

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
December 11, 2023 Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at Central Elementary 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:

Angela Cobb, Chair

Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair

Tommy Old

Shelia H. Williams

Rodney Walton

Sharon Warden

Valerie Bagues

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent

Sammy Fudge, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

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

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

Haley Mayhew, ECP-Early College Board Member (Not Present)

Others present:

John Leidy, School Board Attorney

Anna Somberg, Attorney

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

Chair Angela Cobb called the meeting to order at 5:33 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**

Valerie Bogues 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 December 11, 2023 meeting agenda.

#### **6. Central Elementary Choir**

Mrs. Elizabeth Bill and the Central Elementary School Choir presented two songs: Here Comes the Snow by Teresa Jennings and A Million Little Snowflakes by Teresa Jennings.

#### **7. Recognitions**

Dexter Jackson-Heard shared information about the Holiday Card Artwork for 2023. Dexter Jackson-Heard stated each school was asked to select two artwork submissions. Dexter Jackson-Heard stated submissions reflected holiday spirit or winter scenes.

Dexter Jackson-Heard recognized each artist for their Holiday Card Artwork. Student recognitions included: A'Nostiee Harris and Nolan Spence (CES); Aubrey Evans and Shaylee Hegge (JCS); Lilianna Gray and Rosalynne Salazar (NES); Jacklynn Trotman (PES); Madilyn McKinney and Cailyn Walker (PWM); Layla Davis and Josiah Whitehurst (Pre-K); Edber Bravo Lopez and Freya Yu (SHE); Destinee Jennings and Cesar Juarez Pineda (WES); Deja Posadas and Jayden Stevenson (ECMS).

Mrs. Brothers recognized several of her students for putting forth the best effort, always persevering and displaying a positive attitude. Student recognitions: Aether Mile (K); Jeffrey Barefoot (1st); Samyra Harris (2nd); Miranda Orlando (3rd); Rudolph Cuffee (3rd); Maslynn Cuffee (4th); Kaycee Ferebee (4th); Jaxon Wallace (5th); and Alyssa Holley (5th).

Mrs. LaShekia Brothers recognized teachers for going above and beyond to provide the best learning environment for students. Teacher recognitions: Melanie Whidbee, Stacia Baugh-Muschette, Dina Hansen, Alicia Billups, Emily Beamon, Clarissa Mercer, Virginia Williams, Lisa Rountree, Tonja White and Emmanuel Moss.

#### **8. Instructional Highlights**

Mrs. Brothers stated, Central Elementary School is focusing on district initiatives which includes Heggerty and UFLI. Mrs. Brothers stated several teachers will share the effectiveness of the program and how it benefits students. Mrs. Brothers stated, we want the media center to be a hub where students can come in and feel comfortable looking for books that are educational and of the student interest. Mrs. Brothers stated, we want to work on reading and literacy this year and let students know they can accomplish their dreams.



Ms. Billups stated Central Elementary School adopted Heggery and UFLI this year. Ms. Billups stated she tested the program out last year and had big gains in her classroom.

Ms. Hanson stated libraries have always represented freedom to her. Ms. Hanson stated freedom to read is one of life's greatest pleasures, a place to explore, a place for choice, a place of wonder, a place to wander. Ms. Hanson stated children are encouraged to explore, play and delve deeper into subjects they didn't know they wanted to learn about in the media center.

Ms. Beamon stated she has focused on collaborative work between students to build teamwork. Ms. Beamon stated at the end of the day she wants students to take ownership of their learning and find excitement and joy.

Mrs. Brothers stated she has an awesome staff of educators who are willing to do their best to meet the needs of their students, they are willing to try new ideas, go the extra mile and work with students one on one.

Chair Cobb thanked Mrs. Brothers, staff, students and families for coming out tonight.

## **9. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Parker thanked the student board members for being here tonight, their dedication and commitment to professionalism. Dr. Parker presented them with a small token on behalf of the board and central office. Dr. Parker also thanked the staff for their incredible dedication over the last couple of months. Dr. Parker stated, you can go into any school and find students engaged and teachers focused on making the most of this time before Christmas break. Dr. Parker stated Friday is an early release day and students will not report back until January 3rd. Dr. Parker stated high school exams will begin on January 12th, the semester will end and report cards will be issued.

Dr. Parker encouraged everyone to take this upcoming break to enjoy your family and appreciate these moments with them. Dr. Parker shared a quote that sums up the importance of this time of year. Dr. Parker thanked everybody for all their hard work.

## **10. Student Board Members' Report**

Mitchell Manual, Pasquotank County High School, shared a Winter Concert, directed by Ms. Monica Williams being held at First Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. tonight.

Gabby Johnson, Northeastern High School, shared an update on winter sports events, students finalized their classes this past week, and everyone is in the holiday spirit looking forward to Friday.

Hailey Mayhew was not present.

## **11. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes from November 27, 2023 and December 4, 2023.

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

Chair Cobb shared information on the matters of Public Comments.

Mr. Tony Sawyer shared his continued concerns regarding not being reinstated.

Ms. Elizabeth Shakin shared information on the dual language program.

### **13. Other Agenda Items**

#### **Financial, Business, and Technology Committee (FBT)**

##### **Rodney Walton, Vice-Chair**

Candy Tilley, Assistant Superintendent of Finance presented a Purchasing Report (FBT-01), LINQ ERP Contract (FBT-02) for information only. Budget Calendar FY 2024-2025 (FBT-03), Amendments #104, #304, #803 (FBT-04), Fundraisers (FBT-05) for approval.

A motion was made by Sharon Warden and seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve Budget Calendar FY 2024-2025 (FBT-03), Amendments #104, #304, #803 (FBT-04), and Fundraisers (FBT-05).

#### **Policy Committee (PC)**

##### **Rodney Walton, Chair**

Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented Policy 6150 Management of "Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate" Orders for Medically Fragile Students (PC-01), Policy 2310 Public Participation at Board Meetings (PC-02) for approval.

A motion was made by Rodney Walton and seconded by Pam Pureza, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve Policy 6150 Management of "Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate" Orders for Medically Fragile Students (PC-01), Policy 2310 Public Participation at Board Meetings (PC-02).

#### **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 6:33 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Chair Angela Cobb, Vice-Chair Pam Pureza, Tommy Old, Valeria Bagues, Rodney Walton, Dr. Shelia Williams and Sharon Warden. The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, Rachael Haines, Candy Tilley, John Leidy, School Board Attorney, Anna Somberg, Attorney, were in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session.

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

Chair Angela Cobb called the meeting back to order at 7:41 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Angela Cobb, Chair

Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair

Rodney Walton

Sharon Warden  
Tommy Old

Valerie Bogues  
Dr. Sheila H. Williams

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent  
Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
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 Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent's Report and Recommendation for Personnel as presented.

#### **14. Other**

No other business was shared by the board.

#### **15. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Chair

Secretary