

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
January 23, 2023 - Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at H.L. Trigg School and was also available via livestream at [www.ecpps.k12.nc.us](http://www.ecpps.k12.nc.us). The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Daniel Spence, Chair	Pam Pureza
Dr. Shelia Williams, Vice-Chair (not present)	Rodney Walton
Angela Cobb	Sharon Warden
Tommy Old	

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent  
 Rhonda James-Davis, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources & Auxiliary Services  
 Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Finance  
 Adrian Fonville, Executive Director of Secondary Schools  
 Sammy Fudge, Executive Director of Elementary Schools  
 Jamie Liverman, Executive Director of Exceptional Children  
 Dexter Jackson-Heard, Director of Communications & Community Schools  
 Antoinette Reid, Director of Student Services  
 Sheila Hughes, Director of CTE  
 Bert Lane, Executive Director of Federal Programs  
 Nina Griffin, Director of Testing & Accountability  
 Meredith Collins, Executive Director of Accounting Services  
 Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance  
 Tammy Reinhart, Director of School Nutrition  
 Chris Pullet, Principal H.L. Trigg School  
 Amy Fyffe, Principal ECP-Early College  
 Nick Stanley, Band Director Pasquotank County High School  
 Holley Weiss, PCHS Student Board Member Representative  
 Gracie Wooten, NHS Student Board Member Representative  
 Pam Parker, Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Board

Others present:

John Leidy, School Board Attorney

**1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair**

Chair Spence called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Chair Spence led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence.

**3. Roll Call**

Pam Parker called the roll and recorded members in attendance for the meeting.

**4. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts or Potential Conflicts of Interest**

Pam Pureza 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 Tommy Old, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the January 23, 2023 meeting agenda. (Dr. Shelia Williams was not present)

## **6. Recognitions**

Mrs. Rachael Haines introduced Mary Hazel Small from the North Carolina Association of School Business Officials who recognized Susan Morris for her completion of the NCASBO Manager's Academy. Dr. Parker thanked Susan for her outstanding work.

Dr. Parker stated there is a lot of talent in our school system and recognized several young people who had the courage to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King rally on Monday. Dr. Parker introduced Noah Turner and Tyler Spellman as they each played a selection they performed at the rally on Monday. Dr. Parker also introduced several students who spoke at the rally on Monday: Josiah Bennett, Steven Clark, Shaun Hoffer, Jarret Dobie, Seith Boyd, Jakael Brooks, and Gabrielle Rivers introduced the guest speaker. Dr. Parker thanked all those that participated.

Mrs. Sheila Hughes, Director of CTE introduced Joel Overman, FFA student at Northeastern High School. Mrs. Hughes stated Joel has worked hard to complete his supervised agricultural experience or what we call FAE through his produce stand where he grows local vegetables and sells them to the public. Joel was recognized by the North Carolina FFA Association during their SAE Spotlight for January 2023 for his outstanding project and progress over the years.

Mr. Nick Stanley, Pasquotank County High School Band Director, stated on January 14, he has several students audition for the North Carolina BandMasters Eastern All District Band. Mr. Stanley stated this band is made up of students from across the eastern part of North Carolina. Mr. Stanley stated he had two students in the honors band and they each prepared a challenging solo, worked on their scales and sight read a piece of music before a panel of judges. Mr. Stanley stated Antoinio Garica-Diaz and Emily Stokely will perform on February 4th at East Carolina University, They will also audition for the All-State band on Saturday, March 4th in Winston-Salem.

Mr. Chris Pullet, Principal of H.L. Trigg introduced Teacher of the Year, Ms. Devin Wilder. Mr. Pullet stated Ms. Wilder is a leader, innovator and coach. Mr. Pullet, introduced Mr. Jamaine Fleming, stated he relates amazingly to kids, is a breath of fresh air, he knows where kids are coming from and is determined to get them there.

Mrs. Amy Fyffe, Principal of Early College, recognized Jennifer Darnell, Misty Daniels, Malik Lineberger, Liz Wooten, Michele Barker, J'Nya Moore and Angela Hodges. They were not able to make it tonight, but I wanted to recognize them as one of the best and most high functioning teams I've ever been a part of and they need to know I appreciate them so very much. Ms Fyffe stated we could not have done ECP-Early College without all of their efforts.

