

**Minutes**  
**Anson County Board of Education**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, December 14, 2020, 3:30 p.m.**  
**Anson County Schools' Administrative Conference Room/Board Room**  
**Virtual Go To Meeting**

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2020. Members present via Virtual Go To Meeting were Marilynn Bennett, Lisa Davis, Bobbie Little, Frank Liles and George Truman. Board members present in-person were Carol Gibson, Gay Lookabill, Beulah Pratt and Mike Turner. Others in attendance were Howard McLean (Superintendent), Marty Godwin (Assistant Superintendent), Anne Hyatt (Board Clerk), Mike Flake (Board Attorney) and Pete Swails (Administrator: Technology).

**Call to Order**

Mike Flake opened the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

**Reorganization**

Mike Flake led the reorganization meeting and asked for nominations for chairperson.

Board Chair

Bobbie Little nominated Carol Gibson for chairperson. Marilynn Bennett nominated George Truman for chairperson. Nominations were closed and a roll call vote was taken. Carol Gibson was named chairperson with a 5-4 vote. Those voting for Ms. Gibson were Gay Lookabill, Beulah Pratt, Mike Turner, Bobbie Little and Carol Gibson. Those voting for the nomination of George Truman were Frank Liles, Marilynn Bennett, Lisa Davis and George Truman.

Mike Flake continued the reorganization meeting and asked for nominations for vice chairperson.

Vice Chairperson

Mike Turner nominated Bobbie Little as vice chairperson. George Truman nominated Frank Liles as vice chairperson. Nominations were closed and a roll call vote was taken. Bobbie Little was named vice chairperson with a 6-2 vote. Those voting for Dr. Little were Carol Gibson, Gay Lookabill, Beulah Pratt, Mike Turner, Lisa Davis and Bobbie Little. Those voting for Mr. Liles were George Truman and Frank Liles. Marilynn Bennett abstained from voting.

**Invocation**

Mike Turner gave the Invocation.

**Conflict of Interest Statement**

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chair Carol Gibson reminded Board Members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. There were no conflicts of interest communicated by the members. Chair Gibson then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an

actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to his attention. She further explained it would then be the member's duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

### **Adopt Agenda**

Mike Turner asked for a.08 Re-Entry Plan Recommendation to be moved to New Business for discussion. A motion to approve the agenda with the amendment was made by Frank Liles, seconded by Carol Gibson and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Approve Minutes**

#### **(Regular Meeting 11/23/20)**

Mr. Liles stated his name should be listed as virtual and not in-person. A motion was made by Mike Turner to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 23, 2020, with the amendment. The motion was seconded by Lisa Davis and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Closed Session**

A motion was made by Mike Turner to go into closed session at 3:53 p.m. The motion was seconded by Lisa Davis and approved by the board. Motion carried.

There was no action taken.

### **Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 4:23 p.m. upon a motion by Mike Turner, seconded by Gay Lookabill and approved by the board. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

There was no one to speak during public comment.

### **Chair's Report**

Public Engagement: There was no public engagement information shared due to COVID-19.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. McLean gave a report on Budget, Human Resources, Current Job Postings and Instructional/Operational Programs.

### Questions & Answers from the Board:

Ms. Davis said she is hearing a lot of concerns about the attendance policy. She said parents are being told if their child is scheduled in-person but attends virtually due to whatever reason their child is counted absent. Mr. McLean said the principal has the authority to work with the absence of the student. He said if the student is supposed to be in-person but they attend virtually, they will get an absence call but he said it can be reviewed and adjusted. Ms. Davis said it seems parents may not be as informed about this process and more communication should be shared. Ms. Davis also asked that teachers not call out students that are attending virtually when they should be attending in-person. Mr. McLean said that should not be happening and it will be addressed.

Ms. Davis asked about COVID relief funds for buses. Mr. McLean said white buses can be used for delivery in communities; but, we can't use them for door-to-door delivery. He said they can only use yellow buses for door-to-door delivery. Mr. McLean said there will be a plan communicated on how to feed students. He said there is a meeting Wednesday regarding this topic and he will update the board after that meeting. Gay Lookabill said if more students get fed by buses, she supports using buses when students are virtual. Mr. McLean said one of the dilemmas they are facing is food waste returning to schools with parents not accepting the meals. Mr. McLean also said principals are adamant about finding ways to feed more students and they will have that conversation on Wednesday.

### **Consent Agenda**

Upon a motion by Lisa Davis, seconded by Bobbie Little, the following consent items were approved by the board: Personnel Report, Budget Amendments, Sole Source Justification Form (Brainfuse), Staples Quotes for Chromebooks, Wide Area Network (WAN) Telecommunications Service Agreement, Student Fee Schedule and Policy 4316 Student Dress Code (Section B only for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester). Motion carried.

### **New Business**

Upon a motion by Lisa Davis, seconded by Frank Liles the board approved the Re-Entry Plan Recommendation with the stipulation that Mr. McLean be allowed to make changes based on community transmission numbers. Motion carried. Mr. McLean mentioned that testing for high school students will be postponed until the second semester.

Dr. Truman thanked the entire Anson County Schools' staff for the hard work they are putting in each day. He explained the board is very appreciative and proud of the work that has been done by all.

### **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made at 4:51 p.m. by Lisa Davis, seconded by Mike Turner and approved by the board. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

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Carol Ann Gibson, Chairperson

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Mr. Howard McLean, Secretary