

**Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – March 28, 2022**

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom at the Central Office. Audio access was also available to the public by dialing a telephone number and entering a meeting ID and passcode.

Chairwoman Dr. Anne White called the meeting to order. Leary Winslow led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and had prayer.

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

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with addendums as presented.

Special Recognitions

Dr. Tanya Turner recognized PCHS Seniors Jada Modlin and A'Marion Hunter for scoring over 1,000 career points in their basketball career, noting that they accomplished this during a pandemic. She presented each of them with a certificate from the Board of Education and Superintendent. Girls' Basketball Coach Aaron Burke presented Jada with a personalized basketball to commemorate her accomplishment and commented on her athletic ability and career accomplishments. Boys' Basketball Coach Collin Woodley highlighted A'Marion's career accomplishments and congratulated him on his achievements. A'Marion was presented with a basketball during the regular season when he scored his 1,000th career point. Dr. Turner stated that any time a high school student scores 1,000 points during their high school career, their name is added to the plaque which is displayed in the trophy case at Perquimans County High School.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the February 28, 2022 regular meeting and the March 8, 2022 budget work session as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the student transfer requests for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, including the addendum, as presented by Dr. Turner.

Upon motion by Matt Peeler and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to approve the personnel recommendations in the Personnel Summary Report, including the addendum, as presented by Dr. Turner.

Public Hearing / Requests from the Public

None

Unfinished Business

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the 2022-2023 School Calendar as presented by Chief Academic Officer Melissa Fields.

New Business

Strategic Plan Update – Strategic Priority #2

Chief Academic Officer Melissa Fields provided an update on Strategic Priority 2: Provide services and staff to support the social, emotional, and physical needs of our students (“the whole child”) in a safe, secure, orderly and innovative learning environment. Several pages of data were presented for Action Steps 2.1 to 2.8 of Priority 2 including information on short-term suspensions, attendance, high school dropout rate, professional development related to culturally-relevant pedagogy, responses to the annual safety survey, staff training for digital citizenship, staff training to implement and incorporate Resilience and Trauma Informed practices, and staff training to meet the social, emotional, and unique learning needs of students with disabilities and English Language Learners. During the presentation, board members engaged in discussion and asked the staff questions. An update on the fourth strategic priority will be presented at the next board meeting.

Face Covering Policy

Superintendent Turner provided an updated map of the school districts in North Carolina that require masks and those that are mask optional. As of Friday, March 18th, 112 school districts have mask optional policies (one has a mask optional policy with certain stipulations and three have pending effective dates). Three school districts have mask mandates. Perquimans County Schools have had zero COVID cases since February 21st when masks became optional. Dr. Turner presented COVID data for the 2020-2021 School Year vs. the 2021-2022 School Year, noting that an additional column has been added to show the number of COVID cases since February 21st when the Board voted to go masks optional.

A map of North Carolina from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed mostly green which indicates low COVID-19 Community Level. There were only eight counties with medium COVID-19 Community Level.

Senate Bill 654 that was signed into law on Monday, August 30, 2021, requires school boards to vote each month on their pandemic-related mask or face covering policy. Dr. Turner presented her recommendation to make the wearing of masks optional for all students, staff, and visitors/spectators of Perquimans County Schools while inside school facilities and on school buses. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to keep the wearing of masks optional for all students, staff, and visitors/spectators of Perquimans County Schools while inside school facilities and on school buses. The Board of Education will continue to vote monthly on the mask requirement as required by law.

Updated Fee Schedule for FY 2021-2022

Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard presented an update to the Fee Schedule for FY 2021-2022 to include AIG Field Trips/Activity at Perquimans County Middle School in the amount of \$20 (can vary/estimated). Upon motion by Russell Lassiter and second by Amy Spaugh, the Board voted unanimously to approve the update to the Fee Schedule (FY 2021-2022) as presented by Mr. Blanchard.

Budget Amendments

Mr. Blanchard presented budget amendments for the Board’s consideration, explaining in detail the reason for each amendment. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Russell Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to approve State (Fund 1) Budget Amendment #4, Local (Fund 2) Budget Amendment #3, Federal (Fund 3) Budget Amendment #5, and Local (Fund 8) Budget Amendment #5 as presented.

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Blanchard presented the financial report that was run on March 22, 2022, which included the March 25th payroll, but no expenditures paid after that date. The benchmark for funds spent was 75%, with the actual percent of funds spent being 61%. He also illustrated the budget summary in more detail sorted by 2-digit Purpose Code. The items in red are due to federal dollars that he is waiting for approvals for federal PRCs. In Capital Outlay, \$102,215.53 remains unallocated for unexpected repairs. In regard to the amount in red for surveillance equipment, a check was received this week for reimbursement. It will be booked and appear on next month's report. When asked about the balance of lottery funds, Mr. Blanchard stated there was some over \$300,000 in lottery funds. It replenishes at approximately \$60-\$65,000 twice per year. He was also asked about how fuel prices are affecting the Transportation Department. He said he had not heard about receiving additional monies for that at this time, although in the past when fuel prices skyrocketed, the state made an adjustment. A question was also asked about increasing storage so that the district can buy fuel at cheaper rates during certain times of the year.

