

Towns County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
March 7, 2022
6:45 PM

The Towns County Board of Education met in a regular board meeting on Monday March 7, 2022 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were Stan Chastain, Caroleen Woods, Sara Rogers, Brandon Grimsley and Stephanie McConnell. Chairperson, Brandon Grimsley called the meeting to order. High School Principal, Roy Perren gave the invocation, and Brandon Grimsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, to **approve the agenda**. The motion carried.

Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, to **approve the consent agenda**. The motion carried.

➤ Fundraisers:

- i. MS Basketball / Championship Shirt Sale / February 11-March 11, 2022 (pre-approved)
- ii. HS Biology & Aquaponics / Plant Sales / March 21-April 1 & May 16-20, 2022
- iii. HS Academic Bowl / Krispy Kreme Sale / March 25, 2022
- iv. Parent led fundraiser for the Academic Team's trip

➤ Field Trips:

- i. HS Students / North Georgia Tech Clarkesville / March 16, 2022
- ii. ES 3rd Grade / Smokey Mtn Center for the Performing Arts, Franklin NC / April 29, 2022
- iii. HS Academic Team / New Orleans, LA / May 27-31, 2022

➤ Work Session Minutes / February 7, 2022

➤ Regular Board Meeting Minutes / February 7, 2022

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the January 2022 Financial Statements for all funds including school activity accounts**. Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Darren Berrong discussed with the board who would serve as the delegate for the GSBA Summer Conference in Savannah, GA. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell to nominate Caroleen Woods and Stan Chastain as the GSBA Delegate and Alternate. **Caroleen Woods will be attending the Conference in June**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve Towns County Strategic Waivers School System Contract Amendment #2**. Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the Towns County School Calendar for 2022-2023 School Year**. Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by

Sara Rogers, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the retirement of 2 full-time Bus Drivers**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the retirement of the Nurse’s Aide**. Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Caroleen Woods, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Facilities Manager**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Substitute Bus Driver upon completion of the required Georgia Bus Driver Training**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a School Nutrition Substitute upon completion of fingerprint & background check**. Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the returning Towns County School Administrators and Staff for the 2022-23 School Year**. Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the Superintendent’s recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Elementary School Assistant Principal, Latisha Usher, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 444 students, 2 online
- COVID update – no positive cases or quarantined
- The retirement of Judy Albury - “Judy has been a blessing to so many students and staff the last 26 years, she will be greatly missed”
- Spring Picture Day March 11th
- PBIS tier II training this week
- 4th & 5th grade 4H District Project Achievement projects went very well.
- Character Education Explorers of the Month for March “Includer”
- Hands décor on bulletin board displays is for “Be Kind” pledge
- A huge thanks to board members Sara Rogers and Caroleen Woods for coming to read to students during Read Across America Celebration
- Screening for incoming Kindergarten students planned for April
- Board Appreciation Week March 14-16 – Elementary School presented a TC lunch box and shirt to each board member in appreciation for making a difference & for helping them strive toward the goal of a better school for the present and future of the students.

- Art Show April 21st

Middle School Principal, Dr. Connie Hobbs, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 211 students, 7 online
- Dr. Hobbs thanked each board member for all they do for the Towns County students & staff. She & High School Principal, Mr. Perren, presented each board member with a gift certificate to the school apparel store.
- FBLA trip to Scaly Mountain went great
- Following FBLA competitors placed at Region now head to State Competition:
 - Sawyer Cunningham-3rd place in Financial Literacy
 - Christian Meaders-1st in Learning Strategies, 2nd in Public Speaking
 - Ava Thompson-4th in Financial Literacy & Social Media Concepts
 - Katelyn Walls-3rd in Business Etiquette
 - Madilyn Walls-2nd in FBLA Concepts & Leadership
 - Leland Wilson-1st in Public Speaking
- Soccer and Baseball are underway
- 8th grade had high school orientation to learn about schedules, classes, scholarships and CTAE pathways
- Rising 6th grader orientation will take place in May
- Teachers met within their Professional Learning Communities
- Auditorium is closed this week for carpet installation
- 3rd 9 weeks progress reports go home next week
- Scoliosis screening March 6th & 8th
- COVID update-currently no positive cases or quarantined cases

High School Principal, Roy Perren, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 296
- COVID update – no positive cases or quarantined cases
- HOSA members go to State Leadership Conference Week
- FBLA competitors go to State Leadership Conference Week
- March 15th meeting with current 9th graders to explain the importance of their grades and to make sure they understand credit requirements
- Band will be performing at a Large Group Performance Ensemble Thurs. March 17th @ Dawson County High School 1:30 pm
- CTAE Department will hold 2nd Advisory Council Meeting March 18th
- Healthcare Science Dept. seeks Industry Certification, this allows them to seek more grant money and insure our pathways are valid
- HOSA blood drive Tues., March 29
- Baseball and Soccer are underway
- Collin Crowder is one of 5 finalists for Atlanta Falcons High School Man of the Year, this is a real honor for Collin, we are so proud
- Coach Roquemore has an informational meeting for football on Friday March 28th

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, reported to the board on the following:

- In recognition of School Board Appreciation week, Dr. Berrong spoke to the board about how grateful he is for their time and dedication to the students of Towns County School. He also thanked each of them and spoke to the importance their support is to the school and staff.

No Closed Session.

Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to adjourn the meeting.**
The motion carried.

Brandon Grimsley, Chairperson

Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent