

Minutes of the Vance County Board of Education Meeting
June 8, 2026

The Vance County Board of Education met in regular session on June 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Administrative Service Center Boardroom. Board members present were Mrs. Ayana F. Lewis, Chair, Mrs. Linda S. Cobb, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Gloria J. White, Dr. Omega T. Perry, Mr. Randy M. Oxendine, Mrs. Ruth M. Hartness, Mrs. Dorothy W. Gooche, and Mr. Jerry Stainback, School Board Attorney. Senior staff present were Dr. Cindy Bennett, Superintendent, Mrs. Aarika Sandlin, Chief Officer of Communication and Innovative Support, Ms. Chelsa Jennings, Chief Human Resources Officer, Mr. Rey Horner, Executive Director for Student Services, Mr. John Suther, Chief Finance Officer, Dr. Destiney Ross-Putney, Chief Officer of Instruction and Innovation, Mr. Kevin Perdue, Chief Operations, and Dr. Stephanie Ayscue, Executive Director of Secondary Education, Mrs. Marsha Abbott, Chief Technology Officer and Mrs. Jacqueline Batchelor-Crosson, Executive Director of Federal Programs & Elementary Education.

Mrs. Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. A moment of silence was observed.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the May 11, 2026 minutes was motioned by Mrs. Hartness and seconded by Mrs. Gooche, with a unanimous (7-0) vote.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Approval of the meeting agenda and the following additions were motioned by Mrs. Cobb, and seconded by Mr. Oxendine, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the agenda with additions.

- Public Comment, Summer Programs, Personnel Addendum, and the EC Restructuring Plan

Recognitions/Announcements

Distinguished Leadership in Practice Program

Nowell Brooks principal of Advance Academy, received the 2026 Dana King Leadership Award for excellence in the Distinguished Leadership in Practice (DLP) Program. This award is bestowed to a DLP cohort member who has stood out as a peer leader within the cohort and who has also shown tremendous dedication to the DLP program. The Distinguished Leadership in Practice Program (DLP) is a year-long leadership development program for practicing school principals from all regions of the state. The program is designed and provided by the North Carolina Principals and Assistant Principal's Association (NCPAPA) and sponsored by the North Carolina Alliance for School Leadership Development (NCASLD). By completing this very rigorous program, our DLP graduates have demonstrated their commitment to continuous improvement by working to improve their leadership skills as they simultaneously improve their schools.

SAVE Promise Club/Just U & Me Mentoring

Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Promise Club is the youth leadership initiative of Sandy Hook Promise and the goal is to empower young leaders to take an active role in increasing belonging and preventing violence in their schools and communities. This club is the largest student-led violence prevention in the U.S. and is centered around Educating, Empowering, Engaging, and Encouraging. The NC Center for School Safety encourages all schools to establish a SAVE Promise Club to educate students and staff on how to prevent violence and to use the See Something Say Something app. The purpose of the Just U & Me Mentoring program is to engage designated fourth and fifth grade students in social emotional intervention strategies that will help them improve classroom participation and academic success with purpose. Student collaborate with high school juniors and seniors to become peer-to-peer mentors that will assist students with level one social emotional needs and earn community service hours. Mentors are from VCEC, Advance Academy, VCHS or former graduate students that meet weekly on Saturdays from 9:00-12:00. Three mentors shared their experience in the program.

Robotics Competition

VCS Robotics Competition included LBY, Clarke, Zeb Vance, VCMS and STEM. Congratulations to the Clarke Elementary School Tech Titans Robotics Team for earning 3rd place in the state on May 17, 2026 in the elementary school division at the BrickEd Finals in Salisbury, NC! STEM Early High RoboSharks also placed 3rd in the state in the

middle school division! We are incredibly proud of these students for their hard work, innovation, teamwork, and dedication to STEM excellence.

