

## Henderson County Board of Public Education

### MINUTES

May 8, 2023

The Henderson County Board of Public Education held a meeting on Monday, May 8, 2023, beginning at 4:00 pm, at 414 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Hendersonville, NC. The meeting was accessible to the public via a livestream link at, <http://hcpsnc.org/live>.

#### Board Members Present:

Blair Craven, Chairperson; Jay Egolf, Vice Chairperson; Stacey Caskey; Shelia Dale; Alyssa Norman; Kathy Revis

#### Absent:

Robert Bridges

#### Administrative Staff Present:

Mark R. Garrett, Superintendent; Shannon Marlowe, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Mr. Scott Rhodes, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer and Carl Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer

Attorney Present: Cynthia Lopez

Board Clerk: Tawana Clayton

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mr. Blair Craven called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Mr. Craven led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

#### AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Blair Craven acknowledged receipt of the meeting agenda and asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Kathy Revis moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Stacey Caskey. *(Unanimously approved.)*

#### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT – Henderson County Virtual Public School (HCVPS)

Scott Cowan, with Instructional Services, presented to the board information about Henderson County Virtual Public School.

- Purpose: HCVPS provides online coursework for Henderson County high school students to create flexible scheduling options and increase opportunities for students to personalize their high school experience.
- Helping Henderson County Public Schools meet the needs of ALL students
- Your Pace, Your Place
- Flexible
  - Can be taken any period or from home
  - The teacher could be at another school
  - Students access classes otherwise unavailable
  - Personal circumstances
  - Early graduation
  - Learning styles
- Personalized
  - Students can follow their interests even when a class is not offered at their school
  - Feedback: individualized and prescriptive
  - Because our teachers are local, it is easier to support struggling students

- Regular student/teacher communications
- Differentiated assignments
- Feedback
  - Aariah, a senior at Hendersonville High School, shared with the board her personal experience with taking a class through HCVPS .
- Online Format
  - Google Classroom
- High-Interest Electives
  - Creative Writing
  - Drone Technology
  - AP Psychology
  - Art of Photography
  - Forensic Science
  - Python Programming
  - Latin American Studies
  - Google for Productivity

## STUDENT RECOGNITION

Superintendent Mark R. Garrett showcased the HCPS students who will enlist in the military this year:

### **North Henderson High School**

Mauricio Hernandez-Ogarrio-Air Force  
 Samuel Munoz-Espinoza-National Guard  
 Samuel McGraw-Air Force  
 Henry Portela-National Guard  
 Katelyn Ramsey-Air Force  
 Gilbert Rodriguez-Army  
 Rudolfo Taizan-National Guard  
 Chico Vega-National Guard  
 Miguel Zaragoza-Linares-Air Force  
 Antonio Altamireno-Navy  
 Anthony Dewayne Banks-Marines  
 Charles Barber-Army  
 Boanerges Altamarina- Ortiz- Navy

### **Innovative High School**

Early College-  
 Morgan Johnson -Air Force  
 Jonathan Ventura - Navy  
 Henderson County Career Academy-  
 Jaiden Castillo - National Guard  
 Brandon Murguz - National Guard  
 Sha'Kayla Smith - National Guard

### **East Henderson High School**

Levi Canulli - Marines

### **Hendersonville High School**

Cole Moore - Army

### **West Henderson High School**

Theron Rodriguez- Air Force  
 Ryan Lecker- Navy  
 Zac Anderson- Navy

Principals and Teachers presented certificates to the following students:

**Hendersonville High School**

HHS Bearcats Mock Trial Team

Teacher: Jerry Smith

Volunteer: Kathryn Wells

Semi-finalist at the State Finals of the North Carolina State Mock Trial Competition:

Laura Shelton-Mock Trial Team All-Regional Honors (Attorney)

Rose Henderson- Mock Trial Team All-Regional Honors (Witness) and All-State Honors (Witness)

