

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, May 4, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Technology Center
800 North Oakum St.
Edenton, NC 27932

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Center. The following Board Members were present: Chairman Gene Jordan, Vice-Chair Jean Bunch, Ricky Browder, Gil Burroughs, Maxine Mason, Joan White and Superintendent Dr. Michael Sasscer. Paul Clifton was absent. Social distancing guidelines were followed.

Others attending were: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services Dr. Jana Rawls; Directors representing Central Services; Board Attorney Will Crowe; and Board Clerk Sarah Hare.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jordan.

Mrs. Bunch shared a moment of reflection.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Jordan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the agenda as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Mason. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Sasscer presented his monthly report including the following items:

On April 19, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to fully fund the John A. Holmes High School Project with a \$35 million USDA loan. This loan coupled with the \$15 million state grant will allow the \$50 million project to be constructed without interruption.

This week we are celebrating our teacher's and staff for their endless care and commitment to our children. This year has demonstrated the tremendous value teachers have in a child's life. They opened their classrooms, turned on their computers, and used the power of learning to keep us together.

A huge shout out to our community partners, Ms. Katie Milligan and White Oak Elementary School for hosting a successful "Vehicle Day" - COVID style. Students marveled at the emergency vehicles, farm equipment, street sweep, and our very own trolley to name a few. The goal to promote career awareness among our students and give them an opportunity to "touch a truck" and learn about the career opportunities available to them was achieved.

More than 400 bills filed in the N.C. General Assembly since January hold a potential impact for North Carolina public schools and their personnel. Topics include, but are not limited to, expansion of private school vouchers, early childhood literacy reforms, testing and accountability changes, and legislation affecting school financial operations, the state budget and school personnel compensation and benefits.

Dr. Sasscer shared a brief excerpt from "The Great Outdoors", a concert performed by second grade students at White Oak Elementary School.

PUBLIC BOARD DIALOGUE: There were no requests to address the Board.

REPORT:

Rethink Grant: Choice Opportunity - Ms. Sheila Evans, Chief Academic Officer and Mr. Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer, gave the Board an update on the Rethink Grant. Staff members from each school shared some of their thoughts and experiences from virtual learning.

Summer School Plans - Ms. Sheila Evans, Chief Academic Officer, gave the Board an update on the School Extension Learning Recovery and Enrichment Program that will be offered this summer for at-risk Kindergarten - 12th grade students.

EC Compliance Review - Ms. Jamie Bowers, Director of Exceptional Children, gave the Board an update on the recent 2019-2020 EC Program Compliance Review and answered questions from Board Members.

CONSIDER:

2021 - 2022 Board Meeting Schedule - Chairman Jordan presented the proposed 2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the 2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

2021-2022 Frozen/Optional Teacher Workdays - Dr. Sasscer presented the 2021-2022 Frozen/Optional Teacher Workdays for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Browder to approve the 2021-2022 Frozen/Optional Teacher Workdays as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy Revisions (First Reading) - Dr. Sasscer presented the following board policy revisions for a first reading:

- 3605 Graduation Requirements
- 5135 Staff - Student Relations
- 3250 Homeless Students
- 4000 Attendance
- 4100 Student Records
- 4300 Administration of Medication to Students
- 5020 Recruitment and Selection
- 5240 Leave/Benefits and Employment
- 5305 Licensure
- 5190 Staff Participation in Political Activities
- 6090 Facility Design
- 6515 School Wellness Policy

Google Meet - Chairman Jordan shared some pros and cons of the Google Meet board call-in feature. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Bunch to try Google Meet for six months to see how much remote participation that we have. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the following items on the consent agenda. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

1 - Minutes

- April 13, 2021 Board Minutes

2 - Personnel Report

- May 4, 2021 Personnel Report

3 - Financial Report

- School Board Report - April 2021

4 - Teacher Contracts

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/COMMENTS

Mr. Burroughs commented on the following:

- AP classes at John A. Holmes High School
- John A. Holmes High School Building Project

Mrs. Bunch commented on the following:

- Bus stops at elementary schools
- NCAE representatives at schools

Mrs. White commented on the following:

- Teacher appreciation

With there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Michael Sasscer, Ed.D., Secretary