Athletics

Mr. Len Manley, VCMS Athletic Director and Mr. Scott Corrente, VCHS Athletic Director shared accolades for the 2025-2026 Season for the Jaguars and Vipers.

VCMS Athletics			
Conference Name: MAC-10			
<i>Sport</i>	<i># of Participants</i>	<i>Head Coach</i>	<i>Accolades</i>
Boys Soccer	23	Karl Morgan	MAC-10 Conference Champions
Boys Basketball	13	Jalen Baskerville	MAC-10 Conference Champions
Boys Track	20	Michael Rice	MAC-10 Conference Champions
Wrestling	8	Moses Richardson	Juan Nunez Aldana - Conference Champion
Girls Basketball	13	Breona Jones	MAC-10 Conference Champions
Girls Track	21	Michael Rice	Conference Runner Up
Girls Flag Football	15	Whitney Davis	MAC-10 Conference Runner Up

VCHS Athletics			
NCHSAA 6A; Conference: Northern 6			
<i>Varsity Sport</i>	<i># of Participants</i>	<i>Head Coach</i>	<i>Accolades</i>
Varsity Football	40	Aaron Elliott	Qualified for first round state playoffs
Men's Soccer	22	Errol Thompson	NCHSAA 6A went to 2nd rounds of the state playoffs
Women's Wrestling	4	Charlie Carroll	State Championship NCHSAA 6A Women's Wrestling, weight class 128 LaNautica Johnson
Women's Soccer	26	Roanna Evans	Qualified for first round state playoffs
Women's Basketball	15	Sheila Gill	Conference Coach of the Year - Elite 8 State Playoffs
Women's Track & Field	30	April Macon	NCHSAA 6A state championship participant Samiya Darby - 100 meters
Women's Flag Football	16	Derek Alston	*NCHSAA sanctioned sport next year
<i>(Men's Volleyball next year)</i>			

BETA Clubs

As the largest independent, non-profit, educational youth organization in America, National Beta is dedicated to leading by serving others. The Beta community recognizes high academic achievement, rewards and nurtures worthy character, fosters leadership skills, and encourages service to others. Being a Beta means being a part of a community of leaders who are positively impacting the world. All schools have a BETA Club with a School of Merit status and with the status VCS has a District of Distinction for National BETA for eight consecutive years. This year 200 new students were inducted.

Administrative Professionals Day

The Board honored Deanna Steed in honor of Administrative Professionals Day and how dedicated she is to serving the Board and Superintendent.

Retirement

The Board honored Dr. Cindy Bennett, Superintendent of Vance County Schools, on her retirement effective July 31, 2026 and having served Vance County Schools and the State of NC for 40 plus years. Dr. Bennett received a rocking chair from the Vance County Schools Board of Education.

Comments from the Public

Ms. Melody Peters, Youth Services Librarian, Perry Memorial Library invited all to participate in their Annual Summer Reading program. Ms. Peters highlighted how the library can partner with the schools for programming, field trips, literacy support and more.

Superintendent's Report

The Fiscal Oversight Monthly Report was shared for information only. The Finance department is continuing year end close out and a Called Finance Board of Education meeting is June 25, 2026 at 10:00.

Summer Programs

All summer programs for 2026 will be held at VCHS and Zeb Vance. Below is the schedule.

RtA Reading Camp (Current 2nd,3rd, and 4th grades) – June 10-26 @ Zeb Vance with approx. 250 students
Extended School Year – June 10-26 @ Zeb Vance and VCHS
ESL Summer Discovery & MI Centro – June 10-30 @ Zeb Vance with approx. 125 students
High School Credit Recovery/Cohort 2027 Phase 1 – June 1-12 @ VCHS with approx. 250 students
High School Credit Recovery/Cohort 2027 Phase 2 – June 10-24 @ AA with approx. 100 students
High School CTE Credentialing – May 28 - June 12 @ VCHS with approx. 75 students
Transition Camp (Rising 6 th and 9 th grades) – June 15-26 @ VCMS & VCHS with approx. 100 students
VCMS + Community Schools Summer Camp – July 20-31 @ VCMS

July School Board Meeting

Dr. Bennett shared that with the end-of-year close out, it is suggested that the July 13 board meeting be canceled. The next committee meetings will be on July 23, 2026.

