

Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – April 27, 2020

The Perquimans County Board of Education met virtually for its regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 27, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Cooper's Executive Order No. 121, Section 3, Mass Gatherings, states that no more than 10 persons may be in a single room or single space at the same time, such as a conference room. Therefore, audio access was made available to the public by dialing a telephone number and entering an access code and pin number.

Board Chair Dr. Anne White called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Matt Peeler led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Russell Lassiter said a prayer.

Mary Kay Peele called the roll of those attending virtually and announced those who were present in the boardroom. Board members who participated virtually were Dr. Anne White, Amy Spough, and Leary Winslow. Board members who were present in the boardroom were Russell Lassiter and Matt Peeler. Arlene Yates was absent due to a death in her family. Also present in the boardroom were Superintendent Tanya Turner, Assistant Superintendent James Bunch, Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard, Chief Human Resources Officer Michelle Maddox, Chief Technology Officer Martha Nixon, Administrative Assistant Mary Kay Peele and Hertford Grammar School Principal John Lassiter.

Dr. White asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Yates and her family for the loss of her mother.

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Matt Peeler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Special Recognitions

There were no special recognitions at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2020 regular meeting and the April 20, 2020 special meeting (budget work session) as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Amy Spough and second by Matt Peeler, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Student Transfer Requests Report for April 27, 2020, as presented by Superintendent Tanya Turner.

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Leary Winslow, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Summary Report for April 27, 2020, as presented by Superintendent Tanya Turner.

Public Hearing / Requests from the Public

Instructions were provided in the agenda for participation during the public comment period. No requests from the public were received.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Policy 8325 Daily Deposits

The Board considered for a first reading revisions to Policy 8325 Daily Deposits. The current policy requires that any monies received for \$50.00 or more be deposited daily. When our bank, PNC, closed recently, staff were having to make trips (sometimes daily) to Edenton to make deposits if they totaled \$50 or more. Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard proposed that the amount be changed from \$50.00 to \$250.00. Any monies not being deposited the same day will continue to be locked in our fire-proof safe each night until they are deposited. This is consistent with the state statutes, which require that deposits of \$250 or more be deposited daily, and deposits of less than \$250 be deposited by the last day of the month. Action will be taken on this proposed revision at the May meeting.

Proposed Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard presented the proposed budget request for fiscal year 2020-2021. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted 4 to 1, with Matt Peeler voting against the motion, to approve the budget request for fiscal year 2020-2021 as presented. The budget request will be presented to the County Commissioners on Monday, May 11, 2020.

Budget Amendments

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to approve State (Fund 1) – Budget Amendment #6, Local (Fund 2) – Budget Amendment #4, Federal (Fund 3) – Budget Amendment #3, Capital Outlay (Fund 4) – Budget Amendment #4, and Local (Fund 8) – Budget Amendment #5 as presented by Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard.

Reports / Updates

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Blanchard presented a monthly financial report as of April 21, 2020, which included a budget summary sorted by Fund and two-digit Purpose Code; a financial report showing the percentage of budget spent; and a Capital Outlay budget update.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Turner provided a copy of the FAQs regarding the NCDPI statewide grading policy for K-11. She explained the grading policy adopted by the state for grades K-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-11. She noted that student retention and promotion will remain the decision of the principals and staff. She fielded questions and comments from board members.

District and school leadership met last Friday to review a list of end-of-year events from last year. They had discussions around how some of those events could still be held in some form and those that would have to be eliminated for this school year. Ms. Turner stated there will be a graduation ceremony; however, she is not sure what it will look like, where or when it will be held. Superintendents across the state are working on this as well and sharing their ideas. It will depend on the Governor's phases and restrictions as far as how "normal" graduation will be. Parents and students will be surveyed to get feedback on what they want for graduation.

There will be a cap and gown pickup for Seniors on Thursday, April 30th. Plans are to make this a special event for them since they will not be able to participate in a Senior Walk. This will be a

modified event in the form of a Senior Drive-Through. All staff from each of the schools will be invited to line the high school parking lot, while maintaining social distancing, and cheer on the students as they drive through the parking lot to pick up their caps and gowns.

Also, yearbooks, end-of-year ceremonies, and how these items will be communicated to parents will be discussed at the leadership team meeting. The principals are working on the events that are specific to their school.

Staff Appreciation Week will be celebrated next week, May 4th-8th. After talking with Foundation Director Brenda Lassiter, who is working with her board on this, the Perquimans County Schools Foundation is planning to provide gift certificates from the major restaurants in the county for each certified and classified staff member. Not only will this provide a special recognition for our staff, but also infuse money back into the community during this difficult time.

School Lunch Hero Day is Friday, May 1st. In March, our School Nutrition staff served 12,996 meals. In April, they served 19,696 meals for a total of 32,692 meals, an average of 1,421 meals per day. This group of employees knows our students differently than our teachers do. They see where students are coming from and where they are going to everyday. The district will be giving the School Nutrition staff a bonus on Friday. This money will not come from our budget, but will come from School Nutrition funding which will be replaced by COVID-19 funding.

Following her presentation, Ms. Turner entertained questions from the board regarding graduation and the options that might be available under the Governor's executive orders for Phase 2 and Phase 3.

Board Chair's Comments

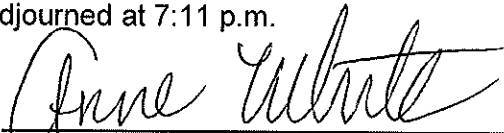
Dr. White thanked Ms. Turner, the district leadership team, school leadership teams, teachers and staff for maintaining a positive attitude during this pandemic and expressed her appreciation for all that they do.

Ms. Turner thanked Chief Technology Officer Martha Nixon for facilitating the virtual meetings for the board and working through the logistics to make the meetings run smoothly.

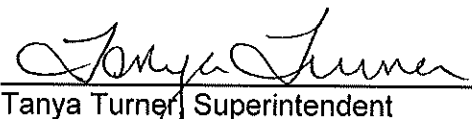
Announcements

- Budget Presentation to County Commissioners – Monday, May 11, 2020, at 8:00 p.m.
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.



Dr. Anne White, Chairperson



Tanya Turner, Superintendent