

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
November 23, 2020 – Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session, via livestream, on Monday, November 23, 2020, at 5:00 pm to include closed session, resuming open session at 7:00 pm. 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 Asst to Superintendent and Board

1.Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2.Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

The Pledge of Allegiance was led, virtually, by Cassidy Loeffler, 12th grade student at ECP Early College. Chair Robinson requested a moment of silence.

3.Roll Call

Tammy Sawyer called the roll and recorded members in attendance for the meeting.

4.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.

5.Approval of Agenda (Action)

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Walter Jolly, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the agenda.

6.Closed Session

A motion was made by Pam Pureza seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, 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 5:07 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 and Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer. The Board and staff discussed personnel matters during the closed session.

A motion to come out of closed session was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Virginia Houston, 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 6:47 p.m.

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

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Tammy Sawyer called the roll and recorded members in attendance meeting.

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
Amber Godfrey, Director of Technology

8.Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Edmonds recognized Walter Jolly and Dr. Denauvo Robinson for their service on the Board of Education. Mr. Jolly served as a board member from 2012 to 2020. Dr. Robinson served as a board member from 2014 to 2020.

An update on ECPPS' Return to Campus was provided by Superintendent Edmonds. She provided the latest information on those attending in-person as well as updates in various areas of operations.

Superintendent Edmonds also shared an update on testing and accountability. She included information on flexibilities available for first semester and allowing them to test in the spring. Recommendations will be made in December from Dr. Spencer, Chief Academic Officer, regarding specific requests for available flexibilities.

9.Approval of Minutes (Action)

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Sharon Warden and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes for the October 26, 2020.

10.Public Forum (Citizen Comments to the Board)

There were no requests for public comments for the November 23, 2020, regular meeting of the Board.

11. Agenda Items

Financial, Business, and Technology Systems

Committee Chair, Sharon Warden

The Board reviewed the latest Maintenance Report and Capital Project Update.

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer, presented the rental report for information. She presented budget amendments #102, #302, and #802 as well as school fundraisers for approval.

A motion was made by Walter Jolly, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve budget amendments #102, #302, and #802 as well as school fundraisers.

Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented calendar revisions for the traditional calendar and early college calendar. The revisions include: moving the early release days to Wednesdays, allowing for professional development on those days. The early college calendar also reflects a date change for graduation, moving it from May 21, 2021 to May 22, 2021.

A motion was made by Walter Jolly, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the calendar revisions as presented.

Chair Robinson requested approval to move the December 7, 2020 organizational meeting to 4:00 p.m. A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, to approve moving the December 7, 2020 meeting to 4:00 p.m.

Director of Technology, Amber Godfrey, presented information on Cyber Security Preparedness for ECPPS.

Global Citizens and Healthy Students

Committee Chair, Virginia Houston

Dr. Jared Miller, physician with Sentara Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Specialists, shared information with the board regarding return to play protocols for addressing COVID related cases within the sports program.

Superintendent Edmonds shared an update with the board regarding athletics. She presented successes and challenges from the high schools regarding our return to play experience so far. With regard to middle school athletics, we must follow the recommendations from NCDHHS since middle school does not fall under the guidelines of the NCHSAA. She shared the list of sports categorized by low to high risk with regard to COVID. We have received a request to consider a schedule for middle school athletics, but it has not been presented to the board as the sports recommended for winter fall into the high risk category under NCDHHS. We will continue to monitor the recommendations from NCDHHS and watch COVID trends to determine spring sports recommendations to the board.

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 updates for approval.

3610 - Counseling Program
4152 - Unsafe School Choice Transfer
4325 - Drugs and Alcohol
6306 - School Bus Idling
6325 - Parking Areas for Students
7240 - Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace
7241 - Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators
7500 - Workday and Overtime
7505 - Compliance with State Board of Education Employment Policies
7510 - Leave
7540 - Voluntary Shared Leave

Mrs. Sawyer notified the board that policy 7900 - Resignation will be brought back before the board in December as staff have additional edits before approval.

A motion was made by Water Jolly, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the policy action items as presented.

Tammy Sawyer further shared the following policy updates for initial review by the board:

Fall Policy Updates

3227/7322 - Web Page Development

Excellent Educators**Committee Chair, Pam Pureza**

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to accept the items presented for Excellent Educators during closed session. Mr. George Archuleta voted against the motion.

12. Board Member Reports

Members of the board expressed appreciation for Mr. Jolly's and Dr. Robinson's service to the Board of Education.

13.Other

There were no additional items for Board consideration during the November 23, 2020, meeting.

14.Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Sharon Warden, and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Chair

Secretary