

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
February 21, 2022 - Committee Meetings

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met at Pasquotank Elementary School and via livestream, on Monday, February 21, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
George Archuleta
Daniel Spence
Dr. Shelia Williams

Pam Pureza
Rodney Walton (Virtual)

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
Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance
Tammy W. Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO
Executive Asst to the Superintendent and Board

Others in attendance:

Johnny Hallow, School Board Attorney Representative
Jim O'Rourke, NC School Board Association Attorney

1.Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

2.Roll Call

Tammy Sawyer called the roll and recorded members in attendance for the meeting. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

3.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.

4.Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Sharon Warden, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the agenda for February 21, 2022 as presented. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

5.Agenda Items

Closed Session

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, for the Board to go into closed session as allowed by N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) for the purpose of considering one or more personnel matters that are confidential under N.C. General Statute 115C-320; and as allowed by N.C. Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult

with the Board Attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney/client privilege and to preserve that privilege.

Closed session began at 4:36 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Sharon Warden, George Archuleta, Virginia Houston, Pam Pureza, Daniel Spence, Rodney Walton and Dr. Shelia Williams. Rodney Walton participated virtually. The following staff members were present: Dr. Eddie Ingram, Rhonda James-Davis, and Tammy Sawyer. Johnny Hallow, School Board Attorney Representative, was also in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session.

A motion to come out of closed session was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call. 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 5:15 p.m.

Meeting Called to Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

Chair Warden called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair

George Archuleta

Virginia Houston

Rodney Walton (Virtually)

Pam Pureza

Daniel Spence

Dr. Shelia Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Eddie Ingram, Interim Superintendent

Rachael Haines, Chief Finance Officer

Rhonda James-Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer

Dr. Amy Spencer, Chief Academic Officer

Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance

Shelia Hughes, Director of CTE

Amber Godfrey, Director of Technology

Tammy W. Sawyer, Director of Community Schools/PIO/Executive to the Superintendent and Board of Education

Others in attendance:

Johnny Hallow, School Board Attorney Representative

Excellent Educators Committee

Dr. Shelia Williams, Chair

Interim Superintendent Ingram requested a motion from the floor to approve the Superintendent's Report and Recommendation for Personnel as presented in closed session. A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent's Report and Recommendation for Personnel as presented.

Financial, Business, and Technology Committee

Sharon Warden, Chair

The Board reviewed the latest maintenance report provided by Marlene Wilkins. There was discussion with Mrs. Wilkins regarding the pothole issue in the parking lot at Central Elementary. Interim Superintendent Ingram shared that we would continue to look at options that would rectify the situation. Chair Warden shared the Maintenance Surplus List (FBT-02) and the quote for the Central

Elementary Canopy (FBT-03) for Mrs. Wilkins and requested placement on the consent agenda. There was a question regarding a local quote for the canopy and Mrs. Wilkins confirmed there were no local quotes.

A motion was made by George Archuleta, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried as, as confirmed by roll call, to place FBT-02 and FBT-03 on the consent agenda. Daniel Spence voted against the motion. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Rachael Haines presented budget amendments (FBT-04) and fundraisers (FBT-05) to the board. She requested FBT-04 be placed on the consent agenda for February 28, 2022. She requested FBT-05 be considered for approval.

A motion was made by Daniel Spence, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to move to put FBT-04, #104, #202, #305, #804, on the consent agenda for February 28, 2022. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve FBT-05, Fundraisers. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Rachael Haines shared a finance report which included the purchasing report as required by policy 6420. She further shared FBT-07 which is the Mental Health Support Personnel Report.

Amber Godfrey shared a surplus list of equipment (FBT-08) which she requested to be placed on the consent agenda for February 28, 2022.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to place FBT-08 on the consent agenda. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Mrs. Godfrey shared information on print management services by Systel Business Equipment. Representatives from Systel, Eric Pritchard and Ralph Autry, were present to answer any questions. They shared this is a cost per copy contract.

Mrs. Godfrey also shared quotes for Dell for computer equipment for staff. The quote is for 45 desktops and 130 laptops. These were requested as second devices for teachers.

A motion was made by Daniel Spence, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, to add FBT-09 and FBT-10 on the consent agenda for February 28, 2022. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Personalized Education Committee

Pam Pureza, Chair

Shelia Hughes shared Career and Technical Education updates in honor of Career and Technical Education Month.

Policy Code Committee

Virginia Houston, Chair

Interim Superintendent Ingram shared comments regarding the policy updates prior to Mrs. Sawyer's presentation of policy information with the board. He shared that with the latest guidance from NCDHHS and Governor Cooper regarding the shift to ending the face covering mandate for school districts, it was his recommendation that the board consider optional masking for ECPPS, along with

a timeline for implementation. It is important to note that should we see a significant rise in positive cases the board will be asked to reconsider policy again.

Tammy Sawyer presented policy 4231/5021/7263 Face Coverings as required by Session Law 2021-130, section 10. Boards are now required to revisit this policy on a monthly basis. Based on the latest information shared by Governor Cooper and in light of the changes forthcoming in the StrongSchools Toolkit, she shared the recommended policy option that provides for optional masking.

Mrs. Sawyer also provided two additional policies for revision, Visitors in the Schools and Community Use of Facilities. She requested the board consider approval during committee meetings to remove the COVID restrictions that limit the Community Use of Facilities indoors from both the Visitors in the Schools policy and the Community Use of Facilities policy as presented. In addition, she requested approval to add the statement regarding visitors to comply with the face coverings policy.

The board discussed the face covering policy and the timeline for implementation.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Rodney Walton, to approve the recommendation for optional face coverings to go into effect March 1, 2022. There was discussion regarding the effective date. Mrs. Pureza amended the motion to approve the recommendation for optional face coverings be placed on the consent agenda for next Monday, for the policy to go into effect March 1, 2022. There was additional discussion regarding consent agenda or approval during committee meetings. A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to rescind the original motion. A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to waive the waiting period for changing our policies this evening so we can vote on these three policies according to policy 2420. A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the recommendation for optional face coverings effective March 1, 2022. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the revisions to policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Daniel Spence, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to allow visitors to use our indoor facilities in accordance with PC-46. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Student Representative Appointment Ad Hoc Committee (SRA)

Pam Pureza, Chair

Pam Pureza shared the revised copy of the application and draft policy for student representative appointment to the board. She shared the changes from the previous copies shared in January. She requested placement on the consent agenda for approval on February 28, 2022. There was discussion regarding the activities of the board for which the students would be participating. There was also discussion regarding the GPA of 3.0 as a requirement for student consideration. Members discussed students with a 2.5 GPA or above having the opportunity to be considered. Mrs. Pureza agreed to go back to the principals to get feedback on changing the GPA requirement. She will have a report for the February 28, 2022, meeting and will place this item on the action agenda for consideration of approval. It was also asked of Mrs. Pureza to research whether a GPA requirement is in place for student government officers.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, for the Board to resume closed session as allowed by N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) in order to discuss and consider one or more personnel matters that are confidential by law, including applications and other matters related to candidates applying for the superintendent search. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Closed session began at 7:12 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Sharon Warden, George Archuleta, Virginia Houston, Pam Pureza, Daniel Spence, Rodney Walton and Dr. Shelia Williams. Rodney Walton participated virtually. Jim O'Rourke, NCSBA Attorney, was also in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session.

A motion to come out of closed session was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call. 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 8:40 p.m.

6.Other

No other business was discussed by the board.

7.Adjournment

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 8:43 p.m.

Chair

Secretary