by Michael Smith and seconded by Phillip Cheek, the board unanimously approved the request.
- B. Dr. Woody, Superintendent, asked to add an action item to the agenda. Dr. Woody requested approval of an overnight field trip for the drone soccer team to travel to New York to compete on May 2-3 at the 2025 National Drone Soccer Championship. Upon motion by Linda Cranford, and seconded by Gidget Kidd, the board unanimously approved the request as presented.

Board Operations

- A. Chairman Hammer reviewed information regarding upcoming events.
 - The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be on May 8, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Center, unless otherwise posted.
- B. The board members who attended the COSSBA National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia on March 20-23, 2025, discussed the information they learned from sessions they attended.

Adjournment

There being no further business and upon motion by Linda Cranford, and seconded by Dr. Beth Knott, the board unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:16 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary