

Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – March 27, 2017

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 27, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Hertford Grammar School in Hertford, North Carolina. Board members Amy Spaugh, Anne White, Ralph Hollowell, Russell Lassiter, and Leary Winslow were present. Arlene Yates was absent.

Board Chair Amy Spaugh called the meeting to order. Dr. Anne White led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Ralph Hollowell opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Anne White and second by Ralph Hollowell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented, including the addendum.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Anne White and second by Ralph Hollowell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2017 regular session as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Summary Report for March 27, 2017 as presented, including the addendum.

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Ralph Hollowell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Student Transfer Request Report for March 27, 2017 as presented.

Public Hearing / Requests from the Public

None

Board Committee Reports

Board members provided committee reports as follows: Russell Lassiter – Finance Committee; Anne White – Personnel Committee; Leary Winslow – Operations Committee; and Amy Spaugh – Curriculum & Instruction Committee.

Good News

Farm Bureau Grants

Perquimans Central School Media Coordinator **Stacey Pierce** was awarded a North Carolina Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Grant and EC Teacher **Stephanie Crank** was awarded a Perquimans County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Grant. These grants provide students with real-world education and experiences about the agricultural industry, while following the school system's common core and essential standards. Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Crank and the Perquimans Central School teachers and staff recently hosted the 2nd annual Ag Night at Perquimans Central School.

Donors Choose Grant

Perquimans Central School teacher **Holly Jordan** was awarded a Donors Choose Grant for a classroom project called "Fairy Tale Fun."

Safe Sports School Award

Perquimans County High School is a proud recipient of the National Athletic Trainers' Association Safe Sports School 1st Team Award. The 1st Team is awarded to schools that act on all of the recommended and required elements that will lead an athletics program to the highest safety standards for its players. Athletic Trainer **Kelly Daniels** applied for this award on behalf of Perquimans County High School.

Perquimans County Junior Women's Club Arts Festival – Paula FitzPatrick, teacher

Shimiya Modlin – 1st Place, Colored Pencil

Bryce Chappell – 3rd Place, Watercolor

Kathryn Christian – 3rd Place, Acrylic Paint

Kaitlyn Votava – 1st Place, Tempera

Signed to Play Volleyball – Kristie Thach, coach

Perquimans County High School Senior **Autumn Bateman** recently signed to play volleyball at Methodist University in the Fayetteville in the fall.

Governor's School

Congratulations to **Jarod Johnson** for being accepted to North Carolina Governor's School. Jarod will attend this summer at the EAST Campus which is Meredith College. The Governor's School of North Carolina is a five and one-half week summer residential program for intellectually gifted high school students, integrating academic disciplines, the arts, and unique courses on each of two campuses. The curriculum focuses on the exploration of the most recent ideas and concepts in each discipline, and does not involve credit, tests, or grades.

Virginian Pilot Scholastic Achievement Scholarship and Recognition Program

This program, established in 1961, is the Virginian Pilot's annual salute to the best and brightest high school students from South Hampton Roads, the Eastern Shore, Western Tidewater and northeastern North Carolina. Each participating high school selected a team of students who excel in academics, citizenship, school activities and community service. The following Perquimans County High School Students were recognized:

Seniors

James Parker Robertson – Team Captain

Brooke Ashley Suermann

Juniors

Gabrielle Kristine Corprew

Raegan Tylar Workman

Sophomores

Samuel Paul Whitfield

Lauren Elizabeth Winslow

London Foundation Scholarship

Congratulations to **Brooke Suermann** for being awarded the Perquimans County London Foundation Scholarship for \$7,500 per year, renewable for four years for a total of \$30,000. To be eligible to apply for the London Scholarship, applicants must have an unweighted grade point average of 3.5 and score at least 1200 on the math and language sections of the SAT. Brooke plans to attend North Carolina State University with a career aspiration of becoming a literary publisher.

Betty Goah Scholarship

Congratulations to **Sarah Baker** for being awarded the Betty Goah Scholarship at Milligan College in eastern Tennessee for the amount of \$31,300 per year for four years for a grant total of \$125,200. The scholarship is awarded to only 10 students at the college who have demonstrated how their diverse background has impacted them. Sarah plans to major in Music Education and minor in Children's Ministries.

Rotary Students of the Month

Congratulations to **Cameron Perry** and **Tyler Rountree** for being selected as the Rotary Students of the Month. These two individuals exemplify the Rotary Motto, "Service Above Self." They were recognized at the Hertford Rotary meeting on March 21, 2017.

