

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
August 24, 2020 – Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 5:00 pm for closed session and at 7:00 pm for open session via livestream. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Chair
Mr. George Archuleta
Mrs. Virginia Houston
Ms. Sharon Warden

Ms. Pam Pureza
Mr. Walter B. Jolly
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Catherine Edmonds, Superintendent
Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer
Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Chair Robinson called the roll and recorded members in attendance for the meeting.

3. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts or Potential Conflicts of Interest

Sharon Warden read the ethics statement and allowed members the opportunity to identify any conflicts or potential conflicts. The record reflects that no conflicts exist.

4. Closed Session

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and carried, for the Board to enter into closed session for the purpose of considering personnel actions that involve employees of this Board as allowed by N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6).

Closed session began at 5:04 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Chair; Sharon Warden, Vice-Chair; George Archuleta; Virginia Houston; Walter B. Jolly; Pam Pureza; and Dr. Shelia Williams. The following staff members were present: Dr. Catherine Edmonds, Superintendent; Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer; Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Amy Spencer, and Chief Academic Officer. The Board and staff discussed personnel matters during the closed session. Following the discussion of personnel matters, the Board and Superintendent Edmonds discussed the superintendent's evaluation.

A motion to come out of closed session was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Sharon Warden, and unanimously carried. Full and accurate minutes of the closed session will be kept on file in the superintendent's office, but are to be withheld from public disclosure,

so as to not frustrate the legitimate purposes of this closed session. Closed session ended at 6:33 p.m.

5. Meeting Called to Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call votes, to resume our Board session.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Chair
Mr. George Archuleta
Mrs. Virginia Houston
Ms. Sharon Warden

Ms. Pam Pureza
Mr. Walter B. Jolly
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Catherine Edmonds, Superintendent
Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer
Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer
Tammy W. Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO/Executive to the Superintendent and Board of Education.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

The Pledge of Allegiance was led, virtually, by Casey Miller, 7th grade student at Elizabeth City Middle School.

6. Roll Call

Roll call was completed during the approval of resuming the meeting via roll call votes.

7. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts or Potential Conflicts of Interest

Sharon Warden read the ethics statement and allowed members the opportunity to identify any conflicts or potential conflicts. The record reflects that no conflicts exist.

8. Approval of Agenda (Action)

A motion was made by Walter B. Jolly, seconded by Mr. George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the agenda.

9. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Edmonds shared the following information with the Board:

- Highlights of the first day of school - she wished students and staff a "Happy New Year"
- An update on meal services for the first week of school which included 15,948 meals
- Presentation of the Daily Advance Readers' Choice Awards for ECPPS which included:
Best Teacher - Shenita Moore, NHS Business Education Teacher
Best Principal - Angela Cobb, NHS Principal; and
Best Overall Employer - ECPPS

- Remote learning surveys will be administered September 11th - September 14th for parents and staff to get feedback on their experiences during the first four weeks of school - Town Halls will also be scheduled in the coming weeks
- Updates on the scheduled three-hour early release day on September 17th - This day will be utilized for professional development for staff and independent learning for students
- The Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council is beginning with the first meeting scheduled for September 8th. Bethany Riddick, ECPPS Teacher of the Year, will co-chair this committee. This committee will consist of a teacher representative, along with an alternate, from each school to provide an opportunity for a continuous feedback loop from teachers in the district.
- We have submitted a letter for the ICARES grant which will allow us the opportunity to partner with community organizations for supervised instructional childcare for K-8 during remote learning
- Thank you to Board, community, and staff for the hard work and dedication to ensure students in Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools receive a sound basic education. Thank you to the students also

10. Approval of Minutes (Action)

A motion was made by Dr. Sheila Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes for the June 29, 2020 Closed Session (Open Session Portion) and July 27, 2020 Regular Meeting.

11. Public Forum (Citizen Comments to the Board)

There were no requests for public comment.

12. Agenda Items

Financial, Business, and Technology Systems Committee Chair, Sharon Warden

The Board reviewed the latest Maintenance Report.

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer, presented the budget resolution and a technology quote for the purchase of student devices for approval by the Board. She also shared an updated iReady quote previously shared with the Board.

A motion was made by Sharon Warden, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the budget resolution as presented by Rachael Haines as well as the technology quote.

Global Citizens and Healthy Students

Committee Chair, Virginia Houston

Tammy Rinehart, Director of Child Nutrition, shared an update on meal services. Mrs. Rinehart provided information on the current meal services program through August 31st. She also shared information on the potential changes due to waivers that NC Department of Public Instruction that have been currently denied. The denial of the waivers will impact families as all children will no longer be able to be served, only children enrolled in ECPPS. The denial of the waivers will also result in high school students having to potentially pay for

meals. ECPPS will continue to partner with the Food Bank of the Albemarle to provide food for families.

Policy Committee

Committee Chair, Walter B. Jolly

Tammy Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO/Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board, presented the following policies for approval as recommended by the North Carolina School Boards Association in compliance with Title IX federal and state regulatory requirements. Approval is requested in compliance with Policy Code 2420 and Policy Code 2450.

- Policy Code 1710/4020/7230 - Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law.
- Policy Code 1720/4030/7235 - Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
- Policy Code 1725/4035/7236 - Title IX Sexual Harassment - Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process
- Policy Code 1726/4036/7237 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process
- Policy 4329/7311 - Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited
- Policy 7232 - Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
- Policy 1730/4022/7231 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities
- Policy 4040/7310 - Staff-Student Relations
- Policy 4331 - Assaults, Threats and Harassment ... renamed Assaults and Threats
- Policy 4340 - School-Level Investigations

Mrs. Sawyer further requested that the Board rescind policies 1710/4021/7230 - Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying and 1720/4015/7225 - Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Complaint Procedures, as these policies have been superseded by the new policies and will no longer be available on our policy manual.

A motion was made and seconded by Walter B. Jolly, and unanimously approved, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve to waive the review period for the recommended new and revised policies as it is related to new Title IX regulations and approve the new and revised policies as well as the rescinded policies as presented this evening.

Excellent Educators

Committee Chair, Pam Pureza

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the recommendations presented by our Chief Human Resources Officer during the closed session.

10. Board Member Reports

Dr. Edmonds thanked the Board of Commissioners for approving an additional \$250,000 in the second round of coronavirus funds. Dr. Robinson also extended a thank you as well.

Board members thanked staff and families for their support and commitment during this time. Also thanking the community for their continued support.

13. Other

There were no additional items for Board consideration during the August 24, 2020, meeting.

14. Adjournment

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Chair

Secretary