

Gaston County Board of Education
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes
4:00pm – March 1, 2021
943 Osceola Street – Board Room

1. **Call to Order (Chairman Dedmon)** – Meeting was called to order at 4:06pm. Present: Lee Dedmon, Dot Cherry, and Brent Moore. GCS Staff present: Gary Hoskins, Morgen Houchard, Joey Clinton, Aaron Slutsky, Chris Hall, Leigh Smith, and Sierra Wray.
2. **Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting (Chairman Dedmon)** – Brent Moore made a motion to approve minutes from the February 1, 2021 meeting. Dot Cherry seconded. Minutes were approved.
3. **School Business Systems Modernization (SBSM) Update (Chris Hall, Leigh Smith)** - Chris Hall and Dr. Leigh Smith gave an update on the School Business Systems Modernization (SBSM) project. The SBSM project is state funded by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Cherry Road Technologies is the state selected vendor to assist districts that are moving to Oracle Cloud as their new business management system. Oracle will be replacing our district's primary Human Resources, Finance, and Payroll systems. Gaston County Schools is scheduled to go live with Phase 1 of this project on July 1, 2021.
4. **Human Resources Update (Joey Clinton)**
 - a. **COVID-19 Vaccine**
 - b. **Staffing Levels**

Additional dates, times, and locations that the Covid-19 vaccinations were available to GCS employees that wanted to receive the vaccine before March 10 were shared. Gaston County Schools was part of an early group 3. Mr. Clinton also informed us that jobs are posted online for internal employees to apply for positions at the new Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences and at the Gaston Virtual Academy. Interviews started in March for Principal and Assistant Principals.
5. **Technology Support Services Update (Aaron Slutsky)** - informed on the new process TSS has implemented to help the district reroute the network in case of a WAN or LAN internet outage. The process will help to backup and restore data quickly as well as maintaining internet in our schools and offices.
6. **Auxiliary Services Update (Morgen Houchard)**
 - a. **Elementary School – Plan A Procedures** - The first full day for Cohort A and Cohort B on the elementary level was a success thanks in part to the hard work and dedication of our school leadership, school employees, and students.

- b. **Highland School of Technology Projects** - Renovations to the C Wing at Highland School of Technology were listed on the Consent Agenda for Board approval.
- c. **Cell Tower Request – McAdenville ES** - AT&T has proposed to place a cell phone tower at McAdenville Elementary. More information will be gathered and then brought back to the Operations Committee.
- d. **Access to Development Off One Learning Way – Student Assignment** - A local realtor is requesting access to a development off of One Learning Place at Forest Heights. At this time, the Operations Committee has agreed to leave it as is, which keeps ownership and access as is.
- e. **Rocky Branch Carolina Thread Trail project** - An update to the Rocky Branch Carolina Thread Trail, near Sturt Cramer High School, was given.
- f. **Belmont Middle School Update** - We now have the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the new Belmont Middle School. At this time, 98% of the punch list items have been completed. Furniture is being moved and the traffic light at the intersection of Wildcat Way and South Point Road is currently working.

7. School Bond Discussion (Gary Hoskins)

- a. **School Bond Spreadsheet**
- b. **Funding for Capital Projects - Reallocate Unallocated Interest and Remaining 2016 Bond Proceeds**

Information was presented pertaining to School Bonds and how the funds have been disbursed. Funding for Capital Projects appeared on the agenda as an Action item.

- 8. **Discuss 2021-2022 Budget Request (Gary Hoskins)** - The Board received the Superintendent’s Budget Request, which was based on information received from our stakeholders and Fund Managers, at the March Board meeting. The budget was presented to the Board for approval on April 19, 2021 and will be submitted to the County by May 15, 2021 as required by State law.
- 9. **Review/Discuss Change Orders (Gary Hoskins)** – a list of construction and repair change orders were presented and recommended for approval by the Board. These items were included on the Consent Agenda.

10. Discuss Potential Meeting Dates for 2021 (Chairman Dedmon)

May 3rd	June 7th (No July mtg.)	August 2nd	September 6th
October 4th	November 1st	December 6th	

(All meeting are scheduled to be at 4:00pm in the Central Office Board Room, unless otherwise noted)

- 11. **Other Business and Discussion (Chairman Dedmon)** – There was no other business to discuss.
- 12. **Adjourn (Chairman Dedmon)** – Meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sierra H. Wray