

Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education
Winter Quarterly Board Meeting
February 22, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Steven's Towing Conference Room
401 East Church Street
Edenton, NC 27932

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met for the Winter Quarterly Meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016, 9:00 am in the Conference Room of Steven's Towing located at 401 East Church Street, Edenton, NC. The following Board Members were present: Chairman John Guard, Vice Chairman Jean Bunch, Ricky Browder, Gil Burroughs, Glorious Elliott, Gene Jordan, Kay Wright and Superintendent Dr. Rob Jackson.

Others present were: Assistant Superintendent Tanya Turner; Director of Human Resources Michelle Maddox; White Oak Elementary School Principal Sheila Evans; Directors representing Central Services; Sheriff Dwayne Goodwin; Board Clerk Sarah Hare and other staff and community members.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Guard. Mr. Guard expressed his appreciation to Cy Rich and his son Simon Rich for allowing the Board to use their facility for the quarterly board meeting. Cy Rich also welcomed the Board.

An invocation was given by Ricky Browder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from White Oak Elementary School.

Mr. Guard asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended to include the following items:

- Invocation
- Pledge
- Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Glorious Elliott to approve the agenda as amended. A second to the motion was made by Jean Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

Chowan C.A.R.E.S. School Readiness Work Update - Dr. Allan Smith, Chairman of the Chowan C.A.R.E.S. School Readiness Program, provided information about the Chowan C.A.R.E.S. School Readiness Program and discussed the importance of early childhood education. Dr. Smith and members of the Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership answered questions from Board Members.

Pre-K Expansion - Sheila Evans, Principal of White Oak Elementary School, and Julie Privott, teacher at White Oak Elementary School, gave a presentation outlining the school's current Pre-K program and expressed the need to add additional Pre-K classes. Linda Bond, owner of Linda's Little Bit of Heaven child care facility, also commented on the need to expand the school's current Pre-K program. The Board supported the idea of possibly expanding the Pre-K program and encouraged Ms. Evans to continue researching costs and other factors that would be associated with adding additional Pre-K classes. This item will be brought back to the Board at a later date for further consideration.

Faculty Demographics - Michelle Maddox, Director of Human Resources, gave a presentation regarding faculty demographics and teacher recruitment challenges and answered questions from Board Members.

A motion was made by Gil Burroughs to recess the meeting for lunch. A second to the motion was made by Ricky Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gil Burroughs to return the meeting back to session. A second to the motion was made by Gene Jordan. The motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Maddox continued with the faculty demographics and teacher recruitment challenges presentation.

Mr. Guard asked the Board to postpone the next two items on the agenda, Approval of John A. Holmes High School Program of Studies and Volunteer Program Update, due to the lateness of the day. Dr. Jackson indicated that these items would be added to the March 1, 2016 Board Meeting agenda.

Energy Management - Dr. Jackson gave a presentation summarizing the utility costs for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and suggested steps that the Board and school system can take to possibly conserve energy and reduce utility costs. The Board requested that Dr. Jackson present the drafted energy management board policy to the Board at the March 1, 2016 Board Meeting for a first reading.

Budget Challenges and Priorities - Dr. Jackson gave a presentation on the budget challenges and priorities and answered questions from Board Members.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Jordan commented on the following:

- impact of future budget cuts

Mr. Burroughs commented on the following:

- student enrollment
- budget cuts
- fund balance

Dr. Jackson commented on the following:

- Legislative Agenda

With there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Gil Burroughs to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was made by Glorious Elliott. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Guard, Chairman

Rob Jackson, Secretary

