Perquimans County Board of Education Regular Session – January 25, 2021

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the administrative offices of Perquimans County Schools. This meeting was held in accordance with Governor Cooper's Executive Order No. 141, Section 7, which states that the prohibition on Mass Gatherings does not apply to educational institutions or government operations. However, social distancing was observed and as a result, seating was limited. In addition, in accordance with Executive Order No. 147, face coverings were worn unless an exception applied. Audio access was available to the public by dialing a telephone number and entering a meeting ID and passcode.

Board Chairwoman 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 Arlene Yates said a prayer.

All board members were present: Chair Dr. Anne White (in person), Vice Chair Amy Spaugh remote), Russell Lassiter (in person), Matt Peeler (in person), Leary Winslow (in person) and Arlene Yates (remote).

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda, including the addendum.

Special Recognition

Superintendent Tanya Turner introduced Special Education Teacher Siana Elliott as the Perquimans County Schools Extraordinarily Exceptional Educator of the Year. Ms. Elliott was presented with a plaque in honor of her outstanding achievement.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to approve the personnel recommendations in the Personnel Summary Report and addendum for January 25, 2021 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 virtual or written requests were received for public comment.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1st Semester End-of-Course Testing Preliminary Data Analysis

Chief Academic Officer Melissa Fields presented the 1st semester end-of-course testing preliminary data analysis to the Board.

Overall EOC Data Analysis

	Students Enrolled	% F2F vs. Remote	Students Tested	% Participation	# Proficient	% Proficient
Total	157		153	97.45%	68	44.44%
Face-to-Face	96	61.15%	96	100%	56	58.33%
Remote	61	38.85%	57	93.44%	12	21.05%

In Biology, 46.15% of the students were proficient, with 61.22% of them being face-to-face and 20.69% remote. English II data showed that 54.6% of the students were proficient, with 69.23% of them being face-to-face and 33.30% remote. In Biology, 64% of the students were proficient, with 73.68% being face-to-face and 33% being remote. Math 3 data showed that 14.29% of the students were proficient, with 20% of them being face-to-face and 7.69% being remote.

Mrs. Fields noted that only students in Math 3 in the "Accelerated Math Pathway" are included in the final accountability calculations. None of the students in 1st semester will count in proficiency for accountability, but will count for participation goals. She also shared the enrollment numbers for each course, honors students versus general students, and how that will affect proficiency for the second semester.

Board Representative on Calendar Committee

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Leary Winslow as the Board of Education representative on the Calendar Committee for 2021-2022.

Families First Coronavirus Response Act Expiration and Voluntary Extension

Chief Human Resources Officer Michelle Maddox explained that the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) paid leave mandates expired on December 31, 2020. There were two types of leave that covered employers had to provide all employees: paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. This leave was available to employees for two weeks (up to 80 hours). Covered employers may decide to voluntarily extend the period for employees to use any remaining paid leave benefits. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Matt Peeler, the Board voted unanimously to extend the FFCRA benefits for employees due to COVID-19 as presented.

Matt Peeler stated that the school system should look at a way to open the schools under Plan A even if it is against the Governor's executive orders. Following comments from board members, it was the consensus of the Board to stay within the parameters of the Governor's executive orders.

Budget Amendments

Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard presented budget amendments for the Board's consideration. Mr. Blanchard explained each amendment in detail and answered questions asked by board members. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve State (Fund 1) – Budget Amendment #5, Local (Fund 2) – Budget Amendment #5, Federal (Fund 3) – Budget Amendment #4 and Local (Fund 8) – Budget Amendment #5 as presented by Mr. Blanchard.

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Blanchard presented the monthly financial report for January 2021. The first report showed year-to-date spent, outstanding POs, escrow, budget (pending approval) and year-to-date percentage spent for Fund #1, #2, #3, #4, #8, and #5. The benchmark was 58% and the actual year-to-date spent of the total budget as of January 15, 2021 was 48%. The second report provided a more detailed budget summary sorted by 2-digit Purpose Code for Funds #1, #3, #5, #2, #4, and #8. The last report provided an update on Capital Outlay as of January 15, 2021. The report showed revenue and expenses with current budget, year-to-date spent/encumbered, and budget remaining.

Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Mr. Blanchard presented the budget calendar for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. He proposed that the Board have a budget work session the first week in March to discuss budgetary recommendations compiled from meetings with directors and principals in February. Tentatively, the Board discussed having a budget work session on March 8th at 4:00 p.m. Also, they discussed the possibility of having a budget work session with County Commissioners the week of April 12th, perhaps at 4:00 p.m. in the PCHS media center.

Student Discipline Data

Assistant Superintendent James Bunch presented the student discipline data for the month of December 2020, noting a positive trend down in the numbers. District administrators and Sgt. Murray shared their thoughts on why the discipline numbers are so low.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tanya Turner provided the following report.

- Perquimans County Schools current enrollment as of January 21st was 1,619 students: PreK – 35; PCS – 380; HGS – 339; PCMS – 422; PCHS – 443 (20 mid-year graduates)
- Face-to-Face Enrollment:
 - PCS: 83%, HGS: 80%, PCMS: 71.02%, PCHS: 64%
- Positive Cases August 17th-December 18th: Employees 18; Students 16
 Positive Cases Holiday Break December 18th-January 5th: Employees 10; Students 20

 Positive Cases January 5th to Present: Employees 7; Students 4
- COVID Vaccination Clinics January 4th and 5th; January 13th; approximately 78 vaccinated
- Update on outstanding Health Assessments and Immunizations
- Ms. Turner announced the PQ Leadership Academy for certified employees with at least 3 years of experience who are interested in possibly pursuing a degree in educational leadership or expanding their teacher leadership skills. Sessions will be held monthly from January through May from 3:30-5:30 in the PCHS Media Center.
- Ms. Turner proposed having the February board meeting in the PCHS Media Center in order to honor the volleyball teams, the 2019-2020 retirees, Teachers of the Year and Principal of the Year.

Board Chair's Comments

Dr. White presented Ms. Turner and Mr. Bunch with gifts from the Board in appreciation for all that they do for the students and staff of Perquimans County Schools. Dr. White congratulated Ms. Turner on being named The Perquimans Weekly Person of the Year.

Announcements

- Optional Work Day/Remote Learning Day Monday, February 15, 2021
- Regular Board of Education Meeting Monday, February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Central Office

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11p.m.

Dr. Anne White, Chairperson

Tanya Turn**∉r**, Superintendent