Soil and Water Conservation Contest

Bookmark Contest Winners

Third Grade

1st Place - Elizabeth Damron
2nd Place - Mattison Winslow
3rd Place - Suzi Lane
Honorable Mention - Madison Montgomery

Fourth Grade

1st Place - Anna Fisher
2nd Place - Kendra Graham
3rd Place - Litzy Lara Selvan
Honorable Mention - Emily Meads

Fifth Grade

1st Place - Hailey Scott
2nd Place - Kalie White
3rd Place - Destiny Hicks
Honorable Mention - Jeremy Evans

Poster Contest Winners

Third Grade

1st Place - Mattison Winslow
2nd Place - Lilly Hobbs
3rd Place - Aubrey Dykes
Honorable Mention - Tyler Gregory
Honorable Mention - Anne Weeks

North Carolina School Superintendents' Association (NCSSA) Aspiring Superintendents Program

Dr. Norris Parker, director of testing and accountability, and **Mr. Oliver Holley**, director of human resources, were among 34 school and district leaders from across the state to graduate from the first cohort of the North Carolina School Superintendents' Association (NCSSA) Aspiring Superintendents Program.

The program is designed to support the growth, expansion and enhancement of school and district leaders in the leadership positions they currently occupy while providing high-quality professional development to increase their knowledge base. The program targets selected district leaders and principals who have demonstrated success in their administrative roles and who aspire to be a superintendent in North Carolina.

Next Generation Superintendents Development Program

Perquimans County Schools Superintendent **Matthew Cheeseman** was among 28 superintendents from across the state to graduate from the North Carolina Next Generation Superintendents Development Program Cohort IV.

The program is designed to support the growth, expansion and enhancement of superintendents using the North Carolina Superintendents Standards, through a formative process that advances the stated purposes of the North Carolina Evaluation process. Jack Hoke is the coordinator of the program and the executive director of the North Carolina School Superintendent's Association.

The year-long program was comprised of six face-to-face sessions that guided superintendents as they reflected on and improved their effectiveness as district leaders; focused on their personal leadership goals and linked personal goals with district and state goals; and guided and facilitated the professional development of superintendents toward advanced levels of executive leadership as defined by the North Carolina Standards for Superintendents.

Unfinished Business

Proposed School Calendar for 2017-2018

Upon motion by Ralph Hollowell and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed school calendar for 2017-2018 as presented by Dr. Norris Parker.

New Business

Summer School Programs for 2016-2017

Assistant Superintendent James Bunch presented the proposed summer school programs for 2016-2017. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Anne White, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed summer school programs for 2016-2017 as presented.

Budget Amendments

Director of Finance Candy Tilley explained in detail the proposed budget amendments. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve State Public School Fund – Amendment #7 and Other Specific Revenue Fund – Amendment #6 as presented.

Financial Report

Mrs. Tilley presented the financial report for the month of February 2017. There were no concerns noted and spending was where it should be at that point in the school year.

Resolution on K-3 Class Size Ratios

Board Member Ralph Hollowell read aloud the proposed resolution on K-3 class size ratios. Upon motion by Anne White and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution on K-3 class size ratios as presented.

Reduction in Force plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

In accordance with Board Policy 7921, Reduction in Force for Classified Employees, Superintendent Matthew Cheeseman presented the plan to reduce positions due to an anticipated loss in funding for the 2017-2018 school year. He also petitioned the Board to allow a reorganization of classified employees as a part of the request. In addition, time limited personnel will not return to employment until the district has secured the appropriate grant funding. The plan uses a 14 percent decrease of funding as a basis for the FY 2017-2018 budget year in the area of Teacher Assistants, PRC 027. After accounting for known resignations and retirements, a reduction of up to seven (7) classified teacher assistant positions will be necessary. The plan outlined the budget principles and parameters, category and program reduction, and reduction in force criteria. Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Ralph Hollowell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Reduction in Force Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 as presented.

Overnight Field Trip

Upon motion by Anne White and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the overnight field trip to Cedar Rock Park, Burlington, North Carolina, for the NC State Envirothon on April 28-29, 2017 as presented by Agriculture Teacher Angel White.

Science Lab Renovation

Mr. Cheeseman presented a PowerPoint presentation containing pictures illustrating the condition of the science labs at Perquimans High School and Perquimans Middle School. The high school lab equipment was installed in 1987 and the middle school lab in 1993. As shown in the photographs, the equipment is outdated, worn, broken, and in some cases, there is no access to gas or water lines for lab experiments. Mr. Cheeseman stated that \$100,000 of the district's lottery funds, which cannot be used for positions, has been earmarked for the renovation of these labs. This may also include a review of the STEAM room at Hertford Grammar School. Lab renovations will begin this summer to allow for real world engagement by our science students.

Reports / Updates

Student Discipline Data

Assistant Superintendent James Bunch presented the student discipline data for the month of March. There were no questions from board members regarding the data.

Bus Driver Perfect Attendance

Transportation Director Jeff Miller announced that there were 14 bus drivers with perfect attendance for the month of February, and 7 with perfect attendance to date for this school year. Bus drivers with perfect attendance this school year to date include Sheneka Whidbee, Lillie White, Ebony Reid, Timothy Steward, and Henry Miles. In addition, he noted that Maebelle Leigh has had perfect attendance for 4 years to date and Janice Butts for 8 years to date.

Mr. Miller announced that bus drivers completed the North Carolina state stop arm violation count last week with no violations being reported. Also, he announced that the district Bus Rodeo will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 and invited board members to attend.

