

Edenton-Chowan Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, September 13, 2022
6:30 p.m.

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

MINUTES

The Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education met on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 6:30 p.m in 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.

Others attending were: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Auxiliary Services Dr. Jana Rawls; Directors representing Central Services; Board Attorney Will Crowe; Student Board Member Damaris Ambrosio-Reyes; Deputy Holly Pierce; Community Members; and Board Clerk Sarah Hare.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jordan.

Chairman Jordan gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from White Oak Elementary School.

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

Ms. Ambrosio-Reyes presented her monthly Student Board Member Report.

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

On September 17, 2022, we will host a “Call to Action” at Edenton United Methodist Church from 9-11am. Inspirational messages will be shared to motivate why investing in a young person’s life is so important for the future of the community. Guests on Saturday will be able to visit an information table where each school will share the volunteering and mentoring opportunities available this year.

The groundbreaking for the new high school will be held on October 24, 2022 at 5:30pm. We will celebrate this historic milestone by honoring the Board of Education, past superintendents, the Board of County Commissioners, and other special dignitaries who have poured their hearts and energy into making this dream a reality.

Progress on the former D.F. Walker School renovation is on schedule. We are finalizing plans to transition staff and students by mid-January 2023. Demolition is anticipated to start in Spring 2023. Our architect, LS3P, is still designing the school, including building and site security in collaboration with our Sheriff’s department. Once the design is complete and approved by the Board of Education, our construction manager will put the project out to bid.

In a year where NC saw a 77% increase in the number of low performing schools and a 263% percent increase in the number of low performing districts (as compared to 2018-19), Edenton-Chowan Schools has no low performing schools! In fact, out of 17 school systems in Northeast North Carolina, ECPS is one of 3 systems to have zero low performing schools. All of our schools maintained their pre-pandemic school performance grade. This is a huge testament to the care and commitment our school family has for our children and for their continual effort to strive toward excellence during unprecedented challenges!

The Board recognized staff from White Oak Elementary School for their recent re-designation as a Five-Star Pre-K Program.

PUBLIC BOARD DIALOGUE

The following individuals spoke during public board dialogue:

Gary Lowry	Larry McLaughlin
Nicole Moore	Joy Harvill
Nelson Spear	Mary Scott Haigler
Tom Joyal	

REPORT:

Economic Improvement Council - Dr. Landon Mason, Executive Director, Economic Improvement Council, gave the Board an update from the Economic Improvement Council and presented numerous pairs of shoes to the Board to be given to students in the District.

Tennis Community Vision - Mr. Kermit Nixon shared with Board Members his vision for new tennis courts for the Edenton-Chowan Community.

Fall District Meeting and NCSBA Annual Conference Information - Ms. Sarah Hare, Board Clerk, shared information with the Board regarding the upcoming NCSBA Fall District Meeting and the NCSBA Annual Conference.

CONSIDER:

School Fundraisers - Dr. Sasscer and the Principals presented the proposed fundraisers for the 2022-23 school year to the Board for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs to approve the fundraisers as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

VOIP Project - Mr. Kerry Mebane, Chief Technology Officer, presented the proposal for the new VOIP system. A motion was made by Ms. Mason to accept the proposal as presented. A second to the motion was made by Ms. White. The motion carried unanimously.

BOE New Board Policy (Dual Enrollment - Second Reading) - Dr. Sasscer presented a new Board Policy (Dual Enrollment) for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Ms. White to approve the policy as presented. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

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

1 - Minutes

- August 2, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

2 - Personnel Report

- September 13, 2022 Personnel Report

3 - Financial Report

- School Board Report - August 2022

4 - School Resource Officer Agreement

5 - Contract Services - Homebound Services

6 - John A. Holmes High School Overnight Field Trip Request - FFA

7 - Drivers Education Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Burroughs at 8:28 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 Mr. Browder. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 9:09 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. White to rescind the \$7,500 salary increase that was approved at the July 26, 2022 Board of Education Work Session and to approve a 4% salary increase as legislated by the General Assembly for Dr. Michael Sasscer. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Burroughs. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/COMMENTS

Mr. Burroughs commented on the following:

- Layout of new High school

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. Browder. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Jordan, Chairman

Michael Sasscer, Ed.D., Secretary