Mary Shelton-Mock Trial Team All-Regional Honors (Witness)

JT Smith-Mock Trial Team All-State Honors (Witness)

Hilton Swing-Mock Trial Team All-State Honors (Attorney)

Brock Hill-Mock Trial Team All-Regional Honors

HHS Band-Festival Disney: Superior Rating, Best in Class and Highest Scores

HHS Orchestra-Festival Disney: Superior Rating, Best in Class and Highest Scores

Jacqueline Hernandez - Governor's School for Dance

**West Henderson High School**

WHHS Orchestra

Teacher: Tiffany King-Superior Rating from Stage Judges (3) and Sight Reading Judge at the Western Region Music Performance Adjudication

SkillsUSA Competition

Teachers: Keith Deese and Ms. Courtney Maddox

Clay Beal-1st Place Cabinetmaking: Live Build

Tucker McAbee-4th Place Cabinetmaking: Live Build

Allen Bartley-2nd Place Engineering: Skill Project Showcase

Reese Butts-2nd Place Engineering: Skill Project Showcase

Cyrus Galloway-2nd Place Promotional Bulletin Board

Sadie Luce-2nd Place Promotional Bulletin Board

Karla Ouiroz-Estrada-2nd Place Promotional Bulletin Board

**North Henderson High School**

North Henderson Air Force JROTC-1st Place in Color Guard and 3rd Place in Unarmed Exhibition Drill at the 2023 Air Force Association Florida Invitational Drill Championship: Josiah Ashline; John Ballard; Mary Boyd; Joshua Closius; Elaina Elliott; Keegan Guinn; Kain Herman; Makayla Manley; Fiona Mel; Colbi Paris; Mia Reffitt; Aiden Rodriguez; Alisha Sullivan; Carson Waller

Ava Vanness -Top 3 of North Carolina's National History Day Competition (Teacher: Wayne Nock) & Governor's School for Social Science

Sydney Cooper-Top 3 of North Carolina's National History Day Competition (Teacher:Wayne Nock)

**Hendersonville Middle School**

Alivia Chen-Local, Regional, and State Level Competition for her Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Competition; Teacher: Anne Boyette

Ruby Huggins-2nd Place Exhibit at Western Region of National History Day

**Hillandale Elementary School**

1st Place Champions Award at the FIRST ® LEGO® League Challenge: Natalie Lamb; Delilah Milby-Weiler; Zachary Newquist; Yeceila Cabrera; Jarrett Burnett; Greyson Saltz; Abigail Allman; Hayden Marso Puzon; Teacher: Ms. Becca Martin

**Hendersonville Elementary School**

Lillian Jones-1st Place at the WNC Science Fair & Dewey & Susan Ryals Memorial Award at the State Level NC Science and Engineering Fair

Sam Cain-1st Place at the WNC Science Fair & Honorable Mention at the State Level NC Science and Engineering Fair

Teachers: Zach Peterson and Amy Ramsey

#### BOARD CHAIR OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Blair Craven has no observations at this time.

#### BOARD MEMBERS' OBSERVATION

Mrs. Sheila Dale mentioned the phenomenal experience and leadership shown from students during a tour at Clear Creek Elementary.

Mrs. Stacey Caskey enjoyed the board tour at Upward Elementary School and mentioned how she left every classroom with a smile on her face.

