

Edenton-Chowan Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019  
6:30 p.m.

Edenton-Chowan Schools  
Technology Building  
800 North Oakum Street  
Edenton, NC 27932

## MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m., in the Edenton-Chowan Schools Technology Center with the following Board Members present: Chairman Gene Jordan, Vice-Chair Jean Bunch, Gil Burroughs, Paul Clifton, Maxine Mason, and Superintendent Dr. Rob Jackson. Board Members Ricky Browder and Joan White were absent.

Others present were: Assistant Superintendent Michael Sasscer; Directors representing Central Services; White Oak Elementary School Principal Sheila Evans; D. F. Walker Elementary School Principal Michelle White; Chowan Middle School Principal Alton Campbell; Deputy Heather Matthews; Board Attorney Will Crowe; and Board Clerk Sarah Hare.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jordan.

Mr. Clifton led a moment of reflection.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from D. F. Walker Elementary School.

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

The Board of Education recognized the Edenton-Chowan Schools Finance Department for Excellence in Management of the North Carolina State Public School Fund for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

There were no requests to address the Board.

## REPORT:

Digital Learning Initiative Grant Update - Mr. Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer, gave the Board an update on the Digital Learning Initiative Grant and reported on the school district's recent presentation at the State Board of Education Meeting.

Capital Outlay Projects Update - Mr. Jamie Johnson, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, gave an update on the Capital Outlay Projects and answered questions from Board Members.

NCSBA Annual Conference Information - Mrs. Sarah Hare, Board Clerk, provided information on the upcoming NCSBA Annual Conference. The conference is scheduled for November 18-20, 2019 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC.

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

The new school year is off to a great start! Dr. Jackson has been visiting classrooms and we are geared up for another successful school year.

Our school system met the challenge of Hurricane Dorian with a dedicated staff and a demonstration of our system values and character. Thanks to careful planning and attention-to-detail, we were fully prepared to serve our community with no issues.

Session Law 2019-212 was signed into law last week. Beginning this year is the elimination of Required Graduation Projects. Should a Board of Education decide to continue the practice of requiring a Graduation Project, the Board is required to reimburse economically-disadvantaged students up to \$75 for project costs. Due to the cost that could be associated with this, it is Dr. Jackson's recommendation to eliminate the requirement for a Graduation Project effective immediately.

Recently, Dr. Jackson joined Mr. Mebane and staff members from Perquimans County Schools in presenting to the State Board of Education. We received many compliments, including tweets from the Lt. Governor, the Deputy State Superintendent, and the NC Teacher of the Year. Our school system has established a solid reputation across our state as a leader in education.

Over the summer, Dr. Jackson had the opportunity to address the Albemarle Area Association of Realtors. He shared with them the many programs that our school

system offered as well as the quality of faculty and staff. Dr. Jackson invited them to bring any prospective home buyers by to see him so that he may try and convince them to enroll their children in public school instead of private or charter.

The State Board approved and released the scores and School Performance Grades for the 2018-2019 school year. The big take-away is that EVERY. SINGLE. ONE of our schools met or exceeded growth.

The State Board of Education also confirmed that our cohort graduation rate has reached 91.6%, the highest in school system history.

For the third year in a row, we have zero low-performing schools. Congratulations to each of our students and staff members!

#### CONSIDER:

Draft Strategic Plan (First Reading) - Dr. Jackson presented the Edenton-Chowan Schools Draft Strategic Plan for the Board's consideration.

#### 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. Mason. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **1 - Minutes**

- August 6, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

#### **2 - Personnel Report**

- September 10, 2019 Personnel Report

#### **3 - Financial Report**

- September 2019 School Board Report

#### **4 - John A. Holmes High School Overnight Field Trip Request Form - Leadership Academy.**

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunch at 7:21 p.m. to enter into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter and to consult with the Board Attorney as permitted by North

Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11 (a) (6) and 143-318.1 (a) (3). A second to the motion was made by Mr. Burroughs. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 8:49 p.m. No action was taken.

There were no Board Member remarks or comments.

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. Mason. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Rob Jackson, Ed.D., Secretary