Upon motion by Mr. Oxendine and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved to cancel the July 13th school board meeting.

Board of Education Standing Committees

Personnel

Mr. Oxendine shared information from the June 2, 2026 meeting.

I. RESIGNATION(S)

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	RACE/SEX	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
ASC	Melissa Richardson	I/F	Assistant Finance Officer	6/12/26
ASC	Stephanie Alston	B/F	Pre-K Coordinator	6/26/26
LB Yancey	Chyna Hargrove	B/F	Teacher	6/12/26
VCHS	Talayah Hardy	B/F	Teacher	5/27/26
STEM	Nordia McLaughlin	B/F	Guidance Counselor	6/30/26
Chatham County	Whitney Hannam	W/F	Early Literacy Specialist	7/02/26
V3A	Natonna Robinson	B/F	Student Support Specialist	6/04/26
Zeb Vance	Mida Shelton	B/F	Teacher	6/30/26

II. LEAVE(S) – For Information Only

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	RACE/SEX	LEAVE TYPE	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Aycock	Tracy Rowland	W/F	FMLA	Cafeteria Manager	5/18/26-6/04/26
AA/STEM	Alicia Bullock	B/F	FMLA	Cafeteria Manager	4/28/26-5/27/26
EM Rollins	Veronica Miranda	H/F	FMLA	Bookkeeper	5/01/26-6/30/26
LB Yancey	Grant Pernell	W/M	FMLA	Custodian	4/28/26-5/26/26
Pinkston	Juliet Black-Jasnosz	B/F	FMLA	Social Worker	5/11/26-6/30/26
STEM	LaWanna Allen	B/F	FMLA	Custodian	5/18/26-6/01/26
Transportation	Darrica Branch	B/F	FMLA	Bus Driver	4/13/26-5/11/26

***Note:** Extended Medical Leave does not qualify as FMLA.

III. EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATION(S)

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	RACE/SEX	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Maintenance	Kyree Ford	B/M	Electrician I	6/08/26

IV. RETIREMENT(S)

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Carver	Henri Parham	Teacher Assistant	7/01/26
ASC	Michael Alston	Distribution Driver	7/01/26

V. SEPARATION(S)

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	RACE/SEX	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
VCHS	Robert Wunderlich	W/M	Teacher	6/30/26

TRANSFER/PROMOTION(S)

NEW LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	NEW POSITION	OLD POSITION/LOCATION		EFFECTIVE DATE
ASC	MaryLaura Christopher-Rubin	Director of Student	Interim Principal	New Hope	7/01/26
Aycock	Kim Pulley	Bookkeeper	Bookkeeper	Carver	7/01/26
Clarke	Ricardo White	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Angel Gilchrist	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Barbara Young	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Brenda Williams	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Eboni Terry	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Felicia Terry	Child Nutrition Manager	Child Nutrition Manager	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Jodi Edwards	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	Carver	7/01/26
Dabney	Jozette Broughton	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Kristi Gill	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Kristin Keeton	Child Nutrition Assistant	Child Nutrition Assistant	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Michelle Morgan-Edwards	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
Dabney	Sandra Williford	Receptionist/Bookkeeper	Bookkeeper	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Tina Moore	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Dabney	Tina Terry	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Deborah Hargrove	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Fe McCoy	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Hailey Stroud	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Henri Parham	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	John Twisdale	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Lillian King	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Lisa Hargrove	Assistant Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Marinda Baker	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
E.O. Young	Tressy Person	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
L.B. Yancey	Luther Williams	Cafeteria Assistant	Cafeteria Assistant	New Hope	7/01/26
Maintenance	Dewey Walker	Custodian	Custodian	Carver	7/01/26
Pinkston	Miranda Daye	Teacher	Teacher	Carver	7/01/26
Pinkston	Rheunette Nicholas	Cafeteria Assistant	Cafeteria Assistant	Carver	7/01/26
VCMS	Tony Manning	Custodian	Custodian	New Hope	7/01/26
Zeb Vance	Bernita Burwell	Teacher	Teacher	New Hope	7/01/26
Zeb Vance	Ja-Niya Perry	Teacher Assistant	Teacher Assistant	Carver	7/01/26
Zeb Vance	Jasmine Rogers	Guidance Counselor	Guidance Counselor	New Hope	7/01/26
ASC	Kedecia Stewart-Faines	Director of Instructional Coaching & Teacher Learning	Beginning Teacher Coordinator	ASC	7/01/26

