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Press Release

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Asheboro City Schools Meets with Randolph County Commissioners to Discuss Facility Needs

ASHEBORO – On Thursday, the Asheboro City Schools Board of Education hosted a combined meeting with Randolph County Commissioners to discuss building renovations at Asheboro High School in order to accommodate the student population in Asheboro. The meeting occurred prior to the Asheboro City Board of Education's regularly scheduled February meeting.

"The average age of Asheboro City Schools facilities are 55 years," said Superintendent, Dr. Terry W. Worrell. "Our maintenance division has done an incredible job with the up-keep of these buildings, but we are at a crucial point where we need to make decisions about renovations to our buildings. We spoke with commissioners about a new addition to Asheboro High School, renovations for Lindley Park and McCrary Elementary School kitchens, and HVAC upgrades to South Asheboro Middle, North Asheboro Middle, and the "old" gym at Asheboro High School. These renovations will ensure we are able to accommodate our students and their educational goals for many years to come," she added.

Asheboro High School currently has 1,347 students, but these common areas were built to accommodate approximately 950 students. In 2003, Randolph County Commissioners funded the purchase of the Sir Robert Motel with the intent of accommodating the student population for 10 years. Classrooms in the former motel are approximately 650 square feet, whereas a typical classrooms are 900 square feet.

"Our students not only deserve the best education, but a place in which they have the opportunity to learn, grow, and expand. We believe in our students and the endless possibilities that are occurring within our walls each day. We have to do what is best for these students," added Worrell.

The combined meeting concluded at 6:30 p.m.

In their regularly-scheduled meeting, Chairman Kyle Lamb called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed South Asheboro Middle School students Janiyah White and Sarah Figueroa to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the approval of the agenda, Asheboro City Schools recognized Cross Roads Baptist Church for their partnership with South Asheboro Middle School for the Dynamic Life Club. The Board Spotlight featured the Literacy Program at South Asheboro Middle School with a presentation led by Principal Ron Dixon and Instructional Facilitator Betsy Hammond. Finally, the special recognition and presentations was concluded by Dr. Aaron Woody, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction who recognized Dr. Worrell for her recent award from the North Carolina Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development.

"This prestigious award is presented to an educator who has made significant contributions to education through visionary and committed leadership. Dr. Worrell's nomination was selected because of her efforts to successfully improve academic proficiency and individual student growth while removing barriers to student success. Her nomination also noted the creative pathways designed during her tenure to ensure each student has the ability to achieve their personal best," said Dr. Woody.

Other items on the agenda included:

Digital Resource Implementation: Discovery Techbook – A presentation that was previously presented at the January State Board of Education meeting was led by Dr. Worrell, Dr. Wendy Rich, Robin Harris, and Laura King about electronic textbooks being used in instruction. Emphasis was placed on the impact these digital resources are having on Asheboro City Schools students.

Seven policies were recommended to the board for a 30-day review and five additional policies were presented for board approval by Dr. Drew Maerz.

Reports were provided on the district's upcoming events and a Points of Pride presentation was presented by Leigh Anna Marbert. Special events included the Asheboro High School's Park Street Player's winter musical, the Phantom of the Opera as well as the district's spelling bee on Tuesday, February 21 and the district's teacher recruitment fair on Saturday, February 25.

Dr. Worrell concluded by thanking the Randolph County Commissioners for their continued support of all Asheboro City Schools. She also gave an update on the Board of Education's strategic planning goals and commented on the success of the district's State of Our Schools celebration in late January.

Chairman Lamb adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m.

About Asheboro City Schools

Asheboro City Schools is a medium-sized school district in North Carolina, serving approximately 5,000 students at eight schools and one five-star Early Childhood Development Center. The district's_mission is to graduate responsible citizens who are prepared to succeed

in higher education or the career of their choice. For more information, visit the district's website at <u>http://www.asheboro.k12.nc.us/</u>.

(Reporters/Editors: Please call Leigh Anna Marbert at (336) 625-5104.)