

**Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – May 26, 2020**

The Perquimans County Board of Education met virtually for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 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. Russell Lassiter led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Matt Peeler 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 Amy Spaugh, Leary Winslow, and Arlene Yates. Board members who were present in the boardroom were Dr. Anne White, Russell Lassiter and Matt Peeler. 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.

Approval of Agenda

After discussion about the Personnel Summary Report, the Board took the following action. Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board took action to approve the agenda as presented, but with the list of non-RIF personnel items separated from the list of RIF-related personnel items so that action could be taken on the non-RIF items as consent agenda items and RIF-related items at the end of the agenda after the closed session.

Special Recognitions

There were no special recognitions at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board of Education voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2020 regular meeting as presented. (Leary Winslow did not vote on this item as he had to logoff of the meeting for a moment.)

Consent Agenda

(Mr. Winslow returned to the meeting.) Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Matt Peeler, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Student Transfer Requests Report for May 26, 2020, as presented by Superintendent Tanya Turner.

Matt Peeler made a motion to approve the one-, two- and four-year contracts, administrator contract, contract for professional service, resignations, and extended employment as presented. There was no second to the motion. After further discussion about the Personnel Summary Report, it was the consensus of the Board to consider both the non-RIF related items as consent agenda items and RIF-related items after the closed session.

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

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to adopt revisions to Policy 8325 Daily Deposits as presented.

New Business

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Property to the Perquimans County Public School Foundation

Prior to consideration of this item, Russell Lassiter recused himself due to his relationship with the Executive Director of the Foundation.

Perquimans County Schools Foundation Executive Director Brenda Lassiter presented a PowerPoint presentation on the organization and history of the Foundation. The initial foundation was formed during the tenure of Superintendent Randall Henion as a FIFO (flow in/flow out) account for scholarships and tax exempt vehicle for contributions. This foundation was dissolved in 2000-2001 due to lack of appropriate paperwork and tax ID number. The current foundation was organized in 2002 with the assistance of Attorney Mark Maland, who volunteered his services to ensure the foundation was in compliance. Officers were elected, articles of incorporation were filed, bylaws were written, and tax-exempt status was determined. Perquimans County Schools offered support with office space, postage, supplies, etc. The Public Information Officer assumed clerical duties/administrative role. In 2015, the Foundation hired its first executive director and the amount of money managed by the organization has grown to over \$746,000 in 2019.

In April 2000, 1,780 shares of Met Life stock were gifted to Perquimans County Schools. Met Life was publicly traded April 7, 2000 and shareholders were allocated shares. In July 2016, Met Life rebranded itself as Brighthouse Financial. In August 2017, Met Life and Brighthouse separated to create two independent publicly traded companies.

Mrs. Lassiter stated the Perquimans County Schools Foundation was willing to accept the transfer of stock and ensure the monies would be used to benefit the students of Perquimans County Schools. The Foundation is solvent, has an accountant on retainer, and employs the services of a brokerage firm. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously (Mr. Lassiter recused himself) to adopt a resolution to transfer the funds identified in the resolution to the Perquimans County Public School Foundation for the purposes set forth in the resolution.

After a brief discussion regarding the Jim "Catfish" Hunter funds given in 2000 by an anonymous donor for the baseball field, the Board took the following action. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Matt Peeler, the Board voted unanimously (Mr. Lassiter recused himself) to transfer the Jim "Catfish" Hunter funds to the Foundation for the baseball field.

2020-2021 Career and Technical Education Local Plan

Career Technical Education Director Jill Cohen presented an overview of the proposed CTE plan for 2020-2021 which included information on areas of strength and program goals based on needs assessment. Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the CTE local plan for 2020-2021 as presented.

Revisions to the AIG Plan for 2019-2022

Innovation & Policy Director Cynthia Perry presented revisions to the AIG Plan for 2019-2022. This was a first reading only; action will be taken at the June meeting.