ASC	Yoleshia Hargrove	B/F	Administrative Assistant	7/01/26
VCMS	Victoria Gibson	W/F	MTSS/Instructional Intervention Support Specialist	7/01/26
VCHS	James Owens	W/M	Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	7/01/26

VI. 5TH YEAR INTERNATIONAL TEACHER(S)

LOCATION	EMPLOYEE NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
STEM	Edna Celis Gomez	Teacher	6/30/26
STEM	Othneil Fyffe	Teacher	6/30/26
VCEC	Angelique Bagagnan	Teacher	6/30/26
VCEC	Terrence Nichols	Teacher	6/30/26
VCMS	Nedralee Bartley	Teacher	6/30/26
VCMS	Tyrone Davis	Teacher	6/30/26
VCHS	Brioney Robinson Mills	Teacher	6/30/26
VCHS	Karen Suarez	Teacher	6/30/26

The district has 42 current vacancies. The employee absence report for April-May showed a total of 534 absences across the district with 399 absences filled. Four schools recorded fewer than ten staff absences during the period and were commended for high attendance: VCMS, Advance Academy, New Hope and VCEC. International teacher data was reviewed to show the impact on student growth and achievement for the 2025 school year. International teachers represent 50% of teachers who exceeded expected growth; 65% of teachers who met expected growth; and 46% of teachers who did not meet expected growth. The district could lose up to 84 international teachers over the next four years due to J-1 visa expiration timelines. The loss would significantly impact student achievement therefore, opportunities to reestablish a partnership with Teach for America will be explored. It was also emphasized to support teacher development, increase instructional effectiveness and improve teacher retention.

Upon motion by Mr. Oxendine and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the personnel summary and addendum.

Finance

Mr. Suther shared information from the May 28, 2026 meeting.

Kirkman Flooring & Production Painting

Kirkman Floors will top scrub and recoat the floors and pressure wash the bathrooms at VCMS. Production Painting will paint VCMS with the first phase of the main corridor and classrooms, except the 6th Grade Academy.

- Kirkman Floors - \$37,500 of Capital Funds
- Production Painting - \$255,290 Capital Funds

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Dr. Perry, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Kirkman Flooring and Production Painting contracts.

UcaaS/VoiP Solutions Encore Technology Group

The district will get a new Voice over IP System (Telephone system) and move to an updated cloud-based system. Encore Technology Group will have a team to install phones at different locations at one time after school hours and will approximately complete the upgrades in 60 days. \$278,383 of Local funds will be used. All are encouraged to check your voicemail box for messages and respond in a timely fashion.

Upon motion by Mrs. Cobb and seconded by Dr. Perry, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Encore Technology Group contract.

Jordan Driving School of the Carolinas

This is a renewal contract with a slight increase. Funds from the State Driver's Allocation will be used, so there is no impact on fees for the district. District staff will monitor the program for fidelity. The company is do hire others to help drive and teach the program. The fuel surcharge increases to \$30 per student and the increased rates are:

- \$65 per student for online classroom instruction (was \$60)
- \$220 per student for behind the wheel practice (was \$210)
- \$285 per student for classroom and behind the wheel (was \$270)

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Mrs. Cobb, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Jordan Driving School of the Carolinas contract.

