



# WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Highlights of the board retreat, held on March 5, 2024, at the BOE Administrative Office, 136 Warriors Path, Cleveland, GA. Missy Jarrard, Board Chair, called the retreat to order at 4:00 PM.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charlie Thomas, John Solmon, Jon Estes, Missy Jarrard, and Linda Erbele

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Laurie Burkett, Lin Pahl, Scott Justus, Lauren Anderson, Mary Anne Collier, Laura Corley, MaryKay Berry, Cindy Free, Abby Rowland, Nara Allen, Natalie Carpenter, Juliana Dean, Noel Cochran, Jill Baughman, Kristen Eason, Michael Pickett, Jamie Wills, Jade Bates, Suzanne Grisham, Keleen Cody, and Laura Hall

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Jan Pearce

**The board retreat began with Superintendent Dr. Laurie Burkett welcoming the board and attending faculty and staff. She stated that the presentations on the agenda would explain where we were and where we are going with literacy.**

**Literacy Madness!** Cindy Free, Director of Secondary Education; Dr. MaryKay Berry, Director of Student Services; and Jill Baughman, Director of State and Federal Programs, gave an eye-opening presentation on the professional learning literacy requirements and how the district has and is addressing training needs.

**Game Time!** Kristen Eason, a first-grade teacher at Mount Yonah Elementary School, and 10 of her students ran a classroom simulation showing the use of the new literacy curriculum.

**Professional Learning Days:** Jill Baughman spoke about the new literacy professional learning requirements and the time frame for which this needs to take place. She proposed SY25 calendar changes that would be beneficial to meeting the professional learning requirements of the new literacy law.

**Local Board Governance Yearly Requirements:** The Board reviewed the Local Board Standards, and the Code of Ethics, and Conflict of Interest policies.

**Halftime:** During the break, the Board had an opportunity to talk with the principals and get feedback on the school year.

**PAC Facility Use Procedures:** Michael Pickett reviewed the proposed Performing Arts Center (PAC) facility use procedure.

**Post-Game Interview:** Teachers from all four elementary schools passionately spoke about the science of reading and the professional learning they received as part of the new literacy requirements.

**The board retreat ended with Dr. Burkett thanking everyone for attending and for the valuable information presented this evening.**

**Adjournment, 7:15 PM**