

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
September 26, 2022 - Regular Meeting

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Pasquotank Elementary School and was also available via livestream at www.ecpps.k12.nc.us. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Sharon Warden, Chair
 Dr. Shelia Williams, Vice-Chair
 George Archuleta
 Virginia Houston

Pam Pureza
 Daniel Spence
 Rodney Walton (Virtual)

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
 Stephanie Ambrose, Principal P.W. Moore Elementary
 Simona White, Principal of Pasquotank Elementary
 Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance
 Holly Weiss, PCHS Student Board Member Representative
 Gracie Wooten, NHS Student Board Member Representative

Others present:

Johnny Hallow III, School Board Attorney

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

Chair Warden 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. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

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 Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the September 26, 2022, meeting agenda. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

6. Recognitions

Mr. Jackson-Heard presented Pasquotank Elementary and P.W. Elementary as they celebrate the accomplishments of their schools and highlight several students and staff.

Pasquotank Elementary School: Principal White recognized several students as well as staff members for exceeding excellence.

P.W. Moore Elementary School: Principal Ambrose recognized several of her students who have taken leadership roles in her school this year as well as staff who have exceeded excellence.

7. Instructional Highlights

Mr. Sammy Fudge, Executive Director for Elementary Schools introduced Principal Ambrose, P.W. Moore and Principal White, Pasquotank Elementary School will share their instructional focus for this current year along with some engaging highlights from this school year.

Principal Ambrose shared how they are going to “Break Barriers” by using multiple tiers of instruction to move their students from meeting growth to exceeding growth. Principal Ambrose shared a video to highlight how the plan is being implemented in the classrooms at P.W. Moore this school year.

Principal White shared how they are going to be “Growing and Glowing” this school year. Pasquotank has been able to meet their growth goals this past school year and plan to continue to grow and glow. Principal White shared a video to highlight the Instructional Focus, Strategic and Intentional Small Group Instruction K-5.

8. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent, shared the Superintendent’s Report. Dr. Parker thanked the two schools for presenting. Dr. Parker stated his excitement about this format of holding regular meetings at our schools. Dr. Parker stated on October 24th, the meeting will be held at Sheep-Harney Elementary School. The committee meetings will be held at the Central Office every month and those meetings are open to the public as well. Dr. Parker stated the full schedule of all meetings is on the ECPPS website. Dr. Parker shared State Report Card updates: Interim reports were released on September 22nd, parents can access those through the Parent Portal in PowerSchool; the end of the grading period is October 19th and report cards go home on October 26th. October 20th is a teacher workday and the district is planning Professional Development for half of the day. Dr. Parker shared information on the Education Foundation Golf Tournament that will be held Friday, September 30th with proceeds benefiting the Education Foundation. Finally, Dr. Parker stated he is closely monitoring hurricane Ian.

9. Student Board Members’ Report

Grace Wooten, representative from Northeastern High School, shared concerns from fellow students. Ms. Wooten shared written responses from students and observations that were the result of communication with administration. Ms. Wooten stated students don’t know they have resources to reach out to administration, metal detectors are causing students to be late to class, and the lines in the morning are making kids tardy and missing out on instruction.

Holley Weiss, student representative from Pasquotank County High School shared the good that is happening this year at PCHS. Ms. Weiss stated the beginning of the school year was much easier than the past years, the new tardy system at our school is working well, scan a QR code and it automatically tells you the punishment and how many you have. Ms. Weiss stated it is great to see

the principal, assistant principals, Dr. Parker and other board members in the school and visiting classrooms. Ms. Weiss stated one of the main things needed is more club support, funding, paintings redone in hallways and positive quotes around the school. Ms. Weiss stated there is always a line by the metal detectors and students are late for class. Ms. Weiss suggested more staff members searching bags and purchasing another metal detector.

10. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Daniel Spence, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes from August 22nd, and September 19th, 2022. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

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

Tony Sawyer spoke before the board during public comments regarding his return to Northeastern High School.

12. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by George Archuleta and seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the consent agenda for September 26, 2022. Rodney Walton participated virtually. The item that was approved to go on the consent agenda from our last meeting Includes: FBT-03 (Fundraisers). Rodney Walton participated virtually.

13. Other Agenda Items

Financial, Business, and Technology Committee (FBT)

Sharon Warden, Chair

Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented the FBT-01 (Fundraisers) for approval.

A motion was made by Daniel Spence and seconded by George Archuleta, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve (FTB-01) Fundraisers. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Personalized Education (PE)

Pam Pureza, Chair

Dr. Parker shared a summary of the 2021-2022 School Performance Data 2021-22. Prior to the meeting, Dr. Parker shared this data with all schools. Dr. Parker stated the district is required to submit a district improvement plan this year. Dr. Parker stated the plan is not due until December, but he felt it was imperative to begin the process.

Dr. Parker shared the District Improvement Plan. Dr. Parker stated the plan consists of 5 improvement dimensions that include indicators to measure our progress. Dr. Parker shared a summary of each indicator as well as the action that will be taken by the district. Dr. Parker stated the plan had to be posted online and we are required to submit to the State Board of Education within 5 days of the board's approval. Dr. Parker stated he is seeking approval for the District Improvement Plan presented, which will be the focus this year.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza and seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the (PE-02) District Improvement Plan. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams, seconded by George Archuleta, 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. Rodney Walton participated virtually.

Closed session began at 8:00 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 attended virtually. The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, and Rhonda James-Davis. Johnny Hallow, 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 Warden called the meeting to order at 9:33 p.m.

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 Dr. Sheila Williams, seconded by Virginia Houston, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent’s Report for Personnel as presented. Rodney Walton participated virtually,

14. Other

15. Adjournment

A motion was made by Virginia Houston, seconded by Pam Pureza, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Chair

Secretary