

Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – December 14, 2015

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the administrative offices of Perquimans County Schools in Hertford, North Carolina. Board members Susan Cox, Arlene Yates, Amy Spough, and Anne White were in attendance. Ralph Hollowell was absent.

Board Chair Susan Cox called the meeting to order. Steven Magaro led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Anne White opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Steven Magaro and seconded by Amy Spough, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda, including the addendum, as presented.

Special Recognitions

The first place card and verse winners of the Superintendent's Christmas Card Contest for 2015 were recognized for their award-winning entries. On behalf of the Board, Dr. Stallings presented each student with a framed copy of the first place cards and verses.

Perquimans Central School

1 st Place Art Work	Tyrell Williams – 2 nd grade
1 st Place Verse	Trinity Stanton – 1 st grade

Hertford Grammar School

1 st Place Art Work	Georgia Wand – 4 th grade
1 st Place Verse	Ellie Ward – 4 th grade

Perquimans County Middle School

1 st Place Art Work	Stanford Dantzler – 8 th grade
1 st Place Verse	Brandon Trueblood – 7 th grade

Perquimans County High School

1 st Place Art Work and Verse	Jessica Brown – 10 th grade
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Dr. Stallings recognized Julie Williams as the Employee of the Month for December 2015. As the TIMS / Cost Clerk for the Transportation Department, Mrs. Williams does an excellent job ensuring the safe and efficient transportation of our students. When several bus changes were made after the start of the school year, Mrs. Williams was involved in rerouting half of the bus fleet which was very time consuming and took tremendous effort. On behalf of the Board of Education, Dr. Stallings presented Mrs. Williams with a certificate and monetary award for her outstanding service to the school district.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Amy Spough and seconded by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2015 special session and the November 23, 2015 regular session as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Arlene Yates and seconded by Steven Magaro, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Student Transfer Requests Report for December 14, 2015 as presented.

Upon motion by Amy Spaugh and seconded by Steven Magaro, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Summary Report for November 23, 2015, including the addendum, as presented.

Public Hearing / Requests from the Public

None

Unfinished Business

Upon motion by Anne White and seconded by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the School Improvement Plans for Perquimans Central School and Perquimans County High School as presented.

New Business

Financial Statements for Year Ending June 30, 2015

Courtney Riddick of Donna H. Winborne, CPA, P.C., presented the financial statements of the Perquimans County Board of Education for year ending June 30, 2015. Ms. Riddick noted that the audit received an unmodified opinion which is the highest level that can be received. It was fairly presented in accordance with accepted accounting principles. She stated that Perquimans was one of only two school districts served by their firm to have this distinction. Although there were no findings, a governance letter was issued that included a few minor suggestions. Board Chair Susan Cox congratulated Finance Officer Candy Tilley, the finance staff at the Central Office and at each school on a successful audit. Upon motion by Amy Spaugh and seconded by Anne White, the Board voted unanimously to accept the auditor's report of the financial statements of the Perquimans County Board of Education for year ending June 30, 2015.

2015-2016 DPI Facility Needs Survey

Maintenance Director David Buchanan presented Perquimans County Schools' 2016 long range maintenance and facility needs for the 2015-2016 DPI Facility Needs Survey. He shared project descriptions and cost estimates for needs in 0-5 years at each school which totaled \$5,650,796, and needs in 6-10 years at each school, which totaled \$683,873. Other projects not included in the DPI report, which included the proposed athletic complex among other projects, totaled \$7,158,500, for a grand total of \$13,493,169.00 for Perquimans County Schools' facility needs. The Board had discussion about the need for additional Pre-K classroom space and the importance of supporting Pre-K students as early as possible. It was suggested that the Board talk frankly about these needs and prioritize them at budget time. No action was taken as this presentation was for information only.

ACT Work Ready Community

CTE Coordinator Jill Cohen presented information on the ACT Work Ready Community. Mrs. Cohen explained that becoming a certified work ready community will tie students to the world of work. Twelve employers are needed to participate for our community to become a certified ACT Work Ready Community. Having this certification will market our county for future employers. There is no cost for the school district to participate. Currently, only students on the CTE path are tested. The WorkKeys Assessment is completed in the senior year, with 86 of 128 students being tested this year. Also, being an ACT Work Ready Community will complement Goal 6 of the Strategic Plan which addresses the school district working with elected officials to promote economic development in Perquimans County.

