

EDENTON-CHOWAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, May 6, 2013, 6:30 pm
Central Office Conference Room

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 6, 2013, 6:30 pm, Central Office Conference room with the following members present: Chairman John Guard, Jean Bunch, Gil Burroughs, Ricky Browder, Glorious Elliott, Gene Jordan, and Kay Wright. Others present were: Superintendent Allan Smith, Michelle Maddox, Mark Hermanson, Frank Palm, Samantha Christopher, Casey Atstupenas, Nelle Hyatt, Sheila Evans, Beck Bunch, Ricky Winebarger, Will Crowe, and Harriet Sawyer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Guard. The invocation was given by Gene Jordan.

PUBLIC/BOARD DIALOGUE: None.

REPORT:

1. **Spain Trip.** Samantha Christopher, Spanish teacher at John A. Holmes High School requested approval of the trip to Spain next year during the Easter/Spring break. The request for approval is being made so that students may begin fund raising activities. The students will visit Seville, Cordoba, Malaga, Tangiers Morocco, and Granada. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$2800 per person. A motion was made by Jean Bunch, seconded by Kay Wright to approve the request for overnight trip. The Board also approved to cover the cost of trip insurance. The motion passed unanimously. **(Attachment #1)**
2. **Edenton-Chowan Partnership Education Committee.** Frank Palm, Chair of the Edenton-Chowan Partnership Education Committee reported on the work of the Education Committee. The goal of the education committee is to support the efforts of the school and Board of Education, Smart Start and College of the Albemarle. One of the initiatives that the education committee is working on is the Broadband initiative that will provide internet service for reasonable costs, increased coverage, and higher speed. The committee has talked with several providers that can provide reasonably cost internet service. The committee will be working with MCNC to develop broadband alternatives for Chowan County. MCNC would consider submitting a proposal for eastern North Carolina if there was interest from surrounding counties. Mr. Palm would like to see local businesses configure their routers for public access so that students throughout the county would have the opportunity to have access to internet.

With the implementation of the 1:1 Learning Initiative at the middle school and high school there will be additional 1200-1300 students that will have devices distributed throughout Chowan County.

3. **Golden LEAF Projects.** Dr. Smith updated the Board on the Golden LEAF Foundation Grant proposals requirements for the STEM and 1:1 projects. The Golden LEAF Foundation awarded additional funds for the 1:1 to include grades 6-8 at the middle school. Additional laptops will be purchased for the teachers at the middle school so that teachers can receive training during the summer. The high school teachers received their laptops last summer so they could receive training. SAS has agreed to provide funding for 30 of the laptops. The Chromebook was considered because it was the most cost effective device and met the needs of our students when the school system began looking at the pilot for the 1:1. Now the cost of the iPad 2 has been reduced and is approximately the same price as the Chromebook. The school system is looking at the advantages and disadvantages of the iPad 2. The iPad has a wider variety of free and paid apps, iTunes U resources is available for Apple products only, and iPads are supported by educational services such as Virtual Public School and testing, Nook, Kindle, and iBooks and the apps can be accessed on other Apple devices. The school system will continue to look at the best options for devices that will provide the best educational service to students.

Dr. Smith recommended that the Board create an account to be able to sustain the initiative after the funding period. Dr. Smith reviewed the rotation schedule for the devices and the sustainability plan for the devices. Funds for the initiative will include \$75,000 from state, federal or local; \$25 per student per semester; and graduating senior will be given the opportunity to purchase their device on a depreciating scale with application of paid fees. A motion was made by Gil Burroughs, seconded by Glorious that the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education enthusiastically supports the 1:1 Learning Initiative and the Secondary Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Curriculum Program grants as approved by the Golden LEAF Foundation. The Board commits to sustain both grants beyond the funding periods and to provide the human and fiscal resources stipulated in the grants, including an Instructional Technologist Facilitator (ITF) at John A. Holmes High School and Chowan Middle School. The motion was approved unanimously. **(Attachment #2)**

4. **Joint Committee Meeting of the Board of Education.** Dr. Smith, John Guard, and Kay Wright updated the Board of the joint committee meeting with the county commission. During the presentation of the budget to the county commission on April 16, 2013 Dr. Smith was informed that the Land Transfer Tax would no longer go directly to the School Capital Reserve Fund. Instead all of the Land Transfer Tax will to the County's Capital Reserve Fund. The county commission approved to appropriate \$200,000 annually from the Capital Reserve funds to the schools for capital needs into the School Capital Reserve. If the Land Transfer generates less than \$200,000 the county will transfer the difference into the

School Capital Reserve from the General Fund. The funds generated from the land transfer tax will go towards the D.F. Walker debt. Lottery Funds will be used to pay the QZAB debt. Any balance left after the debt obligations will then go to the schools capital outlay projects.

The renovation of the school entranceway at John A. Holmes, renovation of student restrooms at Chowan Middle, and renovation of student classroom has been submitted to the county commission for use of Lottery funds.

Dr. Smith said that we will receive an additional \$70,000 in 2013-2014. Dr. Smith recommended rather than designate another project and see if there is savings to be made in the existing projects and purchase an activity bus. The committee also discussed the long term plans for John A. Holmes High School and Chowan Middle School. Also discussed was the energy performance contracting. The committee agreed to meet again to discuss these two items. **(Attachment #3)**

CONSIDER:

1. **2013-2014 Chowan Middle School Student Handbook.** The 2013-2014 Chowan Middle School Student Handbook was presented for approval. A motion was made by Ricky Browder, seconded by Gene Jordan to approve the 2013-2014 Chowan Middle School Student Handbook. The motion passed unanimously. **(Attachment #4)**
2. **2013-2014 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.** The 2013-2014 Board of Education Meeting Schedule was presented for approval. A motion was made by Gil Burroughs, seconded by Gene Jordan to approve the 2013-2014 Board of Education Meeting Schedule. The motion passed unanimously. **(Attachment #5)**
3. **Location of June 3, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.** The June 3, 2013 Board of Education meeting will be located at John A. Holmes High School Media Center. A reception will begin at 6:00 pm to recognize the 20-year employees and retirees. The regular meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

APPROVE:

A motion was made by Gil Burroughs, seconded by Kay Wright to approve the following items by consent agenda:

1. Minutes
2. Personnel **(Attachment #6)**
3. Financial Report **(Attachment #7)**

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT/REMARKS:

Gil Burroughs asked about the status of the energy audit. Heery is in the process of compiling more information and then will be sending RFPs.

John Guard wanted to be sure that all Board members were receiving the NCSBA Legislative Alerts. The Alerts provides updates on the actions of the General Assembly.

Jean Bunch would like to see the school system inform the community of the good things going on in the schools.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

John Guard, Chairman

Allan Smith, Secretary