

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
August 24, 2026 Regular Meeting**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in closed session on Monday, August 24, 2026 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Pasquotank Learning Campus and was available via livestream at www.ecpps.k12.nc.us

1. Meeting Call to Order by Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Angela Cobb.

2. Closed Session

A motion was made by Vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present, as confirmed by a show of hands 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.

The following Board Members were present: Chair Angela Cobb, Vice Chair Pam Pureza, Valerie Bogues, and Sharon Warden. Angelique Boylan, Tommy Old, and Dr. Shelia Williams were not present.

The following staff members were present: Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent and Zachary Robeson, School Board Attorney, and Rachael Haines. The Board and staff discussed confidential matters during the closed session.

3. Return to Open Session

A welcome was extended to all attendees and the meeting was officially opened at 6:04 p.m.

The following Board Members were present and constituted a quorum:

Chair Angela Cobb	Tommy Old (not present)
Vice Chair Pam Pureza	Sharon Warden
Valerie Bogues	Dr. Shelia Williams (not present)
Angelique Boylan (not present)	

Others present were Zachary Robeson, School Board Attorney, Dr. Keith Parker, Superintendent, Rachael Haines, Meredith Collins, Heather Edmisten, Nina Griffin, Amanada Hill, Wilma Jordan, Morgan Murray, Renee Tamarelli, Candy Tilley, Dr. Katina Waples, Simona White, Kim Whitehurst, and Terrie Wilson.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Cobb and followed by a moment of silence.

5. Roll Call

Amy Bundy called the roll and recorded members in attendance for the meeting.

6. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Valerie Bagues read the ethics statement and allowed members the opportunity to identify any conflicts or potential conflicts. The record reflects that no conflicts exist.

7. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

8. Public Comment (Citizen Comments to the Board)

No individuals signed up for public comment.

9. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Parker welcomed the three newly appointed student Board members for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Jayden Mendoza, from Pasquotank County High School
- Anylah Spencer, from Northeastern High School
- Victoria Stafford, from Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Early College

The student board member introduced themselves and shared observations regarding the beginning of the school year and their respective school communities.

Dr. Parker reported on the successful opening day for traditional schools throughout the district. He expressed appreciation to school and district staff, transportation personnel, child nutrition staff, community partners school leaders, educators, and others who contributed to the opening of school.

Dr. Parker reported that all 13 schools and 14 programs were visited on opening day and that feedback from staff and families indicated a smooth and successful start to the school year.

Dr. Parker discussed transportation operations, noting that the district began the school year with eight fewer bus drivers than the previous year. Routes have been consolidated and some double runs implemented. The district is continuing to work to assign students awaiting bus routes and encouraged families to use the electronic transportation application available through the district website.

Dr. Parker also highlighted several additional district activities and accomplishments, including:

- A visit by Congressman Don Davis to Elizabeth City Early College;
- Completion of the repaving and striping of the parking lot at P.W. Moore Elementary School;

- A back-to-school supply drive and distribution of donated school supplies;
- The Elizabeth City State University Back-to-School Bash; and
- Community partnerships supporting the opening of the school year.

A video highlighting the first day of school throughout the district was shown.

Dr. Parker concluded his report by encouraging the district to maintain the positive energy and momentum established at the beginning of the new school year.

10. Student Board Members' Report

The student Board members shared observations concerning the opening of the 2026-2027 school year.

Anylah Spencer reported that her school community had a positive and energetic start to the year and expressed enthusiasm about gathering student feedback.

Victoria Stafford discussed the positive energy among students and reflected on the opportunity to meet with Congressman Don Davis and engage in conversations regarding education and public service.

The Board welcomed the student Board members and expressed appreciation for their participation. The student Board members were invited to provide additional reports at future Board meetings.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The items listed on the consent agenda for approval include the July 27, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; a Crowdfunding Request; the Fundraiser Report; the Purchasing Report; the Rental Report; and the Superintendent's Recommendations for Personnel, including a contract amendment for the Superintendent.