Spring 2020 Policy Updates – Part I Revised Policies

Innovation & Policy Director Cynthia Perry presented Spring 2020 Policy Updates – Part 1 as provided by attorneys with the North Carolina School Boards Association. Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to adopt revisions to the following board policies as presented.

- 2303 Remote Participation in Board Meetings
- 2500 Hearings Before the Board
- 4230 Communicable Diseases – Students
- 5050 Emergency Closings
- 7560 Permitted Salary Deductions for Absences and Discipline of Certain Exempt Employees
- 7620 Payroll Deductions

New Policies

New policies 2127 Board Member Technology Use and 7503 Teleworking were presented for first reading. Action will be taken at the June meeting.

Lease Agreement for King Street Property

Upon motion by Amy Spaugh and second by Matt Peeler, the Board voted unanimously to enter into a lease agreement with Perquimans County for the King Street property which is being used for a basketball facility as presented by Assistant Superintendent James Bunch. The original agreement was signed in 2000 for a period of 20 years. The term of the new agreement will begin June 1, 2020 and continue through May 31, 2040.

Coverage for Student Accident Insurance and Catastrophic Student Accident Insurance

Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to enter into an agreement with the Young Group for Student Accident Insurance and Catastrophic Student Accident Insurance as presented by Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard.

Budget Amendments

Upon motion by Amy Spaugh and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to approve State (Fund 1) – Budget Amendment #7, Local (Fund 2) – Budget Amendment #5, and Local (Fund 8) – Budget Amendment #6 as presented by Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard.

Reports / Updates

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Blanchard presented a monthly financial report as of May 15, 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 shared the following in her report:

- Deadline for applying for the CARES Act Funds is June 1.
- Emergency leave is extended until June 15.
- JumpStart Learning Plans are due June 22.
- Remote Instruction Plans are due July 20.
- DPI is working to finalize the allotment process for the \$75M appropriated for School Nutrition under Session Law 2020-4.
- A chart for the Schools Reopening Framework was displayed.
- In a statement from the NCHSAA, "Until the Governor, the State Board of Education and other local governmental entities indicate that schools may reopen their facilities, the timing of the resumption of athletic activities is yet to be determined."

Board Chair's Comments

Dr. White thanked Ms. Turner and the district and school staff for all they have done, especially during this pandemic. The Chair and Vice Chair sent a letter via email to all faculty and staff to commemorate Staff Appreciation Week. Also, board members collaborated using their own money to provide gift cards for each principal. In addition, Dr. White thanked Brenda Lassiter and the Foundation for providing lunch during a recent principals' meeting.

Announcements

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Monday, June 29, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

Closed Session

Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Matt Peeler the Board voted unanimously to enter closed session pursuant to G.S. 143.318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes to consider closed session minutes and G.S. 143.318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.

Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously at 9:18 p.m. to return to open session.

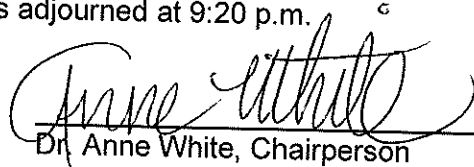
Return to Open Session

The following action was taken after returning to open session.

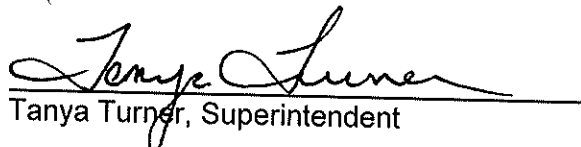
Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Matt Peeler, the Board voted 5 to 1, with Mr. Peeler voting against the motion, to approve the Superintendent's recommendations regarding reduction in force (non-renewals and classified positions) and transfers due to reorganization as presented by the Superintendent.

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the one-, two-, and four-year contracts, administrator contract, contract for professional service, registrations and extended employment as presented by the Superintendent.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



Dr. Anne White, Chairperson



Tanya Turner, Superintendent