Henderson Middle School (HMS) Athletic Uniform Surplus

19 boxes of HMS uniforms are of no use and are recommended for surplus.

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Dr. Perry, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the surplus of the Henderson Middle School athletic uniforms.

Student Services Contracts

The following contracts are being extended to ensure continuation of instructional support for teachers and students.

- Henderson Vance County Recreation and Parks – Share public school outdoor and indoor facilities for the purpose of helping accommodate officially sanctioned education, recreation and/or leisure activities for the citizens of Vance County at no cost for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.
- VCS/Sheriff's Department SRO MOU – Four SROs will cover VCHS, VCMS and CFI campus - \$300,000 of State At-Risk Funds.
- Thomas Transportation – Transport McKinney-Vento students to and from school - \$35,000 Federal Title I Funds

Mr. Oxendine is concerned about the agreement between VCS and the Recreation Department sharing of spaces. Students are not using the center for swimming lessons because a life guard is not available and are using the pool at the Henderson YMCA. The district is using Fox Pond tennis courts for student games.

Upon motion by Mrs. Cobb and seconded by Mrs. Hartness, the Board unanimously (6-1) approved the Student Services contracts. Mr. Oxendine abstained.

Veale Leadership Consulting, Inc.

This year-long contract will build capacity with school building leaders using the Transforming Special Education Leadership Framework and the Motivate, Influence, Stimulate, Consider model. The goal is to improve instructional practices, enhance service delivery, and create the conditions for both teacher retention and student success. Starting in July, selected leaders will provide monthly coaching, classroom walkthroughs, targeted individual support and end-of-the-year summaries. \$33,929 of Federal PRC 118 funds will be used.

Upon motion by Mrs. Cobb and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Veale Leadership Consulting, Inc. contract.

Exceptional Children Contracts

The following contract are renewals to ensure continuation of related services and instructional support staff for children with disabilities. Contracts are on an as-needed basis. State and Federal EC funds will be used.

- Blazerworks (Teachers, Nurses, OT, Paraprofessionals, etc.) - \$300,000.00
- Equalize Sensory Services (Orientation & Mobility) - \$ 10,000.00

• Therapy Solutions (Physical Therapy)	-	\$ 55,000.00
• John Sexton (Audiologist)	-	\$ 5,750.00
• Allied Instructional Services (Vision)	-	\$ 6,000.00
Total		\$376,500.00

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Mrs. Hartness, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Exceptional Children contracts.

Curriculum and Instruction Contracts

The following contracts are extended to ensure continuation of the institutional support which benefits both teachers and students.

AVID Membership	-	\$ 16,950 .00	Title II Federal Funds
Curriculum Associates	-	\$222,253.59	Title I Funds
Discovery Ed	-	\$100,613.50	Title I Funds
Learning A-Z	-	\$ 32,736.00	Title I Funds
NC Elevated	-	\$143,000.00	Title I Funds
Qualtrics	-	\$ 26,250.00	CTE Funds
School Mint Grow	-	\$ 36,553.00	Title I Funds
Studies Weekly	-	\$ 27,521.65	Title I Funds
Amplify	-	\$ 61,507.14	State Textbook Funds
Cynosure Designed	-	\$ 33,000.00	Title IV Federal Funds
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	-	\$127,303.66	State Textbooks Funds
Instructure	-	\$ 15,540.00	Title III Federal Funds
Total		\$843,228.54	

Upon motion by Mrs. Cobb and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Curriculum and Instruction contracts.

Informational Items

Coaches Supplements for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Flag Football has been added to the sports division to include two new positions, Flag Football Head Coach and an Assistant Coach. The total athletic supplement budget for VCMS is \$30,300 and VCHS is \$85,900.

