

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
May 24, 2021 - Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met via livestream, on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
Mr. George Archuleta
Mrs. Virginia Houston
Mr. Rodney Walton

Ms. Pam Pureza
Mr. Daniel Spence
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:
Rhonda James-Davis, Interim Superintendent
Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer
Karen Dameron, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer
Tammy W. Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO
Executive Asst to the Superintendent and Board

1.Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2.Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

The Pledge of Allegiance was led virtually by Haven Godfrey, Pre-K student at Sheep-Harney Elementary School.

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

Virginia Houston 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

A motion was made by Sharon Warden, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the agenda.

6.Superintendent's Report

Rhonda James-Davis, Interim Superintendent, shared the Superintendent's Report. The report included: an update on graduation guidelines and a presentation from Rwschaun Miller on mental wellbeing and support offered to ECPPS staff and students.

7.Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes for April 26, 2021; April 29, 2021; May 17, 2021.

8. Public Forum (*Citizen Comments to the Board*)

Julie Mansfield and Nandita Banerjee from the Elizabeth City Pasquotank Association of Educators provided a public comment related to safety from county leaders on April 21st surrounding the matter with Andrew Brown, Jr.

9. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Daniel Spence, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the consent agenda, Budget Amendments #107R, #108, #205, #308, #807; the Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2021-2022; Policy 2300 Board Meetings; and Policy 3420 for Class Rankings. Dr. Shelia Williams recused herself due to not being in attendance during committee meetings on May 17, 2021.

10. Other Agenda Items

Financial, Business and Technology Committee

Sharon Warden, Chair

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer, presented proposals for FBT-06 Chromebooks, FBT-07 Edgenuity, FBT-08 Curriculum Associates, FBT-09 STEMScopes and a crowdfunding request FBT-10 for Northeastern High soccer.

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the items presented by Mrs. Haines for the Chromebook proposal, Edgenuity, Curriculum and Associates proposal, STEMScopes proposal and crowdfunding.

Personalized Education Committee

Pam Pureza, Chair

Shelia Hughes, Director of CTE, presented the CTE Local Application Plan for approval.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the CTE Local Application Plan as presented by Ms. Hughes.

COA Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Warden reviewed the list of candidates who interviewed for the COA Board of Trustees seat that will become available on June 30th. She polled the members regarding their selection for filling the seat. Sharon Warden and Pam Pureza voted for Doug Gardner, there were no votes for Bill Luton. George Archuleta, Virginia Houston, Daniel Spence, and Rodney Walton voted for Dr. Denauvo Robinson. Chair Warden announced that Dr. Robinson will fill the seat on the College of The Albemarle Board of Trustees beginning July 1, 2021. Dr. Williams recused herself from voting for any of the candidates due to not being in attendance for the interviews.

Prior to entering the closed session, Daniel Spence shared a concern regarding transportation. He shared that parents have expressed concern with late notice of having to pick up their child at school due to the lack of transportation. Mrs. Amanda Hill, Director of Transportation, addressed the concern and shared that there was an issue with limited drivers due to a driver not available to drive, but that they were able to arrange driver coverage. The school was providing updated information to parents regarding this matter.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Pam Pureza seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, 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 6:38 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Sharon Warden, Chair; Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair; George Archuleta; Virginia Houston; Daniel Spence; Rodney Walton; and Dr. Shelia Williams. The following staff members were present: Rhonda James-Davis, Interim Superintendent, Karen Dameron, Interim 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 George Archuleta, 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 9:10 p.m.

Meeting Called to Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 9:15 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
Mr. George Archuleta
Mrs. Virginia Houston
Mr. Rodney Walton

Ms. Pam Pureza
Mr. Daniel Spence
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

Rhonda James-Davis, Interim Superintendent

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer

Karen Dameron, Interim 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

Excellent Educators Committee

Dr. Shelia Williams, Chair

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to take action on the personnel items discussed in closed session. Pam Pureza, Daniel Spence, and George Archuleta voted against the motion. Rodney Walton, Dr. Shelia Williams, and Virginia Houston voted for the motion. Sharon Warden, Chair, had to vote to break the tie.

11.Other

No further business was shared by the board.

12.Adjournment

A motion was made by George Archuleta, seconded by Pam Pureza to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Chair

Secretary