#### PUBLIC INPUT - 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

At 5:43 p.m. Mr. Craven opened the meeting for public input on the 2023-2024 proposed budget. There were no public inputs made. No action was taken.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

At 5:44 p.m. Mr. Craven opened the meeting for public comment. Two people addressed the Board. Public comments ended at 5:51 p.m. No action was taken.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Blair Craven cited the Board's receipt of the Consent Agenda presented for approval upon recommendation of the Superintendent. Prior to the meeting, Board members received documentation relative to the Consent Agenda as follows:

##### A. Meeting Schedule

1. HCBPE Regular Business Meeting [*Monday, June 12, 2023, 4:00 pm., (Closed Session at 3:00 pm.) (Boardroom)*]
2. HCBPE Special Called Business Meeting [End of Year Matters (Thursday, June 29, 2023, 9:00 a.m.) (Boardroom)]

##### B. Minutes

1. April 10, 2023 (*Regular Business Meeting*)

##### C. Personnel (*as presented in closed session*)

##### D. Student Acceptances/Releases (*as presented in closed session*)

##### E. Budget Amendment

Mr. Robert Bridges moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Mrs. Stacey Caskey seconded the motion. (Unanimously approved.)

#### OLD BUSINESS

NONE

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Approval – (2023-2024) County Appropriation Request – (*Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer*)

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented the Board with the Local Appropriation Request. This is the summary of the Budget Workshop held in April 2023 and is presented for Board of Education approval. The request will be forwarded to the Henderson County Board of County Commissioners for consideration for funding of the Local Current Expense and Capital Outlay Funds. Total appropriation request is \$34,838,000

Mrs. Stacey Caskey moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the 2023-2024 County Appropriation Request. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

B. Approval – Authorization to Submit Federal Program Applications – *(Dr. Shannon Marlowe, Assistant Superintendent)*

Dr. Shannon Marlowe presented the Board with Federal Program Applications for approval. On an annual basis, the School Board is asked to grant authorization for staff to submit applications to receive Federal Title I, Part A, (PRC 050), McKinney-Vento, Homeless Education (PRC 026), Title I, Part C, Migrant Education (PRC 051), Title II, Part A Supporting Effective Instruction (PRC 103), Title III, Part A (PRC 104 and 111) funds and Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (PRC 108).

Mr. Jay Egolf moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education grant staff the authorization to submit federal funding applications as outlined in the request. Mrs. Stacey Caskey seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

C. Approval – Alternative Accountability Model Options 2023-2024 – *(Dr. Shannon Marlowe, Assistant Superintendent)*

Dr. Shannon Marlowe presented the Board with Alternative Accountability Model Options 2023-2024 for approval. Dr. Marlowe stated the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is requesting input as to the accountability option HCPS wishes to utilize at the alternative school, the Career Academy. This determination is made and reported on an annual basis. Dr. Marlowe recommended that the School Board continue to use Option B: Alternative Schools Progress Model that rewards student persistence and weighs heavily on academic growth. This model also allows three years of data for achievement reporting.

Dr. Kathy Revis moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve Option B: The Alternative Schools Progress Model as the accountability model for the Career Academy for the 2023-2024 school year. Alyssa Norman seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

D. Approval – HCPS Child Care Playground Project – *(Mr. Scott Rhodes, Assistant Superintendent)*

Mr. Scott Rhodes presented the Board with the Child Care Playground Project Bid Package A and B. Pending review by RVE, Inc and Henderson County Public School personnel, we are requesting the authority to proceed with the review and execution of contracts for bid packages A (Bruce Drysdale Elementary, Clear Creek Elementary, Hendersonville Elementary, Hillandale Elementary, Mills River Elementary, Upward Elementary and bid package B (Atkinson Elementary, Dana Elementary, Edneyville Elementary, Etowah Elementary, Fletcher Elementary, Glenn Marlow Elementary, Sugarloaf Elementary)

- Bid Package A: opening on May 8, 2023
- Bid Package B: opened on April 27, 2023

Mr. Blair Craven moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education authorize bid Package A be awarded to Barrs Recreation, subject to verification of the bid documents and completion of a final contract. The total dollar amount for bid package A with a 10% contingency not to exceed \$1,540,460.91. Mrs. Alyssa Norman seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

Mr. Blair Craven moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education authorize bid Package B be awarded to Barrs Recreation, subject to verification of the bid documents and completion of a final contract. The total dollar amount for bid package B with a 10% contingency not to exceed \$683,294.17. Mrs. Alyssa Norman seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

