

EDENTON-CHOWAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, December 7, 2009, 6:30 pm
Central Office Conference Room

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 7, 2009, 6:30 pm, Central Office Conference Room with the following members present: Chairman Ricky Browder, John Guard, Gil Burroughs, Jean Bunch, Win Dale, Kay Wright, and Gene Jordan. Others present were: Superintendent Allan Smith, Michelle Maddox, Nelle Hyatt, Beth Gagnon, Rebecca Bunch, James Butler, Will Crowe, and Harriet Sawyer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ricky Browder. The invocation was given by Jean Bunch.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A motion was made by Gene Jordan, seconded by John Guard and carried unanimously to elect Ricky Browder as chairman of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

A motion was made by Ricky Browder, seconded by Gil Burroughs and carried unanimously to elect Gene Jordan as vice-chairman of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

PUBLIC/BOARD DIALOGUE: Mr. James Butler is a volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Butler helps 6-8 year children with homework assignments. His concern is that the students after completing their math assignments erase any markings on their paper. The students told him that the teacher tells them to erase all markings before turning in their homework. Dr. Smith will check with the school on this matter.

REPORT:

1. **School Messenger Report.** Nelle Hyatt and Harriet Sawyer updated the Board on the new parent/staff alert system. School Messenger provides a web based access for parents and staff so that they can manage their notification preferences and review previous messages. Contact Manager allows parents and staff to select how messages are received either through home phone, cell phone, and email or text message. If a parent does not use the Contact Manager, the contact information in NCWise is used to notify the parent.
2. **Location of January 11, 2010 Meeting.** The January 11, 2010 Board of Education will be held at Chowan Middle School. We will recognize the Teachers of the Year, Administrator of the Year, and National Board Certified

Teachers beginning with a reception at 6:00 pm and the regular meeting at 6:30 pm.

3. **Board of Education Retreat.** The Board of Education scheduled their quarterly meeting for February 15, 2010. The morning session will include a presentation from the high school on the high school curriculum.
4. **Race to the Top.** Dr. Smith gave an overview of the present administration's education policy with a focus on the Race to the Top initiative. It is a competitive grant of \$4.35 billion program funded through the Recovery Act for all states. There will be two opportunities to apply: Phase I January 19, 2010 and Phase 2 June 1, 2010. North Carolina will be applying in Phase I. North Carolina will be eligible for \$200 - \$400 million and for Edenton-Chowan Schools \$400,000 over a four year period. To qualify for the money states must meet four assurances: (1) adopting standards and assessments that prepare students for success in college and the workplace; (2) recruiting, rewarding and retaining effective teachers and principals; (3) building data systems that measure student success and (4) turning around the lowest performing schools. Local school systems are asked to sign a memorandum of understanding agreeing to the state's plan. The signatures must include the Board Chair, Superintendent, and the local NCAE President. Two of the requirements that has been the most talked about is expanding the number of charter schools and the addition of a student growth component to the teacher evaluation process.

CONSIDER:

1. **2010-2011 School Calendar.** Dr. Smith presented the 2010-2011 school calendar for Board approval. The calendar committee is made up of a parent, teacher, and administrator from each school. The calendar look similar to past calendars but there are some differences. The high school recommended a change from six-weeks grading periods to nine-weeks. This would allow all of the schools to be on the same grading period, reduce the number of early release days, and allow the high school to take advantage of the Protected Teacher Workday at the end of the academic quarter as required by the state calendar law. The high school recommended progress reports be provided to students and parents within each grading period. The school system is still considering options for the testing schedule at the high school. A motion to approve the 2010-2011 school calendar was made by Gene Jordan, seconded by Jean Bunch and passed unanimously. **(Attachment #1)**
2. **Policy 5300: Standards for Retention, Career Status and Nonrenewal.** Michelle Maddox presented for the Board's first reading an amendment to Policy 5300. The policy is being amended to reflect changes in terminology from the old teacher evaluation system to the new evaluation instrument. **(Attachment #2)**

3. **Policy 5303: Nonrenewal of Probationary Teachers.** Michelle Maddox presented for the Board's first reading to a new Policy 5303 to address new legislation for the nonrenewal of probationary teachers. **(Attachment #3)**
4. **Policy 4400/5125: Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying.** Dr. Smith presented for the Board's first reading an amendment to Policy 4400/5125 that addresses requirements of recent state legislation. **(Attachment #4)**
5. **Policy 4410/5130: Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedures.** Dr. Smith presented for the Board's first reading an amendment to Policy 4410/5130 that addresses requirements of recent state legislation. **(Attachment #5)**

Chairman Ricky Browder requested a motion to adjourn the regular session meeting to enter into closed session to discuss personnel. A motion was made by John Guard, seconded by Win Dale to adjourn the regular session meeting and enter into closed session to discuss personnel pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 115C-319 and 115C-321.

The meeting returned to open session with Chairman Ricky Browder calling the meeting to order.

APPROVE:

A motion was made by Gil Burroughs, seconded by Kay Wright to approve the following items by consent agenda:

1. Minutes
2. Personnel **(Attachment #6)**
3. Financial Report **(Attachment #7)**
4. Overnight Trip Notification **(Attachment #8)**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricky Browder, Chairman

Allan T. Smith, Secretary