Dr. Parker shared that Amy Fyffe would be transitioning from ECP-Early College to Northeastern High School.

## **7. Instructional Highlights**

Dr. Parker shared two videos to highlight ECP-Early College and H.L. Trigg.

## **8. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent, thanked everyone that was here tonight and those being recognized. Dr. Parker stated he is "fired up and ready to go" when he thinks about the talent here tonight, the potential of our young people and the work we are doing. Dr. Parker stated tomorrow is the District Science Fair at Pasquotank County Cooperative Extension Office. Dr. Parker stated Nina Griffin has helped organize this event. On Friday of last week, we launched our first Emerging Leaders Cohort. This will be an opportunity for any ECPPS employee that would like to expand their leadership and are welcome to apply for this program. The focus for this program is to invite teachers or school leaders that are interested in school leadership. Dr. Parker recognized the board members for Board appreciation month.

## **9. Student Board Members Report**

Holley Weiss, student representative from Pasquotank County High School congratulated all students and coaches on all the hard work they have put in this season as winter sports comes to an end. Holley recognized the swim team and all their hard work. Holley also congratulated Emily Stokely and Antonio Gracia Diaz for making the Eastern Region All District Band. Holley shared upcoming events: DECA State Competition on February 22nd and the 25th, and NC Check-Ins/Benchmark Assessments will take place between February 27- March 1st.

Grace Wooten, representative from Northeastern High School recognized the graduation cohort that was hosted at NHS on January 12th for juniors and seniors. Grace stated this event was to help students figure out how to prepare for college and to be college ready. Grace stated she sent out a google form to ask questions about being back in school. Grace shared that Gabby Johnson, member of Northeastern's swim team qualified for the women's 200 Im, 50 and 100 freestyle. Grace also stated Joel and Haven Overman also were very close to qualifying, and will be trying again on Wednesday.

## **10. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Angela Cobb, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes from December 19th, 2022, and January 17th, 2023. (Dr. Williams not present)

## **11. Public Comment (*Citizen Comments to the Board*)**

Ms. Lucy Beamon, chair of the NAACP Education committee, thanked the school board for recognizing students who participated in the annual NAACP Martin Luther King Day celebration and the support of community events.

## **12. Strategic Planning Process and Timeline Presentation**

Dr. Parker shared the Strategic Planning Process and some of the work that has taken place as we begin preparing and writing out the new strategic plan for the district. Dr. Parker shared the five step process: Learning, Inspiration Visits, Case for Change, Write the Plan, and Put Theory into Action. Dr. Parker stated he has dates for June and we're going to write the Strategic Plan based on all this information that has been gathered. Dr. Parker stated he is going to invite our stakeholders, parents, students, and teachers and put this plan together in June and launch our plan for teachers when they come back in August. Dr. Parker said he is very excited about the work in ECPPS.

## **13. Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by PamPureza and seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve FBT-02 (Audit Contract), FBT-03 (Budget Amendments #104, #304 and #802). (Dr. Shelia Williams not present)

#### 14. Closed Session

A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, 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. (Dr. Sheila Williams not present)

Closed session began at 7:23 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Daniel Spence, Angela Cobb, Tommy Old, Pam Pureza, Rodney Walton, and Sharon Warden. The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, and Rhonda James-Davis. John Leidy, School Board Attorney, was also in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session.

#### Meeting Called Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

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

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Daniel Spence, Chair	Pam Pureza
Dr. Shelia Williams, Vice-Chair (Not present)	Rodney Walton
Angela Cobb	Sharon Warden
Tommy Old	

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent  
 Rhonda James-Davis, Associate Superintendent  
 Dexter Jackson-Heard, Director of Communications & Community Schools  
 Pam Parker, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board

#### Excellent Educators Committee

##### Dr. Shelia Williams, Chair

Dr. Parker requested the board approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as presented by staff during the closed session.

A motion was made by Tommy Old, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent's Report for Personnel as presented.

#### 15. Other

#### 16. Adjournment

A motion was made by Angela Cobb, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by show of hands, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

---

Chair

Secretary