E. Approval – Purchase/Contract over \$90,000 – *(Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer)*

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented the Board a purchase in excess of \$90,000 for approval. Pursuant to board policies 6420, Contracts with the Board, and 6430, Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials, and Supplies, any purchases or contracts in excess of \$90,000 must be approved by the Board. The following intended purchase is for approval of execution. The PC Replacement Initiative is designed to upgrade outdated PCs currently used at our schools. This purchase is to replace devices at the High Schools which are almost eight years old. The model selected is the most budget friendly (utilizing the Sourcewell Co-op pricing) model from Dell that currently meets system specs for new PC purchases and matches system specifications that are in other new device purchases. Furthermore, these PCs are comparable to what was ordered last year for the Middle School PC replacement to provide consistency. Dell has a proven track record with us of providing PCs that have good longevity as evidenced by the age of the current High School PCs.

Mrs. Stacey Caskey moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the attached computer purchase from CDW-G. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

F. Approval – Sole Source – *(Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer )*

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented a noncompetitive procurement waiver to the Board for approval. The Office of Budget and Management (OMB) issued Uniform Guidance Procurement Standards (UG) for local governments that receive and expend federal financial assistance. These guidelines were effective July 1, 2018. All purchases of goods that exceed \$30,000 and services that exceed \$50,000.00 require issuing a bid solicitation using the Uniform Guidance ‘micro-purchase’ procedures. One exception to these guidelines is for ‘noncompetitive procurement’ which means that the item is only available from a single source provider or that a specific item is necessary for continuity of equipment. Procurement under this exception requires annual local Board approval. A local HCPS committee reviews all potential sole source vendors using established NCDPI and UG guidelines. The Exceptional Children Department has requested that Assistive Technology Works (ATW) be approved as a sole source vendor to purchase NOVA Chat 10 equipment under the “Single Source – Equipment Continuity” provision for noncompetitive procurement. This purchase is to replace our current NOVA Chats which are reaching end of life and beyond repair. Additionally, ATW has provided a verification letter that lists them as the distributor of NOVA Chat for the sole manufacturer of the equipment. The committee has reviewed the request and determined that ATW meets the criteria for the procurement waiver.

Mrs. Alyssa Norman moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve Assistive Technology Works as a vendor under the sole source exemption guidelines. Dr. Kathy Revis seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

G. Approval – Lottery Application – *(Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer)*

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented the lottery application to the Board for approval. The Public School Building Capital Fund/ N.C. Education Lottery Application is to request funds currently available (\$277,261.55) to pay debt service on the 2008 Installment Financing Contract debt issue for the Hillandale and Mills River Elementary School construction projects. All funds received from the N. C. Education Lottery funds are currently being used for debt service on these school building projects.

Mr. Blair Craven moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the Public School Building Capital Fund/North Carolina Education Lottery Application. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

H. Haywood Road Project -Right of Way *(Mr. Carl Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer)*

Mr. Carl Taylor presented the Board with the Haywood Road Project - Right of Way.

1. Approval – Historic Johnson Farm

Johnson Farm - 0.000 is being acquired as right of way leaving 22.510 acres remaining on the left with access to NC191 Haywood Rd. Also being acquired is a temporary construction easement containing 0.066 acre, a Drainage/Utility Easement (DUE) containing approximately 0.053 acre, and permanent drainage easement containing approximately 0.007 acre.

Mrs. Alyssa Norman moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the NCDOT acquisition of right of way for Johnson Farm. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

2. Approval – Rugby Middle School

Rugby Middle School - 0.973 acre is being acquired as right of way leaving 98.157 acres remaining on the right with access to NC191 Haywood Rd. Also being acquired is a temporary construction easement containing 0.825 acre, a Drainage/Utility Easement (DUE) containing approximately 0.349 acre, and permanent utility easement containing approximately 1.224 acres.

