

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
November 27, 2023 Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Northeastern High School and was also available via livestream at www.ecpps.k12.nc.us. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Angela Cobb, Chair	
Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair	Rodney Walton
Tommy Old	Sharon Warden (Not Present)
Shelia H. Williams	Valerie Bagues

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent
 Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
 Candy Tilley, Assistant Superintendent of Finance
 Adrian Fonville, Executive Director of Secondary Education
 Dr. Katina Waples, Executive Director of Elementary Education
 Meredith Collins, Executive Director of Accounting Services
 Bert Lane, Executive Director of Federal Programs
 Antoinette Reid, Director of Student Services
 Tammy Reinhart, Director of Child Nutrition
 Nina Griffin, Director of Testing and Accountability
 Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance
 Dexter Jackson-Heard, Director of Communications & Community Schools
 Pam Parker, Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Board
 Mitchel Manuel, PCHS Student Board Member
 Gabby Johnson, NHS Student Board Member (Not Present)
 Haley Mayhew, ECP-Early College Board Member

Others present:

John Leidy, School Board Attorney

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Angela Cobb called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and 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

Rodney Walton 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 Valerie Bogues, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the November 27, 2023 meeting agenda. Sharon Warden (not present)

6. Recognitions

Commander Heidi Koski, and Executive Officer Dave McLaughlin, United States Coast Guard, shared information on the 2024 Coast Guard Marathon. Commander Koski stated the Coast Guard sees this as a great potential partnership with ECPPS. Commander Koski stated the race will consist of a marathon, half marathon, 5K, 1K Kids's Run, and two Challenge Series. Commander Koski shared the date and times of the event. Commander Koski stated the Coast Guard would like to partner with the elementary schools in a challenge where the focus is on fitness, literacy, or both. Commander Koski stated participants will receive a t-shirt and dog-tag finisher's metal.

Dr. Parker threw out a challenge to the board. Dr. Parker stated he is signing up for the 5K and is challenging the board of education, staff and students to participate. Dr. Parker stated he will host a pizza party for anyone who can outrun him in the 5k.

Dr. Melissia Bond, Principal, River Road Middle School recognized several of her staff, students, and sports teams. Dr. Bond recognized Mr. Brandon Powers for stepping in the AD position.

Ms. Terri Wilson, Assistant Principal, Northeastern High School and Ms. Denisha White, secretary recognized several staff for their outstanding leadership and students for their achievements.

7. Instructional Highlights

Dr. Bond shared a video of the instructional highlights at River Road Middle School. Dr. Bond stated kids learn differently so we are trying to figure out what makes students tick, what makes them remember things and what makes them retain that information to use on tests. Dr. Bond stated it is important for kids to like school but more importantly "what they learn" stays with them, use later on in life or use the information going from 6th grade on up to 8th grade. Dr. Bond stated the staff is really working on building knowledge from one grade level to the next. Dr. Bond stated at RRMS we have one belief, one focus and one goal that all students can attain and be great in their future.

Mrs. Fyffe, shared a video of the instructional highlights at Northeastern High School. Mrs. Fyffe shared information on Advancement Placement courses as one of the ways we're leveling up at Northeastern High School. Mrs. Fyffe and her staff shared several new courses that will allow students to earn college credit before they leave their freshman year of high school. Ms. Wilson shared information on eagle enrichment time that was built back into the schedule to give students more time to participate in activities outside of the regular curriculum. Mrs. Fyffe shared information

on the Spark Lab where staff encourages students to go into careers in Tech and to explore areas in digital and game sports.

8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Keith Parker stated December 1st will begin the countdown to a joyous time of year for us in public schools as we move toward our holiday break. Dr. Parker shared a few reminders about upcoming dates: December 15 is early release day for students, December 18th and 19th are optional work days for staff. Dr. Parker stated, we are providing staff on the optional days to work virtually or report to the building. Dr. Parker stated staff will have that option on how they work those days.

