Bryan County Schools

Board of Education Work Session

Location: BOE – Board Room
8810 U.S. Highway 280 East
Black Creek, GA

Date: February 19, 2026
Time: 6:15 PM

I. Call to Order

- Members present: Amy Murphy, Marianne Smith, A.D. Smith, Karen Krupp, and Shawn Page (joined the meeting at 6:23 p.m.)
- Members absent: Dennis Seger, David Schwartz, and Dr. Paul Brooksher

II. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: A.D. Smith Second: Marianne Smith Action: Unanimous

III. Superintendent Updates

- None.

IV. Division of Operations Updates

- There are only a few things left at Richmond Hill High School to complete. Monumental signs will be installed by the entrances, and an outdoor education building will be built by the pond.
- Renderings will be coming soon of the future Bryan County High School and future second middle school in Richmond Hill.
- Our maintenance staff did an exceptional job communicating with emergency management and fire department in North Bryan during the potential snowstorms that hit our area. Maintenance made sure all schools

were thoroughly checked so staff and students could return to school. The roads were also checked to make sure our buses were safe on the roads.

- North Transportation will be using the Versatrans routing platform next year for bus routes. This platform is currently being used at South Transportation with great success.
- This year's EOC's and state testing will have a lot of visuals which will require more bandwidth. Our technology department is working to increase our bandwidth to help with what will be needed.
- We have renderings of what the McAllister Elementary School's addition will look like. If ESPLOST funding is continued, the addition will be completed for a move in during the 2027-2028 school year.

V. Division of Student Services Updates

- Our Community Education Center will be offering SWAN (Senior Wellness & Active Network) classes during the day for those 55 and older. These classes kick off on March 11th.
- The graduation celebration for Bryan Academy will be held on May 8th at 5:00 p.m. in the Ogeechee Room at the Instructional Support Center. At this time, we have 10 students eligible to graduate.
- Georgia's House Bill 68 passed and is providing $20,000 per high school and middle school to use for mental health support services. Our crisis counselors researched information on Cartwheel and interviewed three agencies affiliated with them. Cartwheel is a school community mental health partner for school districts. We are looking at the administrative

costs for services and any scholarships available to our students in need. Cartwheel does not take Medicaid but will take insurance. There will be more to come on this program.

VI. Division of Business Services Updates

- Our Pre-K registration is under way and will close on February 28th.
- We currently have forty-seven vacancies in the district.
- Our EXPO welcomed over 100 applicants and we received positive feedback.
- Ms. McNeal reviewed the resolution for the Public Facilities Authority that we will be bringing forward for approval at the next board meeting.
- A schedule with key dates for ESPLOST was shared with the board. We will be sharing information on social media posts, webpages, and with our advisory councils.
- Ms. Habets, director of finance, shared information from Governor Kemp's budget, which is 43.5 million due to enrollment growth throughout the state. As of right now, the $2000 one time pay to teachers will fund like the one time pay in FY24. Using the calculation that was used in FY24, we would need $1.1 million for those positions that are not state funded. Health insurance will increase from $22,620 per member to $24,336 per member per year.
- We are currently watching Senate Bill 150 – return to work for teachers and House Bill 1193 – literacy act.

VII. Division of Curriculum and Instruction Updates

- In the fall we shifted to iReady, which will be our new testing platform to replace MAP. Every school will use iReady next school year.
- Dr. Bennett shared information on websites where school district data is pulled from and reviewed Bryan County's data. One important piece of information to note is that the CRCT assessment was retired in Spring 2014 and the first year Georgia Milestones was introduced was 2015. This resulted in a decrease in data statewide.
- Curriculum and Instruction is creating a data hub on our website that will show an explanation of our data.

VIII. Board of Education Updates

- Due to the upcoming election season, our board briefly reviewed the protocols on local political elections and communication through social media.

IX. Executive Session – Personnel

Motion: Shawn Page	Second: A.D. Smith	Action: Unanimous
Motion: Karen Krupp	Second: Marianne Smith	Action: Unanimous

X. Adjourn

Motion: Amy Murphy	Second: A.D. Smith	Action: Unanimous

Signed:

Paul T. Brooksher, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Approved:

Amy Murphy
Board Chairman