

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, August 11, 2020
6:30 p.m.

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

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Department. The following Board Members were present: Vice-Chair Jean Bunch, Ricky Browder, Gil Burroughs, Maxine Mason, Joan White, and Superintendent Dr. Michael Sasscer. Gene Jordan and Paul Clifton were absent. Social distancing guidelines were followed.

Others attending were: Dr. Jana Rawls, Executive Director of Human Resources; Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer; Will Crowe, Attorney; and Sarah Hare, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Bunch.

The invocation was given by Mrs. White.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chair Bunch.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the agenda as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

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

REPORT:

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

During the month of July, Edenton-Chowan Schools offered three very important services to our children. First we provided free meals to children ages 1-18. Second, our K-4 teachers provided reading instruction as part of our summer Jump Start program. Our Virtual Literacy Academy served over 75 children by providing four hours a week of 1:1 reading instruction through Zoom. Lastly, John A. Holmes High School offered credit recovery to students needing additional support in: Math I, II, III, Physical Science, English III, American History II, Earth Environmental Science, Civics, and Chemistry.

With the support of the Board of Education, a guidebook entitled "A Day in the Life of an ECPS Student" was created to provide guidance to families for the upcoming school year. This guide outlines everything we are doing based on current recommendations, along with what we need families to do, to maximize a safe and healthy learning environment for all children and staff. We knew there would be questions, so we invested time to make ourselves available to our community to answer questions about how school will open and help families with enrolling their child(ren) into either the face-to-face on-site learning model or remote learning only. We hosted two Facebook Live events where we answered close to 100 questions submitted from our families. Additionally, we set-up pop-up enrollment tents at five locations across the county to increase accessibility.

Edenton-Chowan Schools is gifted with talented and dedicated teachers who passionately serve our children with great pride! Colleagues from each school honor one of their peers to represent them as their teacher of the year. We had four outstanding selections. From White Oak, Ms. Jennifer Attkisson, D.F. Walker, Ms. Jennifer White, Chowan Middle, Ms. Carisa Copeland and John A. Holmes, Ms. Chelsea Leary. Every year one teacher is recognized by an esteemed panel of former educators as our District Teacher of the Year! It is with extreme joy that we announce White Oak Elementary teacher Ms. Jennifer Attkisson as our District Teacher of the Year! Her instructional prowess, digital innovation and commitment to coach others to better their best is inspiring! Congratulations Ms. Attkisson!

Our school family remains heartbroken by the loss of one of our precious gems. Makiia attended D.F. Walker Elementary School where she was a rising 4th grader. Makiia had dreams of becoming a professional fashion designer for a non-profit organization. Makiia had a heart of gold and left a lasting impression on everyone she encountered. Makiia extracted love from everyone with her bubble personality which just drew everyone to her. She had a smile that would brighten anyone's day. We continue to

offer our condolences to the Hunter/Slade family and lift up prayers for peace, comfort and healing.

Consolidated Data Report - Dr. Jana Rawls, Executive Director of Human Resources, shared the 2018-2019 Consolidated Data Report with Board Members and answered questions.

Citizens Advisory Group - Dr. Sasscer shared information regarding the Citizens Advisory Group.

District 1 Meeting - Ms. Sarah Hare, Board Clerk, shared information regarding the upcoming District 1 Meeting.

Data Review - Dr. Sasscer presented information from the 2019-2020 North Carolina Teacher Working Conditions Survey and answered questions from Board Members.

CONSIDER:

Board Policy Revisions / New Policies (First Reading) - Dr. Sasscer presented the following Board Policy Revisions/New Board Policies for a first reading:

- *3420 504/ADA Policy*
- *4000 Attendance*
- *4210 Code of Student Conduct*
- *4215 Weapons, Bombs Threats, Terrorists Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety*
- *4405/5120 Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law*
- *4406/5122 Title IX Sexual Harassment - Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process*
- *4407/5123 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process*
- *4408/5124 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited*
- *4409/5126 Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace*
- *4415/5121 Title IX NonDiscrimination on the Basis of Sex*
- *5135 Staff - Student Relations*

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to temporarily approve the Title IX Policies as per Board Policy 1500. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously. The formal adoption of these policies will take place at the September Board Meeting, pending Board approval.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the following items on the consent agenda. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Mason. The motion carried unanimously.

1 - Minutes

- July 7, 2020 Board Minutes
- July 23, 2020 Board Minutes

2 - Personnel Report

- August 4, 2020 Personnel Report
- Personnel Addendum

3 - Financial Report

- School Board Report - August 2020

4 - School Resource Officer Agreement with Chowan County Sheriff's Department

A motion was made by Mrs. White at 7:27 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 Mr. Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 8:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mason to accept Dr. Sasscer's recommendation to appoint Dr. Jana Rawls as the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Burroughs. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Browder to approve the contract of Dr. Michael Sasscer with an annual compensation in the amount of \$130,000.00. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Browder to approve moving expenses for Dr. Sasscer in the amount up to \$2,000 with the understanding that the Board will revisit this item if moving expenses should exceed that amount. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/COMMENTS

Mrs. Bunch commented on the following:

- Remote learning

Mr. Browder commented on the following:

- School opening procedures

Mrs. White commented on the following:

- Opening of schools

Mr. Burroughs commented on the following:

- Remote learning
- Well check questions at bus stops
- Masks
- John A. Holmes High School Project Architect
- Tennis Courts/Scout Hut/Armory

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. White. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Michael Sasscer, Ed.D., Secretary