

**EDENTON-CHOWAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Monday, March 2, 2009, 6:00 pm**  
**College of the Albemarle Culinary Arts**  
**Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Department**

**MINUTES**

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 2, 2009, 6:00 pm, College of the Albemarle Culinary Arts, with the following members present: Chairman Ricky Browder, John Guard, Gil Burroughs, Jean Bunch, Win Dale, and Gene Jordan. Others present were: Superintendent Allan Smith, Rob Boyce, Michelle Maddox, Nelle Hyatt, Kerri Albertson, Lynn Hurdle-Winslow, Jim Turdici, Gus Eddins, Hackney High, and Harriet Sawyer.

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

**Budget Reduction Resolution.** Due to Chowan County's current budget situation with the loss of sales tax revenues the Chowan County Board of Commissioners implemented major reductions in budgeted appropriations for county departments and other funding agencies. Chairman Ricky Browder presented a Resolution to be presented to the Chowan County Board of Commissioners to help with the current budget crisis. The Chowan County Board of Commissioners has identified a reduction from the 2008-2009 Edenton-Chowan Schools local allocation in the amount of \$513,122 (\$413,122 from the current expense appropriation and \$100,000 from the special technology appropriation). A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Gene Jordan, seconded by John Guard who stated "he reluctantly seconded the motion in order to open the floor for discussion". After discussion the board feels that the first obligation is to our students. The goal of the Board is to minimize any negative effects on the instructional program. The Board feels that the school system has supported the county in helping during this financial crisis. The school system has returned \$513,122 to the county as they requested, delayed receipt of our monthly local allocation until December 2008 to help with the county's cash flow, reduced our staff for 2008-2009 and submitted reduced budget requests to the county. We have examined our budget and are making cuts to non-personnel spending, and suspended all new spending until we have a better idea of the financial situation. Many of the school systems across the state are experiencing the same reversion of funds. The Board did express their concern on how the impact of the county's situation will effect the school system as the Board prepares to develop the 2009-2010 budget. The school system has a reserve of nearly two million dollars that has taken 10 to 12 years to build up and uses the reserve funds only when necessary. The motion passed unanimously. **(Attachment #1)**

## REPORT:

1. **Presentation by College of the Albemarle.** Lynn Hurdle-Winslow, Dean of the COA-Chowan campus, and Jim Turdici, Business and Finance, COA in Elizabeth City, presented an overview of the programs offered by COA. In 2003 COA-Chowan campus moved to the old D.F. Walker Elementary School that is owned by Chowan County. State Bond Funds, Golden Leaf grant, Department of Transportation, and special partnerships helped with the costs for the renovation of the buildings. The first program to move into the newly renovated building was COA's Culinary program that moved into the existing cafeteria. Additional programs were moved to the new site and the name changed to the Edenton-Chowan Campus. The facility at the Village Shopping Center was renamed the Edenton-Chowan Campus Administration Building. The student enrollment has increased over the years. The Edenton-Chowan Campus offers several certificate and diploma programs as well as first year courses toward several degrees. COA and Edenton-Chowan Schools offer programs such as Early College where students earn high school and college credit at the same time. The Gateway to College program serves at-risk students who have dropped out of high school and gives the opportunity for student to earn a high school diploma and earn college credit.

A motion was made by Jean Bunch, seconded by Win Dale and passed unanimously to recess the meeting and reconvene at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Department.

**PUBLIC/BOARD DIALOGUE:** Nancy Morgan, Three Rivers Healthy Carolinians reported to Board members on the programs and activities offered by the Healthy Carolinians. The Three Rivers Healthy Carolinians is a collaborative community-based network dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents by addressing and evaluating community issues, supporting health education, awareness and resource accessibility. The membership consists of people from the schools, religious organizations, health care organizations and local government.