Boys Volleyball will need coaches in the future but the district would like to get more information before moving on with the spring sport of volleyball.

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conference Teacher Schedule Draft

Certified Educator Salary Schedules include teachers, certified instructional support and school-based administrators. All certified educators working in Local Education Agencies (LEA) are required to be paid from the legislated salary schedule. The average salary increase is 8.0% and the cost to implement is \$528.0 million.

Current Years of Experience	FY 2025-26 "A" Schedule	FY 2026-27 \$48K Starting	% Change (w/o step)	% Change (w/ step)
0	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,800	17.1%	17.7%
1	\$ 4,175	\$ 4,825	15.6%	16.2%
2	\$ 4,250	\$ 4,850	14.1%	14.7%
3	\$ 4,325	\$ 4,875	12.7%	13.3%
4	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,900	11.4%	12.5%
5	\$ 4,475	\$ 4,950	10.6%	11.7%
6	\$ 4,572	\$ 5,000	9.4%	10.5%
7	\$ 4,663	\$ 5,050	8.3%	9.4%
8	\$ 4,753	\$ 5,100	7.3%	8.4%
9	\$ 4,844	\$ 5,150	6.3%	9.7%
10	\$ 4,935	\$ 5,214	7.7%	8.7%
11	\$ 5,025	\$ 5,365	6.8%	7.8%
12	\$ 5,116	\$ 5,418	5.9%	6.9%
13	\$ 5,206	\$ 5,467	5.0%	7.0%
14	\$ 5,297	\$ 5,570	5.2%	7.3%
15	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
16	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
17	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
18	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
19	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
20	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
21	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
22	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
23	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
24	\$ 5,388	\$ 5,682	5.5%	5.5%
25+	\$ 5,595	\$ 5,900	5.5%	5.5%
Average Salary Increase			8.0%	
Cost to Implement			\$528.0M	

Should be 5.5% increase! enter in Fiscal research document

Fiscal Year 2027 Local Budget Appropriation Request to the County Commissioners
Vance County Schools presented the Fiscal Year 2027 Local Budget Appropriation Request to the County Commissioners on May 12, 2026 during their work session.

School Nutrition Department Administrative Review

The School Nutrition Department had a five-year review from the NCDPI the week of May 18, 2026. There were no preliminary financial finds but five procedural findings were required.

A Called Finance Board of Education Meeting is scheduled on June 25, 2026 at 10:00 to close the fiscal year.

Building & Grounds

Mr. Perdue shared information from the May 28, 2026 meeting. Production Painting will complete summer painting at VCMS and roofing bids will seek approval at the end of year closeout finance meeting. Six new drivers completed the driving class. Packing materials will be delivered the first week of June. The department completed 2,732 work orders for the month of June. The Henderson-Vance Recreation department is requesting a ten-year lease extension of the Aycock Recreation Center facility but at this time this item will be tabled until the next meeting.

Policy

Mr. Horner shared information from the May 28, 2026 meeting. The 1000 Policy Series: Governing Principles, didn't have any changes. The NC School Board Association spring custom policy substantive updates are listed below for approval.

Policy Code: 4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices – Tabled for July meeting

Policy Code: 2330 Board Meeting Agenda

Policy Code: 7263 COVID-19 Employee Pandemic Safety Mitigation

Policy Code: 7325 Video and Audio Recordings by Employees – New policy; 30 Day Review

Upon motion by Mr. Oxendine and seconded by Mrs. Cobb, the Board unanimously (6-1) approved Policy Code: 2330 Board Meeting Agenda and Policy Code: 7263 COVID-19 Employee Pandemic Safety Mitigation. Policy Code: 7325 Video and Audio Recordings by Employees is a new policy and will be posted for a 30-day review on the district website.

