

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2020
6:30 p.m.

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

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m at the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Department. The following Board Members were present: Chairman Gene Jordan, Vice-Chair Jean Bunch, Ricky Browder, Gil Burroughs, Paul Clifton, Maxine Mason, Joan White, and Superintendent Dr. Michael Sasscer. Social distancing guidelines were followed.

Others attending were: Dr. Jana Rawls, Executive Director of Human Resources; Emma Berry, Chief Finance Officer; Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer; Chris Brabble, Director of Facilities and Maintenance; Sheila Evans, Principal of White Oak Elementary School; Hack High, Attorney; and Sarah Hare, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jordan.

The invocation was given by Mr. Browder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Jordan.

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

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

REPORT:

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

August 17, 2020 officially began the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers have been committed to put in the work no matter what it takes. Students started the year learning remotely to allow additional time to create bus routes, build class lists, and acclimate students and families to our new approach to learning.

Congratulations to Chowan Middle School Principal Michelle White for being recognized by her peers as the Edenton-Chowan Schools 2020-2021 Principal of the Year.

Congratulations to White Oak Elementary School Assistant Principal Michelle Newsome for being recognized by her peers as the Edenton-Chowan Schools 2020-2021 Assistant Principal of the Year.

It has been 24 weeks or 120 school days since students sat in classrooms to learn lessons and share stories. On August 31st, our classrooms became colorful again as we welcomed back students for in-person learning.

On August 27, 2020, joined by family, loved ones and esteemed colleagues, Dr. Sasscer was sworn-in as the Superintendent of Edenton-Chowan Schools. Dr. Sasscer stated he was humbled by the honor to lead and serve our school system.

District 1 Meeting Information - Ms. Sarah Hare, Board Clerk, shared that the fall District 1 Meeting will be held virtually this year. The Board will meet at 3:00 on Thursday, September 10, 2020 to view the meeting.

Internet Access Update - Mr. Kerry Mebane, Chief Finance Officer, gave the Board an update on the 2020-2021 internet access options available to our students to include: options available through the school system, business, faith and other community partners.

2020-2021 Local Budget Update - Ms. Emma Berry, Chief Finance Officer, gave the Board an update on the 2020-2021 Local Budget and answered questions from Board Members.

Capital Outlay Projects Update - Mr. Chris Brabble, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, updated the Board on the recent capital outlay projects for the school system.

CONSIDER:

Request to Pave Maintenance/Transportation Parking Lot - Mr. Chris Brabble, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, presented a contract from C & L Concrete Works, Inc., to pave the maintenance and transportation parking lot. A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the contract as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Clifton. The motion carried unanimously.

John A. Holmes High School Building Project - Dr. Sasscer presented information to the Board regarding the core size of the John A. Holmes High School building project. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Browder for the high school building project to accommodate a 650 student population to include a 1,000 seat gym; 399 seat auditorium with orchestra pit; and 311 seat cafe area. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy Revisions / New Policies (Second Reading) - Dr. Sasscer presented the following Board Policy Revisions / New Policies for a second reading:

- *3420 504/ADA Policy*
- *4000 Attendance*
- *4210 Code of Student Conduct*
- *4215 Weapons, Bombs Threats, Terrorists Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety*
- *4405/5120 Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law*
- *4406/5122 Title IX Sexual Harassment - Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process*
- *4407/5123 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process*
- *4408/5124 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited*
- *4409/5126 Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace*
- *4415/5121 Title IX NonDiscrimination on the Basis of Sex*
- *5135 Staff - Student Relations*

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the Board Policy Revisions / New Policies as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Mason. The motion carried unanimously.

NCSBA Board of Directors Nominations - Dr. Sasscer informed the Board there may be a possible vacancy from our region on the North Carolina School Boards of Association Board of Directors. A motion was made by Mrs. Bunch to nominate Mr. Browder as a nominee for the North Carolina School Boards of Association Board of Directors. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Burroughs. The motion carried unanimously.

Chowan Middle School Device Replacement Contract - Mr. Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer, presented a proposal from Trinity3 Technology to replace the chromebook devices at Chowan Middle School. A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the proposal as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Clifton. The motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Contract - Dr. Sasscer presented the assistant superintendent's contract to the Board for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the contract as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mrs. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunch at 8:34 p.m. to enter into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter as permitted by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6). A second to the motion was made by Mrs. White. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 8:42 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to accept Dr. Sasscer's recommendation to hire Josh Davenport as the new Career and Technical Education Director. A second to the motion as made by Mrs. White. 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. Bunch. The motion carried unanimously.

1 - Minutes

- August 11, 2020 Board Minutes

2 - Personnel Report

- September 1, 2020

3 - Financial Report

- School Board Report - September 2020

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/COMMENTS

Mrs. White commented on the following:

- Free lunch for children ages 1 - 18 through December 31, 2020

Mrs. Mason commented on the following:

- Availability of teachers has been very good with remote learning

Mr. Clifton commented on the following:

- Drop off at schools has been very smooth

Mr. Browder comment on the following:

- Efficient drop off at schools; law enforcement presence at schools

Mr. Burroughs commented on the following:

- Teachers providing support to in-person and online students

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 Mr. Clifton. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Michael Sasscer, Ed.D., Secretary