

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

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Sheep-Harney Elementary 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
Sheila H. Williams	Valerie Bagues

The following staff members were present:

Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent
 Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Finance
 Sammy Fudge, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction
 Dr. Katina Waples, Executive Director of Elementary Education
 Meredith Collins, Executive Director of Accounting Services
 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

Others present:

John Leidy, School Board Attorney

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair

Chair Angela Cobb called the meeting to order at 6:00 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

Dr. Sheila Williams 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 Pam Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the October 23, 2023 meeting agenda.

6. Recognitions

Ms. Andrea Adams, Principal of Sheep-Harney Elementary School recognized several of her staff, students and parents.

Ms. Adams recognized Ms. Sana Awadallah, K-5 Teacher of the Year and has served the students of Sheep-Harney for 2 years. Ms. Adams stated in a recent conversation she had with Ms. Awadallah, she let me know emphatically that, "she is on the side of humanity." Ms. Adams stated she could tell Ms. Awadallah was a genuinely kind person and this is why she is an outstanding teacher and leader.

Ms. Adams recognized Ms. Hailey Oakes, who couldn't be with us tonight is being recognized as the Beginning Teacher of the Year. Ms. Adams stated Ms. Oakes is in her 3rd year at Sheep-Harney and is definitely a shining star.

Ms. Adams recognized Mrs. Susan Blackmon, who has served students at Sheep-Harney since the 2007-2008 school year. Ms. Adams stated Ms. Blackmon has no shortage of energy or enthusiasm when it comes to work. Ms. Adams stated Mrs. Blackmon is the leader of SGA, she makes morning announcements, raises the flag, and goes above and beyond in her responsibilities as the Exceptional Children's Teacher Assistant. Ms. Adams stated one thing that she has learned from Mrs. Blackmon, "do not to mess with her parking lot duty".

Mrs. Blackmon introduced the student SGA leaders: Drew Leary, President; Piper Meyer, Vice President; and Madison Poyner, Secretary. Mrs. Blackmon stated these students have gained a sense of responsibility and the opportunity to make a difference in their school and community. Mrs. Blackmon stated they are role models for Sheep-Harney and we are proud to have them show their eagle pride.

Ms. Dani White-Morris, Pre-K Coordinator introduced the Pre-K Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Tammie McCoy. Ms. White-Morris stated Mrs. McCoy is very knowledgeable and enjoys researching and learning how to best support the needs of all students in her classroom.

Ms. White-Morris introduced the Pre-K Beginning Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Ariel Schlemeyer. Ms. White-Morris stated Mrs. Schlemeyer has done a remarkable job establishing a warm and caring environment for her students. Ms. White-Morris stated Mrs. Schlemeyer is a wiz with technology, an avid photographer and has been chosen to be the official Webmaster for Pre-K.

Ms. White-Morris introduced the Pre-K Teacher Assistant of the Year, Ms. Tia Purdy. Ms. White-Morris stated Ms. Purdy has a kind and warm spirit. Ms. White-Morris stated she is wonderful with the students, lends a helping hand, tech savvy, and always finds ways to make us smile each day.

Ms. White-Morris introduced two students who represent our amazing Pre-K students; Willow Sutton and Megan Velasquez Marquez. Ms. White-Morris thanked the young ladies for coming out to represent the leadership in the Pre-K department.

7. Instructional Highlights

Ms. Adams shared a video of the instructional highlights of Sheep Harney Elementary School. Ms. Adams stated Sheep-Harney is focused on leadership, and how it leads you throughout life and helps you become successful. Ms. Adams stated she and her staff believe there needs to be roles and responsibilities for students at school to take on leadership roles.

Chair Cobb thanked Ms. Adams for hosting tonight and sharing her students and leaders with us.

8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Keith Parker stated on October 31, will be an early release day for students, November 7th is an optional teacher workday, and November 10th is a holiday. Dr. Parker stated on November 6th report cards will be issued. Dr. Parker shared P.W. Moore was highlighted at the State AIM conference hosted by NCDPI and the state superintendent. Dr. Parker stated restart is a school flexibility model that is granted to some schools, and P.W. Moore was recognized. Dr. Parker recognized Coach Antonio Moore for his 200th win as NHS football coach. Dr. Parker congratulated Coach Moore for his impressive leadership and NHS football program.