Dr. Parker stated this is new for the high schools, when we return due to the instructional days between the first part of the semester and the second part of the semester in December we were on track to lose 20 days of instructional time. Dr. Parker stated this calendar year the board approved the calendars, and when students return to school they will have two weeks to remediate and to study for final exams. Dr. Parker stated the exam schedule will begin on January 12th. Dr. Parker stated this will give teachers two weeks after they come back from Christmas break to use that time to finish the curriculum and/or prepare students for final exams that begin on January 12th.

Dr. Parker stated we have completed the first round of NC check-in assessments. Dr. Parker stated these are state created benchmark assessments that we give to students in grades 3-12 in EOG or EOC tested subjects. Dr. Parker stated this is a way for us to measure what students have learned in the curriculum. Dr. Parker stated we have finished the first round of assessments, the curriculum team is working through the data to see what students need to remediate on and what students did well on. Dr. Parker stated we have seen some growth in some areas and we've also seen areas where we need to double down and continue to push.

Dr. Parker stated there are a lot of events coming up in the month of December. Dr. Parker encouraged parents and the community to check the calendar on our website for Christmas programs, band concerts and holiday festivities.

9. Student Board Members' Report

Mitchel Manual, Pasquotank County High School stated fall sports are officially over. Mitchel stated winter sports are going on now. Mitchel stated last Monday, we had a breakfast celebration for the A/AB honor roll students. Mitchel stated the band will be performing in the Christmas parade, the Arts and Theatre department has some performances coming up. Mitchel stated the flyers for the play in April are being sent out.

Haley Mayhew, ECP-Early College, stated they have a new counselor. Haley stated the first meeting of the National Honor Society was held. Haley stated the SGA has a float in the Christmas Parade, we had a Senior breakfast and a winter dance.

Gabby Johnson was not present.

10. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Pam Pureza, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes from October 23, 2023 and November 20, 2023. Sharon Warden (not present)

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

Chair Cobb shared information on the matters of Public Comments.

Mr. Tony Sawyer is requesting the board to consider allowing him to participate in the last two games at Northeastern High School.

Mr. Sean Tolson, Assistant Coach at Northeastern High School. Mr. Tolson stated he has known Mr. Sawyer the last 15 years. Mr. Tolson asked the board to hear him out. Mr. Tolson stated Mr. Sawyer has done a great job for 17 years and is one of our biggest fans and is green and gold all the way through.

Mrs. Wenninger stated she appreciates ECPPS and noted her son is being recognized tonight. Mrs. Wenninger stated the district needs to work more on communication in the district so parents will know what is going on.

12. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Rodney Walton to approve the consent agenda for November 27, 2023 seconded by Dr. Shelia H. Williams, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve FBT-04 (Budget Amendments #103, #202, #303, #401 and #802). Sharon Warden (Not present)

13. Other Agenda Items

Financial, Business, and Technology Committee (FBT)

Rodney Walton, Vice-Chair

Mrs. Candy Tilley, Assistant Superintendent of Finance presented (FBT-01) Playground Bids for action.

A motion was made by Rodney Walton and seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve (FBT-01) Playground Bids as presented. Sharon Warden was not present.

Policy Committee (PC)

Rodney Walton, Chair

Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented (PC-01) Policy 6150 Management of "Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate" Orders for Medically Fragile Students for First Read.

Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented (PC-02) Policy 2310 Public Participation at Board Meetings for First Read.

Chair Cobb presented Board Training & Development Committee (Ad Hoc) for Information Only

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 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 7:03 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Chair Cobb, Vice-Chair Pam Pureza, Tommy Old, Valeria Bogues, Rodney Walton, Dr. Shelia Williams and Sharon Warden (Not present). The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, Rachael Haines, John Leidy, School Board Attorney, was in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session.

Meeting Called Back to Order by Chair - Open Session

Chair Cobb called the meeting back to order at 8:42 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Chair Cobb

Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair

Rodney Walton

Sharon Warden (Not present)

Valerie Bogues

Tommy Old

Dr. Sheila H. Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent

Pam Parker, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board

Excellent Educators Committee

Dr. Sheila 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. Shelia Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent's Report for Personnel as presented.

14. Other

15. Adjournment

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. Sharon Warden (not present)

Chair

Secretary