Budget Amendments

Upon motion by Anne White and seconded by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to approve State Public School Fund – Budget Amendment #2; Federal Grants Fund – Budget Amendment #2; and Other Specific Revenue Fund – Budget Amendment #2 as presented.

Monthly Financial Report

Finance Officer Candy Tilley provided the financial report for November 2015. Dr. Stallings thanked Mrs. Tilley for providing the report and noted that the expenditures are on target for this point in the school year.

Fall 2015 Policy Updates

The Board conducted a first reading of the Fall 2015 policy updates provided by the North Carolina School Boards Association and reviewed by administrative staff in the school system. Steven Magaro commented on the following policies:

Policy 1310/4002 Parental Involvement – What are the responsibilities of the superintendent, administrators and teachers' regarding at-risk students? Information was provided regarding MTSS, Multi-Tiered System of Support which offers three tiers of support—differentiated, supplemental, and intensive. Anne Nixon is an expert on this and is leading the charge in our district.

Policy 2302 Remote Participation in Board Meetings – Why was this policy was listed in the rubric, but not included with the other policies? Ms. Cox explained that the Board had recently adopted a policy regarding remote participation; therefore it was not necessary to consider the policy.

Policy 3460 Graduation Requirements – Within the policy, it states “students should...” Would a student be knowledgeable enough with board policy to know what he/she should do? Mr. Magaro suggested that the policy read “students are encouraged...”

Policy 5027/7275 Weapons and Explosives Prohibited – Mr. Magaro was concerned about revisions to the policy regarding a concealed handgun permit. Although this is current state law, he believed that it would be important to bring this to the attention of law enforcement once this policy is adopted.

NCSBA Legislative Committee

There was no interest expressed by board members to serve on the NCSBA Legislative Committee for 2016 and 2017.

Superintendent's Report

Bus Drivers with Perfect Attendance

Dr. Stallings noted that there were 20 bus drivers with perfect attendance for November 2015 and 8 bus drivers with perfect attendance for the year to date.

Proposed Fishing Club at Perquimans County High School

Dr. Stallings shared with the Board that Perquimans County High School is starting a high school bass fishing club under the advisement of Matt Leicester. The team will compete in tournaments across central and eastern North Carolina, as well as have the opportunity to compete in the North Carolina High School state championship. For teams that qualify from the state championship, the opportunity exists to compete in a conference championship, and potentially a National Championship where winners earn prizes, including scholarships. Some of the benefits of a fishing club include:

- Students who are not historically involved in other sports activities are engaged.
- There is no cost to the school. The cost to participate will be covered through fundraising and sponsorships.
- Each student, advisor, and volunteer is covered under a \$1,000,000 liability policy by the parent organization, FLW. When students are on the water, they are covered by the boater's insurance policy.
- Students will utilize math, science, and language arts in non-traditional ways.
- Students will be engaged with our existing FFA and the NC Wildlife Commission.
- Students will learn marketing and sales techniques as they reach out to businesses for sponsorships.
- Tournaments are usually held on the weekends, so students will not miss school time to compete, unless they qualify for conference or national championships, which are not held in North Carolina and may be held over multiple days.

Other

Dr. Stallings expressed his appreciation to all the staff for what they do for him and the district and noted that the district is in good hands. He thanked the Board of Education for their support and for doing what is best for children. Dr. Stallings also mentioned that PCMS Principal Andrea Greene is leaving the district as of December 31st. Board Chair Susan Cox voiced appreciation to Ms. Greene for the work she did with the students at PCMS and wished her well. Ms. Greene thanked the Board for the opportunity to work in Perquimans County. She said she had a wonderful experience and that she learned so much.

Board Chair's Comments

The Board requested that the topic of student suspensions be put on the agenda for the January meeting for discussion and to look at the information more in depth.

Mr. Matthew Cheeseman will be sworn in as Superintendent of Perquimans County Schools at a brief ceremony on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. at the central office. There will be a more formal ceremony at the board meeting on January 25, 2016 when Clerk of Court Todd Tilley will issue the oath.

Announcements

- Annual Leave and Christmas / New Year's Holidays – Tuesday December 22, 2015, through Friday, January 1, 2016 – Schools and Central Office Closed
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, January 18, 2016 – Schools and Central Office Closed
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – Monday, January 25, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., Board of Education Building

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Susan B. Cox, Board Chair

Matthew F. Cheeseman, Superintendent