MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
July 22, 2024 Regular Meeting

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, July 22, 2024, 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:

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

The following staff members were present:
Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent
Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Meredith Collins, Executive Director of Accounting Services
Dr. Katina Jones-Waples, Executive Director of Elementary Education
Tammy Rinehart, Director of Child Nutrition
Nina Griffin, Director of Testing & Accountability
Kelly Cowell, Director of Talent Ed.
Amanda Hill, Director of Transportation
Marlene Wilkins, Director of Maintenance
Heather Edmisten, Director of Technology
Pam Parker, Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Board

Others present:
John Leidy, School Board Attorney
Zachary Robeson, School Board Attorney

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair
Chair Angela Cobb called the meeting to order at 6:01 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.
(Tommy Old not present)

4. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts or Potential Conflicts of Interest
Sharon Warden 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 Rodney Walton, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call, to approve the July 22, 2024 meeting agenda. Tommy Old not present.

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

Mr. Charles Branch addressed the board for clarification on how the schools choose their coaches. Mr. Branch stated his application to serve as a volunteer trainer was denied. Mr. Branch stated he is a coach, professional athlete and served time in the Marines. Mr. Branch stated he has been coaching for over 30 years before the pandemic, he stated he worked at every school in the district. Mr. Branch stated after the pandemic, we came out with this strict rule that changed everything.

7. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Parker stated each board member received a copy of a book that has recently been published by EdNC a North Carolina based news organization. Dr. Parker stated their purpose is to share information on public schools in North Carolina. Dr. Parker stated the book is North Carolina's Choice: "Why our public schools matter." Dr. Parker stated the book shares the profound impact public schools have on communities across the state.

Dr. Parker stated, we have several capital projects underway. Dr. Parker thanked Mrs. Wilkins and the maintenance department for the work they have done over the summer at all the schools. Dr. Parker stated that at four schools, we have completed paved parking lots, playground installations at all elementary schools except Pasquotank Elementary school; they will have a new compliant playground. Dr. Parker stated in a few weeks, we will have new digital marquee signs at all of the schools, and several landscaping projects as well as new paint at several of our schools. Dr. Parker stated, we have two camps underway and will be concluding "Summer Read to Achieve and Extended School Year. Dr. Parker thanked all those involved in teaching and overseeing these camps. Dr. Parker mentioned the visitors from River City YouthBuild with us tonight and they will share a partnership we have with them. Dr. Parker stated the Child Nutrition Department has been feeding students daily and on Friday's preparing boxed meals for the entire week. Dr. Parker stated the school supply list is on the ECPPS website. Dr. Parker stated, we are looking forward to welcoming our students, staff and families back to school. Dr. Parker stated August 20th is open house for middle school, August 21st is high school open house, and August 22nd is elementary open house. Dr. Parker stated school will begin on August 26th.

8. Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, to approve the consent agenda for July 22, 2024, including the minutes for June 27, 2024, Rental Report and Fundraisers, seconded by Dr. Shelia Williams, and unanimously carried, as confirmed by show of hands. Tommy Old not present.

9. Report/Items for Information

Dr. Parker recognized Dr. Mackey and her team as they come and share information with us tonight. Dr. Parker also recognized River City YouthBuild, Dr. Felton and Ms. Moore for being here with us as well. Dr. Parker stated, we recently concluded a camp where we partnered with River City Youthbuild

and hosted this camp at Pasquotank County High School and Child Nutrition provided the meals. Dr. Parker stated this camp was life changing for our community.

Dr. Mackey shared information on the camp that was held at Pasquotank County High School. Dr. Felton shared a powerpoint presentation and stated this was a “labor of love.” Mrs. Moore stated why 370 campers paid to be a part of this from 20 churches and 13 states making up 64 crews at 49 sites and 46 of the priority repairs were done for 11,100 hours. Ms. Moore stated these young people brought 2332 community gifts with them. Ms. Moore stated you may ask “why” - she said it’s not supposed to make sense, it's supposed to make faith.

10. Unfinished Business

Mrs. Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented the policies that were proposed at the last meeting. Mrs. Haines asked the board if there were any questions from the policies presented last month.

Chair Cobb stated we need a motion to approve Policies PC-01 - PC-18 for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Shelia Williams to approve PC-01 - PC-18, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried as confirmed by show of hands. Tommy Old not present.

11. New Business

Mrs. Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented contracts for Debbie Stukes, who has been providing principalship, mentorship, coaching and support to the curriculum team, Nicole J and Co., who is providing support with communications, Weeksville Elementary Canopy quote, School Nutrition Freezer bid, and Sound System quote for Pasquotank County High School, Northeastern High School, and P.W. Moore Elementary.

Chair Cobb stated we need a motion to approve the items under new business. A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Rodney Walton, and unanimously carried as confirmed by show of hands, to approve contracts for Dr. Stukes and Nicole J & Co, Weeksville Canopy quote, School Nutrition Freezer Bid, and Sound Systems for School Gyms as presented. Tommy Old not present.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Dr. Shelia H. Williams, seconded by Valerie Bogues, 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 6:37 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Chair Cobb, Pam Pureza, Valerie Bogues, Dr. Shelia H. Williams, Rodney Walton, and Sharon Warden. The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, Rachael Haines, John Leidy and Zach Robeson, School Board Attorneys, were in attendance. The Board and staff discussed confidential personnel matters during the closed session. Tommy Old was not present

Meeting Called Back to Order by Chair - Open Session
Chair Cobb called the meeting back to order at 8:15 p.m.

The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Chair Angela Cobb	
Pam Pureza, Vice-Chair	Rodney Walton
Valerie Bogues	Sharon Warden
Tommy Old not present	Dr. Shelia H. Williams

The following staff members were present:
Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent
Rachael Haines, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
John Leidy and Zach Robeson, School Board Attorneys

Excellent Educators Committee
Dr. Sheila H. 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 H. Williams, seconded by Rodney Walton, and carried, as confirmed by show of hands, to accept the Superintendent's Report for Personnel as presented.

12. Board Member Comments
A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by show of hands, to accept the terms of the superintendent's extended contract.

13. Adjournment
A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and carried, as confirmed by roll call vote, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

_____

Chair Secretary