

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Technology Center
800 North Oakum St.
Edenton, NC 27932

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Center. The following Board Members were present: Chairman Gene Jordan, Vice-Chair Jean Bunch, Ricky Browder, Gil Burroughs, Paul Clifton, Maxine Mason, Joan White and Superintendent Dr. Michael Sasscer. Social distancing guidelines were followed.

Others attending were: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services Dr. Jana Rawls; Board Attorney Will Crowe; and Board Clerk Sarah Hare.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jordan.

Mr. Browder gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Jordan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Mrs. Bunch to approve the agenda as amended to include a closed session. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Sasscer presented his monthly report including the following items:

Chowan Middle School recently welcomed back in-person learning under Plan A. Plan A allows for students to ride school buses and learn in classrooms with minimal social distancing.

House Bill 82 - "Summer Learning Choice for NC Families" requires school systems to identify students at risk of failure and offer them 150 hours of summer instruction. The

program will be paid for primarily with the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Funds provided by the federal government. Our school and district leadership teams are meeting to identify eligible students and connect with community partners to design a robust summer experience for our children.

Since the March Board Meeting, members of our senior leadership team have met with staff to share changes for how 10-month employees will be paid. State Employees Credit Union has also met with two of our four schools to discuss programs that the credit union offers.

Dr. Sasscer is continuing to research call-in options for board meetings and will report back to the board with more information.

Teacher Appreciation week is May 3 - 7. During the month of May, WAVY-TV will tell stories that highlight teachers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make sure their students are thriving despite the COVID-19 pandemic. We are very excited that our very own Ms. Heather Terrell, a fourth grade teacher at D.F. Walker Elementary School will be featured on this program. Ms. Terrell embraced remote learning when we first went out with COVID, as she immediately began implementing technology skills into her own classroom and leading her peers. Ms. Terrell made home visits, put signs in students' yards to recognize their achievements, held a picture day outside of the school and also made positive behavior rewards available for her remote learners.

PUBLIC BOARD DIALOGUE: There were no requests to address the Board.

REPORT:

Edenton-Chowan Chamber Awards Presentation - Ms. Susan Creed, Executive Director of the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, presented the Board of Education with the Community Champion Award.

Board of Education/Board of County Commissioners Joint Committee on High School Replacement Update - Mr. Jordan, Mr. Browder and Mr. Clifton gave the Board an update from the recent Board of Education/Board of County Commissioners Joint Committee meeting.

CONSIDER:

High School Construction Project - Dr. Sasscer led the Board in a discussion regarding the high school building project. After the discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Browder to recommend that the County Commissioners fund Phase 1 and 2 of the John A. Holmes High School building project in the amount of thirty five million dollars, for a total project cost of fifty million dollars. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried 6-1. Gil Burroughs was opposed.

2021-2022 Budget - Dr. Sasscer, Ms. Emma Berry, Chief Technology Officer, and Ms. Sheila Evans, Chief Academic Officer, presented the following items:

- K-3 Class Size
- Capital Outlay Budget Requests
- School-Based and Departmental Current Expense Requests
- 2021-2022 Local Budget Request

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the 2021-2022 Budget as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

Psychology Contract - Ms. Jamie Bowers, Director of Exceptional Children, presented a contract from North Coastal Psychological Services, PLLC for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Browder to approve the contract as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Mason. The motion carried unanimously.

Tyler Agreement and SOW - Dr. Jana Rawls, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services, presented a contract from Tyler Technologies for the school business modernization project. A motion was made by Mr. Clifton to approve the contract as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Burroughs. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunch at 9:30 p.m. to enter into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter as permitted by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6). A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 9:43 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the following items on the consent agenda, to also include a personnel addendum. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

1 - Minutes

- March 2, 2021 Board Minutes

2 - Personnel Report

- April 13, 2021 Personnel Report

3 - Financial Report

- School Board Report - March 2021

4 - Administrator Contracts

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/COMMENTS

Mr. Browder commented on the following:

- Copiers at John A. Holmes High School
- Resolution Honoring Anne-Marie Knighton

With there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Mason. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Michael Sasscer, Ed.D., Secretary