A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

11. Items for Information

Land Use Study

Matthew Palmer and members of the North Carolina State University team presented the results of a comprehensive land use study for Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County.

The presentation addressed residential development, demographic trends, projected student enrollment, school utilization, and facility capacity over the next ten years.

Key findings included:

- Residential development is a significant driver of future student enrollment.

- Thirty-two pending residential developments were identified, representing more than 4,800 additional homes.
- Significant residential development is concentrated in the Halstead Boulevard Extension corridor and the Central Elementary School attendance zone.
- Five of the district's six elementary schools currently operate below 90% utilization.
- Middle school utilization is projected to remain below 75% over the next five years.
- High school utilization is projected to remain below that level for the foreseeable future/
- The study included a detailed review of classroom use and school capacity and resulted in an updated classroom inventory and capacity analysis.

The Board was advised that Central Elementary School is currently over capacity and is projected to remain over capacity in future years. Dr. Parker explained that the study is intended to inform future solutions and planning.

As a short-term response to Central Elementary's capacity needs, a modular unit containing four classrooms is expected to be installed at the school.

Dr. Parker also noted that the district has significant available capacity at its middle and high schools and that projected enrollment growth may not be distributed evenly among the district's schools.

The Board received the presentation and had no questions at the conclusion of the presentation.

12. Unfinished Business

2026 Spring Policy Updates

Rachael Haines presented revisions to Board policies that had been presented for the first reading at the July 27, 2026 meeting.

A motion to approve the policy revisions as presented was made by Valerie Bogues, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

13. New Business

A. NCSBA Board of Directors Nominations

Chair Cobb presented information regarding the opportunity for the Board to nominate an individual to serve as a possible member of the North Carolina School Boards Association Board of Directors.

Sharon Warden was nominated as the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education's nominee. Vice Chair Pureza made a motion to approve the nomination of Sharon Warden, Valerie Bogues seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

B. 2026-2027 Budget Resolution

Candy Tilley presented the 2026-2027 Budget Resolution for Board approval. She reported that the district had been operating under a continuing resolution and had received planning allotments and initial allotments from the state.

The proposed budget resolution totaled \$89,330,000.

A motion to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Resolution as presented was made by vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

C. Consolidated Plan

Kim Whitehurst requested Board approval to submit the 2026-2027 Federal Programs Consolidated Application covering Titles I, II, III, and IV.

The application is intended to support student academic standards, teacher quality, and supplemental educational opportunities.

A motion to approve the consolidated plan as presented was made by Vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Valerie Bagues, and passed unanimously by those present.

D. Intercom System Replacement PLC & PWM

Heather Edmisten requested approval of two quotes for intercom system updates at P.W. Moore Elementary School and the Pasquotank Learning Campus.

The proposed project includes cabling, equipment, installation, labor, initial setup, and programming. The upgrades are intended to support communication and safety functions at both locations.

A motion to approve the intercom replacement at the Pasquotank Learning Campus and P.W. Moore Elementary School was made by Valerie Bagues, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

E. PLC Furniture

Wilma Jordan requested approval of funding for furniture for professional development rooms at the Pasquotank Learning Campus.

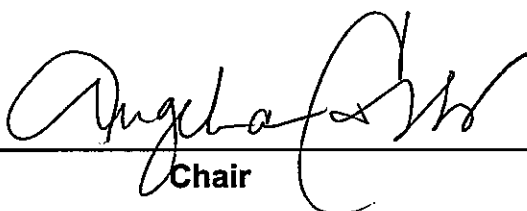
The request included furniture for four rooms that will be used for professional development and other opportunities for district staff and community members. Supporting funding information and a presentation regarding the proposed furniture were provided to the Board.

A motion to approve the Pasquotank Learning Campus furniture request was made by Vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Sharon Warden, and passed unanimously by those present.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn the July 27, 2026 meeting of the Board was made by Vice Chair Pureza, seconded by Valerie Bogues, and passed unanimously by those present.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

	
Chair	Secretary