Curriculum

Dr. Ross-Putney shared information from the May 28, 2026 meeting. A total of 386 contact hours was logged with 159 staff members earning CEU credits for the month of April. The preliminary Class of 2026 graduation outcomes were shared. Non-Vance County Early College students earning both a diploma and an associate degree were not included in the outcomes but was shared separately. In the future, traditional high school students will be recognized during graduation ceremonies who earned both credentials. A comprehensive review of instructional resources and subscriptions has been conducted and presented to the Board for approval. The district will continue using CKLA for K-5 literacy and discontinue Ready ELA for grades K-8 due to the availability of other core and supplemental resources. I-Ready diagnostic assessments for K-8 reading and math will be maintained. Additional courses and elective offerings for V3A will be determined over the summer. The district is in the third year of its device lease agreement and is evaluating future options, including the purchase of replacement devices to replenish inventory and address damaged equipment. Device collection is underway for secondary schools and are scheduled June 1-4 for V3A and STEM.

Further information on the rationale for restructuring the EC continuum of services plan was shared. To improve service delivery and maximize resources, the district proposed a Regional Service Delivery Model that would group elementary schools into centralized service hubs, allowing more efficient staffing and enhanced access to specialized supports. Speech-language services would remain at student's home schools, while Clarke would serve as the centralized site for Autism services. The EC Restructuring Plan was recommended for approval.

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Mrs. Hartness, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved option 2 of the 2026-2027 EC Restructuring Plan.

VCS exceeded state targets for Non-Traditional Completers and Postsecondary Credentials, earning 1,300 industry credentials during the year. The district didn't meet state goals in Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Program Quality/Proof of Learning, but state-determined thresholds were met in Reading and Mathematics. Priorities were reviewed for the 2026-2027 CTE Plan and highlighted the implementation of the En-Tech Mobile Lab to expand student access to career exploration experiences. The CTE Plan was recommended for approval.

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Mrs. Gooche, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the 2026-2027 CTE Plan.

Community & Business Relations

Mrs. Sandlin shared information from the May 28, 2026 meeting. The communications team worked on covering end-of-year events and coverage of the raised garden beds at STEM, Clarke, Pinkston, and Aycock. Other celebrations included the Mentor and Beginning Teacher of the Year, Brick Ed State Competition, Educators of Excellence Banquet, and high school graduations. Analytics and insights showed people viewed the Interim Superintendent Announcement, Pinkston Street Soul Steppers, NCHSAA State Track Meet and the Caver/New Hope Walk Down Memory Lane. The 2025-2026 athletic recap and field trip summary was shared. Summer meals program sign up has over 600 children on the list. Distribution will be at VCMS this summer. The district will sponsor a "Back to School Bash" at VCMS Stadium on July 30 from 3:00-6:30.

New Business - None

Field Trip Request

Vance County High Class will travel on June 11-13, 2026 to North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC for a football camp.

Mr. Oxendine shared his concerns that other school sports will have an opportunity to offer summer camps and are privy to the funds available from athletics.

Upon motion by Mrs. White and seconded by Dr. Perry, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Vance County School Football camp to NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC.

Transfer Requests

Dr. Bennett presented three requests to transfer into the district.

Upon motion by Mr. Oxendine and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the three transfers requests.

Interim Superintendent

Dr. Bennett passed the "Pencil" on to Dr. Ross-Putney and sharing that she should keep learning sharp, keep moral compass sharp, keep eraser ready to get and try again, and to keep writing the VCS story as she becomes the interim superintendent starting August 1, 2026.

Upon motion by Mrs. White and second by Mrs. Hartness, the Board unanimously (7-0) voted to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2026 executive session.

Being no further business, upon motion by Mr. Oxendine and seconded by Mrs. White, the Board voted unanimously (7-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

BOARD CHAIR, AYANA F. LEWIS

INTERIM SECRETARY, DESTINEY ROSS-PUTNEY