ACT Certified Career Ready Community

CTE Director Jill Cohen announced that Perquimans is a 100% ACT Certified Career Ready Community. Being a work ready community provides a common framework that measures and closes the skill gap that is data driven for economic development. For the school system, it is based on the Work Keys assessment for 12th grade. Being an ACT Certified Career Ready

Community is a marketing tool to promote Perquimans County. In the near future, a celebration will be held with significant individuals in our community. Mr. Cheeseman applauded Mrs. Cohen for her efforts regarding the CTE program.

Superintendent's Report

Data Study: Student Transfer Requests

Mr. Cheeseman spoke with other superintendents in our region regarding student transfer requests. Based on a number of LEAs around us, very few if any, student transfer requests have been denied. One superintendent called regarding his concern about student transfer requests as many Perquimans students are released to his district. About 80 students leave our district and about 40 students transfer to Perquimans County. Most of the reasons for the transfers are work related. This item will be tabled and revisited this summer in order to acquire additional data from surrounding districts should the Board wish to revisit this topic.

Cost Effectiveness Study

The Masonboro Group is assisting the district with a long-range cost effectiveness study, specifically for five to six years. The study is based on state projections of a 2% deficit this coming year and federal projections of a 5% deficit, in addition to having a lower student enrollment. The study will be shared with the Board in April or May.

NC Star Training

When the principals presented the school improvement plans to the Board in November, none of the plans were identical in format. To put everyone on the same page as far as the types of goals and attributes used in school improvement plans, next year all four of our schools will move to NC Star, a school improvement platform. All principals will receive training on NC Star on May 24, 2017.

Improper Equipment Lawsuit

In regard to the improper equipment lawsuit involving nine counties, Judge Stevens signed an Order directing the defendants to pay back the amount collected in their respective County to the County School Fund to be used exclusively for maintaining the public schools in that County. However, the Order will not be effective until the conclusion of an appellate review of the Richmond County case. This is a tremendous step toward potential collection of these fees, but it may be a while before anyone receives funds from the defendants. Perquimans could receive a projected amount of approximately \$170,000 from this lawsuit.

ECSU Radio WRVS 89.9

Mr. Cheeseman gave a shout out to Director of Human Resources Mr. Oliver Holley who arranged a partnership with Elizabeth City State University, specifically Ms. Sheila Lee on WRVS 89.9. Mr. Holley, along with Director of Communications Ms. Lisa Lane, will visit the station on the second Tuesday of each month to share information from Perquimans County Schools.

Draft Budget Proposal 2017-2018

Finance Director Mrs. Candy Tilley presented the proposed 2017-2018 Local Current Expense Budget. The Capital Outlay Budget will be presented in April when the Board will take action on both budgets which will be presented to the County Commissioners on May 15th. Mrs. Tilley noted that the proposed budget is based on a projected ADM of 1,597 students, a decrease of 118 students. The total proposed budget is \$3.7 million, which is \$900,000 more than the current local budget, and includes the \$400,000 mentioned for K-3 class sizes. The budget includes a 3% salary increase across the board for all staff members. It also includes a 1%

increase to the retirement rate and a 3.5% increase to hospitalization costs. The district is committed to the three items that were discussed last year: teacher supplements, classified salary scales and curriculum/instruction, which is our core business. It includes an increase in teacher supplements from 2.5% to 3% and an increase in the classified salary scale. The cost for the teacher supplements is approximately \$45,000 and the classified salary scale increase is approximately \$132,000. Mrs. Tilley presented the proposed budget, explaining each item line by line, while allowing opportunity for board members to ask questions during the presentation.

EF Educational Tours Trip – Summer 2018

PCMS Social Studies Teacher Mr. Bruce Gemmill presented information regarding the proposed EF Educational Tours Trip for the summer of 2018. The proposed trip for high school students would include a Holocaust tour through Germany, Austria, and Poland. PCHS English Teacher Kristy Corprew has been asked to be the liaison at the high school to assist with the nominations of the students for this trip. Approximately 100 students will be invited to participate and the cost of the trip would be \$3,600 per student. With the endorsement of the school district, fundraisers could be held within the school system. Mr. Gemmill stated he plans to have an interest meeting within the next month and return to the Board following the interest meeting.

Board Chair's Comments

Mrs. Spaugh thanked the staff for all their extra efforts, especially behind the scenes, as well as for facilitating events after school hours such as Aladdin, baseball/softball games, band concerts, etc.

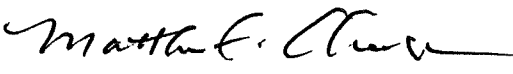
Announcements

- Joint Work Session with County Commissioners, Monday, April 17, 2017, 5:30 p.m., Boardroom at Central Office
- Regular Board of Education Meeting, Monday, April 24, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Auditorium at Perquimans County Middle School
- Budget Presentation to County Commissioners, Monday, May 15, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. Commissioners' Meeting Room

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



Amy G. Spaugh, Board Chair



Matthew F. Cheeseman, Superintendent