

Regular Session Board Meeting  
December 14, 2020

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2020 through a remote meeting using the Zoom format. This was agreed to by the board members in order to follow safety guidelines. Chairman Ray Felton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following board members were present: Mr. Ray Felton, Mrs. Glendale Boone, Mr. Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Sallie Ryan and Mrs. Amanda Pacitto.

Cathy Riddick, Notary Public, administered the oath of office to Mr. Ray Felton. Mr. Felton was duly elected in the March, 2020 election.

Chairman Felton asked Dr. Barry Williams, Superintendent, to proceed with the nominations for chairperson and vice chairperson of the board.

Dr. Williams then opened the floor for nominations for the position of chairperson of the Board of Education. Mrs. Sallie Ryan nominated Mr. Ray Felton for the chairperson position. Mrs. Glendale Boone seconded the nomination. Mrs. Glendale Boone then made a motion to close the nomination and Mrs. Sallie Ryan seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. A call for vote for chair of the Board of Education was made by Ms. Cathy Riddick, Clerk to the Board.

FOR NOMINEE Ray Felton, HOW DO YOU VOTE?

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY
BOONE	✓	
FELTON		
BYRUM	✓	
RYAN	✓	
PACITTO	✓	

Dr. Williams opened the floor for nominations for the position of vice-chairperson of the Board of Education. Mr. Ray Felton nominated Mrs. Glendale Boone for the vice-chair position. Mrs. Sallie Ryan seconded the nomination. Mrs. Sallie Ryan then made a motion to close the nomination. Mrs. Amanda Pacitto seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. A call for vote for vice-chair of the Board of Education was made by Ms. Cathy Riddick, Clerk to the Board.

FOR NOMINEE Glendale Boone, HOW DO YOU VOTE?

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY
BOONE		
FELTON	✓	
BYRUM	✓	
RYAN	✓	
PACITTO	✓	

Congratulations to Mr. Ray Felton as Chairman, and Mrs. Glendale Boone as Vice Chair.

Mrs. Glendale Boone made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss personnel as outlined in North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Mrs. Sallie Ryan seconded the motion. Chairman Felton called for a vote. Board members stated their vote, and the motion carried unanimously. Board Members entered into closed session at 9:08 a.m.

Mr. Felton reconvened open session at 10:01 a.m., with the following board members present: Mr. Ray Felton, Mrs. Glendale Boone, Mr. Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Sallie Ryan, and Mrs. Amanda Pacitto.

Mrs. Sallie Ryan made a motion to approve the amended agenda with the addition of Information Item, out-of-district approval for Eric Eure to attend Buckland Elementary, approved by Dr. Barry Williams. Mrs. Glendale Boone seconded the motion. Chairman Felton called for a vote. Board members stated their vote, and the motion carried unanimously.

There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no Public Comments.

### **Items for Information:**

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Williams introduced Dr. Jared Miller with Sentara Healthcare. Dr. Miller spoke about safety protocol for our student athletes. He stated that they have put strict measures in place to deal with positive tests, to keep the athletes and the community safe. Success depends on the athletes being honest about exposure and symptom reporting. Dr. Williams and the board thanked Dr. Miller.

During the Board Report, board members thanked the teachers and staff for their dedication to our students and all the work they have done over the past several months. Everyone has done a great job. Included in that thank-you are all the departments, maintenance, food program, and transportation. Everyone has stepped up to the challenge. Mr. Felton thanked Dr. Williams for an outstanding job. Through connections he has made in Raleigh, he was able to secure a \$2500 grant for the schools, and has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to help Gates County Schools be successful.

Mrs. Sandra Pittman, Finance Officer, gave the Financial Report and provided an update on New Beginnings Daycare and Out-of-District Tuition.

Added Item: Dr. Williams approved Eric Eure to attend Buckland Elementary School for the second semester of 2020-2021.

The following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

1. Approval of Minutes - November 9, 2020 Regular Session
2. Approval of Minutes – December 7, 2020 Special Called Session
3. Code of Ethics for Board Members
4. Farm Land Lease to James Brinkley
5. Updated Beginning Teacher Support Plan

6. Revised 2020-2021 School Calendar
7. Transportation Contracts for Exceptional Children's Department
8. Budget Amendment No. 2 – State Funds
9. Budget Amendment No. 1 – Local Fund No. 2
10. Budget Amendment No. 2 – Local Fund No. 8

Mr. Felton noted that he wanted to check with Mr. James Brinkley concerning the farm lease to see if he is actually farming the land.

**New Business:**

Mr. Leslie Byrum noted that the End of Course grades count as 25% of the total grade. This was approved by the Board of Education. The state only requires that it count as 20% of the total grade. He made a motion that we use 20%, as required by the state, during the COVID pandemic, and then return to the 25%. Mrs. Glendale Boone seconded the motion. Chairman Felton called for a vote. Board members stated their vote, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

**1. NEW HIRES**

- Rita Boone – Payroll Specialist at the Central Office

**2. TRANSFERS**

- Bobby Collins – Part-time Custodian to Full-time Custodian at GCHS replacing Earl Ralph
- Tanya Jones – Part-time Teacher Assistant to Full-time Teacher Assistant at New Beginnings Daycare
- Kimberly Riddick – Part-time Teacher Assistant to Full-time Teacher Assistant at New Beginnings Daycare

**3. INTERIM TEACHERS**

- Don White – CTE Agricultural Teacher – GCHS
- Debra Vaughan – Math Teacher – GCHS

**4. TUTORS – Tentatively Approved by Superintendent**

- Anita Winn – Buckland Elementary - Teacher
- Susan Bazemore – Buckland Elementary - Teacher
- Angela JoJo Nichols – Buckland Elementary - Teacher
- Aretha Williams-Ruffin – Gatesville Elementary – School Counselor
- Robin Boone – Gatesville Elementary – Teacher Assistant
- LeKisha Holley – Gatesville Elementary – Teacher Assistant
- Devin Riddick – Gatesville Elementary Teacher Assistant
- Felisha Walton – Gatesville Elementary Teacher Assistant
- Lori Lolie – Gatesville Elementary - Teacher

**5. SUBSTITUTE TEACHER**

- Tracy Carr – Reinstated (Resigned 9-10-2020)

**6. SECURITY/SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

- Marlos Downing, Jr. – Central Middle School

**7. LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER**

- Sherl Lowe – replacing Lauren Bright while out on leave

In Other Business the following items were discussed:

- The regular January session will be held on Monday, January 11, 2020. We will use the Zoom format to conduct the meeting remotely. Closed session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and Open Session at 10:00 a.m.
- The board noted that schools and departments have been notified of funds to be distributed for their annual Christmas Staff Appreciation celebrations.

Mrs. Glendale Boone made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Sallie Ryan seconded the motion. Chairman Felton called for a vote. Board members stated their vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman Felton adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.