Mrs. Alyssa Norman moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the NCDOT acquisition of right of way for Johnson Farm. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

3. Approval – West Henderson High School

West Henderson High School - 1.151 acres are being acquired as right of way leaving 73.479 acres remaining on the left with access to NC191 Haywood Rd. Also being acquired is a temporary construction easement containing 0.836 acre, a Drainage/Utility Easement (DUE) containing approximately 0.568 acre, and permanent drainage easement containing approximately 0.677 acre.

Mrs. Alyssa Norman moved that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the NCDOT acquisition of right of way for Johnson Farm. Mrs. Shelia Dale seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved)*

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. CAPITAL UPDATE – *(Mr. Carl Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer)*

Chief Administrative Officer Carl Taylor provided the board with status updates on the construction and facility projects currently underway or planned in the near future:

**HCPS Projects:** North Henderson Baseball & Softball Lights- HCPS is awaiting Duke Energy to run the power to the lights-Estimated Completion May 12, 2023

**2022-2023 MRTS:** Upward Elementary Cafeteria Renovation and Secure Entry

CMR Pre-Proposal Meeting-March 8, 2023; CMR Proposals Due-March 15, 2023; CMR Selection-April 19, 2023; Pre-Construction Meeting-May 2023; Paving (New Back - Bus Lot/Staff Lot)-June 2023

West Henderson Renovation and Addition:

Pre-Construction Meeting w/ LS3P and Carolina Specialties-March 7, 2023

Soil Testing April 12, 2023

HVAC, Electrical and Plumbing Meeting April 24, 2023

Structural Steel Meeting April 24, 2023

Pre-Construction Pricing for Schematic Designs May 2023

B. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – *(Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer)*

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented the Board with the results of operations of the Local Current Expense and Other Restricted Funds for the 2022-23 fiscal year as of April 30, 2023: Revenues received total \$33,424,714 and expenditures made total \$25,359,661. The final County appropriation revenue was received in April, and that brings the revenue to 98% of projected budget with the balance being Medicaid funds.

2. Results of operations of the Enterprise Funds as of March 31, 2023:

a. Child Nutrition: Revenues received total \$6,382,731 and expenditures made total \$6,381,284. Both are at 79% of the total projected budget after the third quarter.

b. Child Care: Revenues received total \$1,752,127 and expenditures made total \$1,114,870. Operations are within budget, and the playground project design work expenditures began in this quarter. With bids received, work on that project should begin in the 4th quarter.

C. GENERAL OPERATIONS – *(Mr. Mark R. Garrett, Superintendent)*

Superintendent Mark Garrett presented to the Board the General Operations report. May 8-12 Teacher Appreciation Week; May 10 National School Nurse Day; May 11 Teacher of the Year Luncheon, 12:00 p.m., Jeter Mountain Farm; May 11 HCPS Retirement Celebration, 5:30 p.m., Jeter Mountain Farm; May 17 Career and Technical Education Scholars Awards Ceremony & Reception, 1:00 p.m., Blue Ridge Community College Technology Education & Development Center; May 25 Top Scholars Banquet, 6:00 p.m.; Blue Ridge Community College Technology Education & Development Center; May 26 Last Day of School and Early Dismissal for Students on Flex Calendar and Early College Calendar; May 26 Henderson County Early College Graduation, 6:00 p.m.; May 29 Memorial Day Holiday for All Students and Staff; June 9: Henderson County High School Graduations:

- East Henderson High School, 7:00 p.m.
- Henderson County Career Academy, 5:30 p.m.
- Hendersonville High School, 6:00 p.m.
- North Henderson High School, 6:00 p.m.
- West Henderson High School, 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Kathy Revis moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mrs. Alyssa Norman seconded the motion. *(Unanimously approved at 6:08 pm.)*

Minutes approved: June 12, 2023