9. Student Board Members' Report

Haley Mayhew, ECP-Early College, stated inductions for the first National Honor Society organization at ECP-Early College inducted 22 members. Haley stated, Early college staff participated in the Dismal Swamp day on October 21. Haley stated several seniors have participated in College of the Albemarle's Access program. Haley stated freshmen will participate in the Carolina Association of College Registrar and Admissions events at Mid-Atlantic Christian University. Haley stated on October 31, members of the student government organization will participate in the Trunk or Treat event in downtown Elizabeth City.

Mitchel Manual, Pasquotank County High School stated that the school hosted College Career week with many activities; this included college application week, 20 students applied to colleges for free, and at least 5 students had been accepted into college. The PCHS band hosted the Ninth Annual Panther band classic with 12 schools participating, as well as hosting the largest crowd ever. Mitchel stated that Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and Berea Baptist Church have adopted PCHS and representatives will be attending monthly meetings and will be hosts for events and games. Mitchel stated that clubs are up and running and the first blood drive was hosted this week. Mitchel stated fire and construction classes are working on their certification.

Gabby Johnson, Northeastern High School stated that fall sports are wrapping up, winter sports are beginning and clubs are up and running. Gabby stated the National Honor Society inductions have taken place with upwards of 40 students being inducted. Gabby stated that report cards will be going out next week.

10. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Rodney Walton, seconded by Tommy Old, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve the minutes from September 25, 2023 and October 16, 2023.

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

None

12. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Pam Pureza to approve the consent agenda for October 23, 2023 seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve FBT-04 (Budget Amendments #102, #201, #302 and #801).

13. Other Agenda Items**Financial, Business, and Technology Committee (FBT)****Sharon Warden, Chair**

Mrs. Meredith Collins, Interim Director of Finance presented (FBT-01) Substitute Rate Increase; (FBT-02) Fundraising Requests; (FBT-03) Finance Report for Information Only; and (FBT-04) Audit Report.

Mrs. Meredith Collins introduced Mr. Paul Carson, Certified Public Accountant with Anderson Smith & Wike.

Mr. Paul Carson shared the audit report with the board.

A motion was made by Sharon Warden and seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve FBT-01, FBT-02, and FBT-04 Audit Report as presented.

Personalized Education (PE)**Pam Pureza, Chair**

The ECPPS School Improvement Plans 2023-2024 were presented by Dr. Katina Waples, Executive Director for Elementary Schools and Adrian Fonville, Executive Director of Secondary Schools. Dr. Waples stated she and Mr. Fonville will summarize some of the highlights of the plans K-12. Dr. Waples stated this year, we have focused extensively on four things, which is building instructional capacity of our staff, improving teacher effectiveness, utilizing the most appropriate resources, and making sure our student learning outcomes equates to all the hard work we are doing this year. Dr. Waples presented a video of all the additional areas the District Curriculum and Instructional team is working on in the schools.

Mr. Fonville shared the Secondary School Improvement Plan. Mr. Fonville stated he is going to highlight some indicators that middle and high schools are focusing on this year. Mr. Fonville addressed evidence-based instruction aligned with individual needs of students. Mr. Fonville stated teachers are helping to guide students in social and emotional interventions. Mr. Fonville stated principals and staff are meeting regularly.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza and seconded by Sharon Warden, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve (PE-01) School Improvement Plans as presented.

Dr. Parker presented the Strategic Planning process. Dr. Parker stated he will share our vision, our core values, our priorities and some strategies that have been drafted over the course of 15 months. Dr. Parker shared the District Priorities of ECPPS which are: Reimagining Education, Expanding Partnerships, Talent Recruitment, Retention, and Development Operational Excellence.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza and seconded by Sharon Warden, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to approve (PE-02) Strategic Plan as presented.

Policy Committee (PC)

Rodney Walton, Chair

~~Chair Cobb presented Policy 2230 Board Committees for information.~~ Chair Cobb presented ECPPS Board Committee Descriptions and Assignments for 2023 for information.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Dr. Sheila Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, 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 7:19 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Chair Cobb, Vice-Chair Pam Pureza, Tommy Old, Valeria Bogues, Rodney Walton, Dr. Sheila Williams and Sharon Warden. The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, 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 8:06 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Chair Cobb

Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair

Rodney Walton

Sharon Warden

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. Sheila Williams, seconded by Rodney Walton, 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 Dr. Sheila Williams, seconded by Pam Pureza, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Chair

Secretary