Bids for Video Surveillance Equipment

Assistant Superintendent James Bunch stated that the district recently received a safety grant from the Department of Public Instruction. The grant was written for video surveillance equipment specifically at Perquimans Central School and Hertford Grammar School. Bids were sent out to three companies; however, only one bid was received from WYN Technologies, Inc., the same company that equipment was purchased from for Perquimans Middle School and Perquimans High School. Mr. Bunch stated he was notified last week that the grant amount was reduced by a few thousand dollars. The difference will probably come out of At-Risk funding. Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to enter into an agreement with WYN Technologies, Inc. for Video Surveillance Equipment for Perquimans Central School in the amount of \$18,198.73 and for Hertford Grammar School in the amount of \$26,886.90 as presented.

Agreement with CHA Consulting, Inc. for PCHS Masterplan Complex Design

Director of Maintenance Jamie Johnson presented a contract from CHA Consulting, Inc. for the design of the track and soccer field at the Nixon Athletic Complex. The contract listed the Masterplan scope and the cost for services. After authorization is given to the company to proceed, they will provide a plan in six weeks. After questions and comments, the Board took the following action. When asked about a 6 or 8 lane track, Mr. Johnson stated that the company will give us a cost estimate for a 6 and 8 lane track to compare costs. It was noted that an 8 lane track would be more favorable for competitions and hosting regional meets. Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to enter an agreement with CHA Consulting, Inc. for the Perquimans County High School Masterplan Complex Design – CHA Proposal No. X74297, which includes Master Planning and Concept Design Phase II for a 6 or 8 lane track with soccer field as presented.

Reports / Updates

Student Discipline Data

Assistant Superintendent James Bunch presented the student discipline data for February 2022. One reportable offense that occurred in December was added to the report for Perquimans County High School. This offense was for the possession of a knife. There were no suspensions to report for Perquimans Central School. In February, there were five out-of-school suspensions for Hertford Grammar, eighteen for Perquimans Middle, and eight for Perquimans High.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Turner shared the following information in her report:

- Enrollment is up 24 students compared to the 2020-2021 school year. Early graduates will be added back at the end of the year.
- ACT Update: 2020-2021 – 27.7% met or exceeded the minimum requirements for ACT NC University admission. 2021-2022 – Minimum admission requirements increased to 19. 37.3% or 41/110 met the minimum of 19 or higher. 44.5% met the previous minimum requirement of 17 or higher.
- Fleet Reserve Essay Winners – East Coast Essay Winners
 - Derek P. Levesque: 12th Grade 1st Place Winner
 - Malik Bossert-Haverland: 11th Grade 1st Place Winner
 - Justin Richardson: 10th Grade 3rd Place Winner
 - Lilly Winslow: 9th Grade 1st Place WinnerFirst place winners move on to national competition.
- Hunter Safety – Congratulations to PCMS!
2nd in archery; 1st in rifle; 2nd in hunter safety; 2nd in shotgun; 1st overall in the district
- Baseball Grandstand Ribbon Cutting – April 8th at 6:40 p.m. Game time 7:00 p.m.
- Volunteer of the Year Award Ceremony
 - Leary Winslow, Lyl Brown, and Patrick Votava
2021 Historic Hertford Co-Volunteers of the Year
Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., 110 W. Academy Street

Board Chair's Comments

Dr. White thanked teachers, staff, Central Office and school leadership, parents and students for coming together as a team for the success of the school district.

Board Member Arlene Yates asked Dr. Kanika Griffin to give an update on the recent LICC (Local Interagency Coordinators Council) meeting. Dr. Griffin shared ideas from the information presented by Virginia Jones of Edenton-Chowan Schools.

Board Member Matt Peeler asked the Board to reconsider the motion for the contract with CHA Consulting to ask about methods for watering at the track/soccer field instead of having to buy the water from the town/county. Leary Winslow responded saying that it wouldn't be CHA, but it would be in the bid process for irrigation if irrigation is included or even considered for this project.

Dr. White thanked Mr. Ponder, newspaper reporter, and his son for being in attendance at the meeting.

Announcements

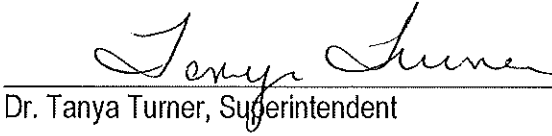
- Holiday – Friday, April 15, 2022; Spring Break – April 18-22, 2022
- Joint Budget Work Session with County Commissioners – Monday, April 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. @ Central Office
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. @ Central Office
- Budget Presentation to County Commissioners – Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. @ EMS Auditorium, 159 Creek Drive, Hertford

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Dr. Anne White, Chairwoman



Dr. Tanya Turner, Superintendent