

Edenton-Chowan Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, February 4, 2025  
6:30 p.m.

Professional Development Center  
110 Blade Street  
Edenton, NC 27932

## MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Professional Development Center. The following Board Members were present: Chairman George Lewis, Vice-Chair Sheila Evans, Sherronne Battle, Ricky Browder, Paul Clifton, Lisa Perry, Joan White, and Superintendent Tammi Ward.

Others attending the meeting were: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services Dr. Jana Rawls, Directors representing Central Services, Community Members, Student Board Members Olivia Armstead and Sela McNair, Board Attorney Hack High, and Board Clerk Sarah Hare.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis.

Ms. Battle gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Chowan Middle School.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Clifton to approve the agenda as amended to include the following agenda item:

- February 14, 2025 BOE Work Session

A second to the motion was made by Ms. Evans. The motion carried unanimously.

Student Board Member Report - Ms. Armstead and Ms. McNair presented their monthly Student Board Member Report.

Superintendent Ward shared the Superintendent's Report to include the following information:

- Highlights from the Chowan County NAACP Banquet
- Central Services employees Natalie Phelps and Donna Harrell have been accepted into the NCASBO School Business Management Academy Managers Certification Program
- February 10-14, 2025 is Love the Bus Week
- 2024-25 Middle of the Year Data

Students and staff from Chowan Middle School (CMS) shared information about the CMS Peer Mentoring Program.

There were no public comments.

REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

Construction Update - Mr. Chris Brabble, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, shared an update and aerial video of the high school construction progress and answered questions from Board Members.

December 2024 Financial Reports - Ms. Sandy Pittman, Chief Finance Officer, shared the December 2024 Financial Reports with the Board and answered questions.

CONSIDER FOR ACTION - REQUIRES A MOTION AND VOTE:

Auditor Contract - Ms. Sandy Pittman, Chief Finance Officer, shared the Anderson Smith & Wike PLLC Audit Contract for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Ms. Battle to approve the contract as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Clifton. The motion passed unanimously.

R&R Lottery Fund Distribution Request - Ms. Sandy Pittman, Chief Finance Officer, shared the R&R Lottery Funding Distribution Request for the CMS Surveillance Project that was approved in June 2024 and completed in October 2024. A motion was made by Ms. Perry to approve the R&R Lottery Fund Distribution Request as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Clifton. The motion carried unanimously.

Grades 7-9 Football Model - Sonya Rinehart, Principal, John A. Holmes High School; Mr. Wes Mattera, Athletic Director, John A. Holmes High School; Mr. Paul Hoggard, Head Football Coach, John A. Holmes High School; and Ms. Courtney Phelps, Athletic Trainer, John A. Holmes High School, shared information regarding the Grades 7-9

Football Model and answered questions from Board Members. A motion was made by Ms. Perry to move forward with exploring the Grades 7-9 Football Model option. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion carried unanimously.

Device Refresh - Ms. Samantha Sissell, Technology Director, presented a device refresh quote to the Board and made a recommendation to purchase 600 Chromebook student devices for John A. Holmes High School at a total price not to exceed \$208,000 from local PRC 015 Technology 1:1 Sustainability Funds. A motion was made by Ms. White to approve the recommendation as presented. A second to the motion was made by Ms. Evans. The motion carried unanimously.

2024-25 School Calendar Revision - Ms. Tammi Ward, Superintendent, presented a revision to the 2024-25 School Calendar and made a recommendation to change January 24, 2025 to an Optional K-12 Teacher Workday and to change the February 28, 2025 K-12 Early Release Day to a full instructional day. A motion was made by Ms. Battle to approve Ms. Ward's recommendation as presented. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion carried unanimously.

2025-2026 School Calendar Revision - Ms. Tammi Ward, Superintendent, presented a revision to the 2025-26 School Calendar and made a recommendation to add March 31, 2025 as an additional instructional day. A motion was made by Mr. Clifton to approve Ms. Ward's recommendation as presented. A second to the motion was made by Ms. Evans. The motion carried unanimously.

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Ms. Evans to approve the following items on the consent agenda. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 1 - Minutes

- January 14, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

#### 2 - Personnel Report

- February 4, 2025 Personnel Report

#### 3 - Centrix Proposal for HVAC System

There were no additional Board Member remarks or comments.

A motion was made by Ms. Perry at 8:05 p.m. to enter into a closed session to discuss a confidential matter and a personnel matter as permitted by North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11 (a) (1), 143-318.11 (a) (6) . A second to the motion was made by Mr. Clifton. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 8:09 p.m.

February 14, 2025 Board of Education Work Session - Chairman Lewis made a recommendation to hold a Board Work Session on February 14, 2025 at 7am at the Broad Street Diner in Edenton. A motion was made by Ms. Perry to approve the Work Session as recommended by Mr. Lewis. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion passed 6-1. Mr. Browder was opposed.

With there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Perry to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Lewis, Chairman

Tammi Ward, Secretary