

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
August 23, 2021 - Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met at Northside Elementary School and via livestream, on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
George Archuleta
Virginia Houston
Daniel Spence

Pam Pureza
Rodney Walton
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Eddie Ingram, Interim Superintendent
Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer
Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer
Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer
Amanda Hill, Director of Transportation
Tammy W. Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO
Executive Asst to the Superintendent and Board

Others present:

Will Norrell, School Board Attorney Representative

1.Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2.Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Chair Warden led the Pledge of Allegiance and 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

Chair 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

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

Dr. Eddie Ingram, Interim Superintendent, shared the Superintendent's Report. The report included:

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 July 26, 2021 Special Session, July 26, 2021 Regular Session, August 2, 2021 Special Session, and August 16, 2021 Committee Meetings.

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

Sharon Stanley provided comments to the board regarding the requirement for face coverings. Mariah Arnold provided a written comment regarding the requirement for face coverings.

9. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by George Archuleta, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the items on the consent agenda to include FBT-02 Schedule of Fees, FBT-03 Budget Resolution, FBT-04 Fundraisers, FBT-06 COA/ECPEC MOU, FBT-07 African American Experience of NENC Resolution, PC-01 to PC-43 which includes updates from the NCSBA.

10. Financial, Business and Technology Committee**Rodney Walton, Co-Chair**

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer, presented an application for lottery funds. A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the lottery fund application.

Rachael Haines also presented a quote for TE21. A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the quote for TE21.

Personalized Education Committee**Pam Pureza, Chair**

Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer, presented an update on virtual learning. She shared information on the survey sent to families for those with medical documentation to request virtual learning. She also shared that a communication has been shared with the approved families to provide information on instruction, devices and other virtual related items.

Global Citizens and Healthy Students Committee**George Archuleta, Chair**

Amanda Hill, Transportation Director, shared an update on busing for the beginning of school. She shared information on routing as well as staff shortages. She provided information on bus routes that would create overcrowding that she has addressed. Discussion was held among members and Mrs. Hill regarding concerns with routing and administrative matters. Mrs. Hill emphasized the importance of having drivers to eliminate delays due to double runs for buses. Mr. Walton made a public plea to the community to consider applying to become a bus driver.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Rodney Walton, and 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 6:45 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: Dr. Eddie Ingram, Interim Superintendent and Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer. Will Norrell, School Board Attorney Representative, also attended the session. The Board and staff discussed personnel matters during the closed session.

A motion to come out of closed session was made by George Archuleta, seconded by Pam Pureza, and 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 8:47 p.m.

Meeting Called to Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 8:50 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
George Archuleta
Virginia Houston
Rodney Walton

Pam Pureza
Daniel Spence
Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

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

Others in attendance:

Will Norrell, School Board Attorney Representative

Excellent Educators Committee

Dr. Shelia Williams, Chair

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept excellent educators received and reviewed during closed session.

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, the superintendent’s recommendation for bus driver recruitment and retention is to increase the bus driver scale by 16% increasing the minimum rate to \$15.16, also to approve the bus driver bonus of \$1,000.00 to be paid in two increments. For current drivers, the bonus would be paid with October and January paychecks. For new hires, the bonus will be in two increments, 30 days after hire, but not before October pay date, second half at the January pay date.

11.Other

No further business was shared by the board.

12.Adjournment

A motion was made by George Archuleta, seconded by Daniel Spence to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Chair

Secretary