

EDENTON-CHOWAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, February 8, 6:30 pm
Central Office Conference Room

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 8, 2010, 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, Kathy Ford, Clevonte Holley, Austin Browder, Stephen Karl, Colleen Karl, Denise Browder, Edwina Holley, Jamie Gillespie, Sheila Evans, Virginia Jones, Sonya Rinehart, Brad Bass, Hackney High, and Harriet Sawyer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ricky Browder. The invocation was given by Gil Burroughs.

PUBLIC/BOARD DIALOGUE: None.

REPORT:

1. **Learn and Serve Grant.** Steve Karl and students from the high school, Kathy Ford, Clevonte Holley, and Austin Browder provided an overview of the Earth Science Partners program. The 2009-2010 Learn and Serve Grant focuses on giving back to the community through mentorship programs and co-learning experiences for high school students. 9th grade earth/environmental students worked as mentors with 5th grade science students. The 9th grade students helped plan and presented two units of study on weather, climate and landforms during the first semester. All 200 5th grade students participated in the hour long activities presented by 9th grade students.
2. **Energy Efficiency Grant.** Edenton-Chowan Schools has submitted an application for the maximum amount of \$200,000 through the North Carolina Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant program. The federal funds are part of a block grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The total amount of funds for North Carolina is \$58.3 million. \$6.3 million has been designated to be distributed competitively in sub grants to public schools, community colleges, and other local public authorities to implement energy efficiency measures. The NC Energy office provided audits at no cost. The school system requested an audit for all four schools. If the proposal is approved, the funds will be allocated to the school system based on the results from the audit. **(Attachment #1)**
3. **Federal Relations Network Conference.** John Guard reported on the Federal Relations Network Conference hosted by the National School Boards Association that he attended last week in Washington, DC. School Board members from

across the country are given the opportunity to meet with their congressional representatives to discuss federal education issues. **(Attachment #2)**

4. **Board of Education Retreat.** The Board retreat is scheduled for February 15, 2010, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at D.F. Walker/White Oak Elementary School. During the morning session, Jamie Gillespie and Todd Korbusieski will give a report of the high school and discuss the vision for the future for the high school. The afternoon session the Board will discuss the 2010-2011 budget.
5. **List of Licensed Personnel Eligible for Career Status.** Michelle Maddox presented the List of Licensed Personnel Eligible for Career Status for the 2009-2010 school year. Under the provisions of GS115C-325, the Fair Employment and Dismissal Act, the Board of Education is required to vote to award career status or to non-renew the contracts by the end of the current school year. Each eligible employee must be notified of the Board of Education's decision to grant or not to grant career status no later than June 15, 2010. **(Attachment #3)**

CONSIDER:

1. **Grades 3-8 Testing Calendar.** The elementary school and middle school have requested a change in this year's End of Grading testing. The schools are requesting to move the testing from May 19-21 to May 24-26, 2010. Since the testing days are early release days it will require a change in the school calendar only for the elementary schools and middle school. A motion was made by John Guard, seconded by Gene Jordan to approve the change for End of Grade testing to May 24-26, 2010 which will be early release days. The motion passed unanimously. **(Attachment #4)**

APPROVE:

A motion was made by Gene Jordan seconded by Gil Burroughs to approve the following items by consent agenda:

1. Minutes
2. Personnel **(Attachment #5)**
3. Financial Report **(Attachment #6)**

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS/REMARKS:

Board member Gil Burroughs commented that students learn at different rates and the school system should provide an environment that promotes successful learning for all students.

Mr. Burroughs also commented that he felt that too much emphasis is placed on getting students ready for End of Grade and End of Course tests and students are not able to develop the skills needed to be critical thinkers.

Mr. Burroughs would like the school system to look into the use of thin client.

Dr. Smith informed the Board that Chowan Middle School has been selected as a "School to Watch." Chowan Middle School is one of three North Carolina middle schools to receive this honor this year. Schools across the nation are selected as being well on their way to demonstrating high performance.

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

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricky Browder, Chairman

Allan T. Smith, Secretary