2. **Life Coaches.** Rob Boyce and Ann Bond gave a report on the data compiled for the dropout prevention program. Accomplishments made by the program for the first semester include 98.6% of students enrolled remained in school, 108 students served, positive program support with 3196 contacts made by the staff, improved student attendance, and improved reductions in out-of-school suspensions. The Life Coaches are working on ways to increase the percentage of enrollees passing 75% or more of their classes and increase the percentage of enrollees improving their GPA over the previous semester. **(Attachment #2)**
3. **Career Futures Forum.** Rob Boyce reported that the Career Futures Forum will be held March 26, 2009. The Forum will take the place of the Business Expo which has been held for the past ten years. Students will be taken to different businesses where they will be given hands-on activities based on 16 career

clusters. This will give students the opportunity to explore different career options. The Career Futures Forum is sponsored by the COA/Perquimans/Edenton-Chowan College Tech Prep Partnership, Edenton-Chowan Schools Career and Technical Education, College of the Albemarle, Edenton-Chowan Campus, and Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce.

4. **Preliminary List of Teachers Eligible for Career Status.** Michelle Maddox presented the preliminary list of teachers eligible for Career Status. It is a requirement that the list be presented to the Board of Education at least 30 days prior to any action. **(Attachment #3)**
5. **Budget Update.** Superintendent Allan Smith presented a summary of the 2008-2009 budget process. With the state reversion in the fall of 2008, the redirection of lottery proceeds and ADM capitol funds to meet the state shortfall, and the County's reduction of local appropriation to schools, the school system's loss of funds is \$754,392. The school system has taken the following steps to address the effects of the local budget reductions by limiting non-personnel costs such as travel, staff development, and the purchase of equipment, materials, and supplies. The Superintendent will meet with the principals to determine cost savings for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year as well develop a process to begin planning for the 2009-2010 budget. The school system has received the planning allotment for 2009-2010. The planning allotment is based on projected ADM and the current year's budget. Based on the planning allotment we will receive 3.5 less teacher units and the Low Wealth allotment is down by \$138,445 and Small County has an increase of \$31,708. The total difference based on the 2009-2010 planning allotment is \$377,765 less than last year. Dr. Smith recommends that the whole Board work on the budget as a "Committee of the Whole" rather than from the three committees as we have in prior years. **(Attachment #4)**

#### **CONSIDER:**

1. **Policy 3600-Student Promotion and Accountability.** Policy 3600-Student Promotion and Accountability was presented for approval by the Board. The Policy was presented last month for the first reading. The changes to the policy are to require the earning of the English I and Algebra I credits as part of the requirements to be considered as a sophomore, the number of electives have decreased from 14 to 13 to meet the state's requirement to add a fourth math, and students must complete a four course concentration in a pathway of their choice. A motion was made by John Guard, seconded by Win Dale and passed unanimously to approve the amendment to Policy 3600. **(Attachment #5)**
2. **Location of April 6, 2009 Board of Education Meeting.** The Board of Education approved changing the location of the April 6, 2009 meeting to D.F. Walker Elementary School. The D.F. Walker staff will make a presentation on the technology IMPACT Grant. The motion passed unanimously.

## **APPROVE:**

A motion was made by John Guard, seconded by Gil Burroughs and passed unanimously to approve the following items by consent agenda:

1. Minutes
2. Personnel **(Attachment #6)**
3. Financial Report **(Attachment #7)** (Budget Amendments will be made to adjust financial report for More-at-Four and purchase of bus)
4. Overnight Trip **(Attachment #8)**

## **BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS/REMARKS:**

Gil Burroughs commented on a recent article in the Chowan Herald on the "Senior of the Week". He told the newspaper that he wanted to major in engineering in college but could not because he needed a Physics class and the high school did not offer Physics. Mr. Burroughs stated that he would like the Board to address the Science Curriculum.

Win Dale expressed a concern on the timing of the County's request for the reversion of the \$513,122. Mr. Dale commented that he thought the board should have had more time to be able to study the request.

Mr. Dale thanked the Superintendent and Board chair for their good work on reaching an agreement with the County with the reduction of funds and the Board Resolution.

Gil Burroughs asked if we should inform the public the school system's needs.

It is the Board's responsibility to look at what is best for our students.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricky Browder, Chairman

Allan T. Smith, Secretary