

Gaston County Schools
Board of Education
Monday, January 8, 2024
Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Special Meeting

MINUTES

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a special session on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. for the purpose of the appointment of a new superintendent. The meeting was live on Spectrum Cable Channel 21 and The Gaston County Board of Education YouTube page. Those Board Members in attendance were: Chairman Jeff Ramsey, Vice Chairman Dot Cherry, Josh Crisp, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie, Tod Kinlaw, Robbie Lovelace, Brent Moore, and A.M. Stephens III.

Additional attendees include: Interim Superintendent Dr. Stephen Laws, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Interim Associate Superintendent Dr. Beth Folger and Associate Superintendent Gary Hoskins, Chief Communications Officer Todd Hagans, Chief Technology Officer Aaron Slutsky and Board Clerk Dana Luoto.

Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Agenda Adoption - Action

The Board considered Agenda Adoption – Action

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented was made by Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Mr. Lee Dedmon; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

Chairman Ramsey asked the Board to consider going into Closed Session under, N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 4:32 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 4:46 p.m.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board
Appoint Dr. Morgen Houchard to serve as Superintendent of Gaston County Schools effective February 19, 2024 and approve the contract discussed in Closed Session

Discussion occurred

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried. (6-3) Opposed — Mrs. Robbie Lovelace, Mr. Tod Kinlaw and Mrs. Dot Guthrie

Dr. Morgen Houchard expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Board for being chosen as the next Superintendent for Gaston County Schools.

Chairman Ramsey thanked everyone for sharing this time with the Board and we look forward to February 19 when Dr. Houchard will begin as our new Superintendent. Until that time, we are thankful for Dr. Laws and Dr. Folger serving as interims.

Chairman Ramsey announced that our next regular Board Meeting will be in conjunction with our Board Retreat on Friday, January 26, 2024.

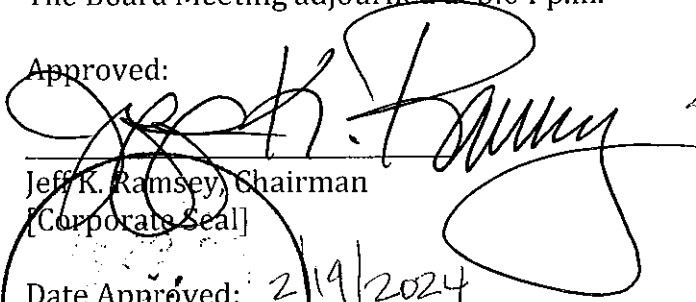
Chairman Ramsey invited everyone to stay for the reception following the Board Meeting.

Adjournment

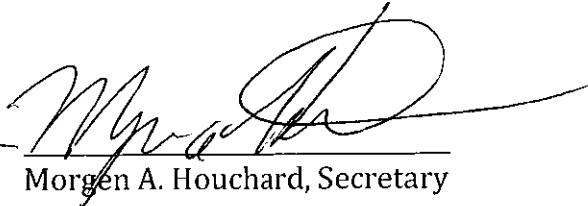
All business having been conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Josh Crisp motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Approved:



Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman
[Corporate Seal]
Date Approved: 2/19/2024



Morgen A. Houchard, Secretary