

**Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – April 24, 2023**

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 24, 2023 in the boardroom at the Central Office. Audio access was available to the public by dialing a telephone number and entering a meeting ID and passcode.

Chairman Russell Lassiter called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, and had prayer.

Board members present: Chairman Russell Lassiter (in person), Vice Chair Arlene Yates (in person), Kristy Corprew (in person), Dr. Anne White (in person – arrived at 6:19 p.m.), Leary Winslow (in person – arrived at 6:45 p.m.), and Matt Winslow (in person).

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Kristy Corprew and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Special Recognitions

Fleet Reserve Association Essay Contest Winners 2023

Mr. Tennell C. Wright and Mr. Richard Thomas of the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 293, presented awards to students for their winning entries in the 2023 Fleet Reserve essay contest.

Amelia Hooper, 7 th grade, 1 st place	Justice Stacy, 7 th grade, 2 nd place
Caden Winslow, 8 th grade, 2 nd place	Mahalia Hodges, 8 th grade, 3 rd place
Lilly Winslow, 10 th grade, 2 nd place (accepted by Principal Mickey Drew)	Malik Bossert, 12 th grade, 1 st place (accepted by Superintendent Dr. Tanya Turner)

Lady Pirates Basketball 2022-2023 1A Conference Champions

Superintendent Dr. Tanya Turner recognized the 1A Lady Pirates Conference Champions and presented each team member with a certificate on behalf of the Board of Education. This season, the Lady Pirates were 23-3 overall and 12-0 in the conference. They beat Gates County 61-38 to win the Conference Championship. They lost to North Duplin 62-54 in the third round of the 1A state playoffs. Coach Burke was named the Conference Coach of the Year. Lailana Harris was named the Conference Player of the Year. Three Lady Pirates made the NC Basketball Coaches Association 2022-2023 Girls' All District Team: Lailana Harris, Crishya Sellers, and Jaslyn Holley.

Team members:

J'tia Watson	G'Nasia Moore	Jaslyn Holley
Annalyssa Ousley	Essence Bond	Lailana Harris
Crishya Sellers	Rayna Carver	Krista Linton
Anaiya Almodova	Indya Long	Amore' Lawrence
Heather Smith	Kaydee Hunter	Asia Fletcher
Lovely Hunter	Madison Montgomery	

Bookkeepers: Kyla Gordon, Aniyah Harney Game Recorder: Garric Davis
Head Coach: Aaron Burke Assistant Coach: Anisha Spellman

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Matt Winslow and second by Kristy Corprew, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the March 27, 2023 regular session and the April 17, 2023 joint budget work session as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the items on the consent agenda, which included revisions to Policy 7510 Leave and Policy 9030 Facility Construction.

Public Hearing / Requests from the Public

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Presentation: Strategic Plan Update

Chief Academic Officer for Curriculum and Instruction Melissa Fields presented 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. Mrs. Fields provided supporting data for the eight action steps which included short-term suspensions, attendance, dropout rate, professional development, school safety, digital citizenship, resilience and trauma informed practices, and training for staff to meet the needs of student with disabilities and English Language Learners. Mrs. Fields entertained question from board members about the information presented.

Community Eligibility Provision

School Nutrition Director Kimberly Cullipher presented information on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Each year, School Nutrition has to complete the Community Eligibility Provision to submit to the state. The percentages for the district were much higher this year. This was the first year that Medicaid was a qualifying factor in free meals. In addition, the number of homeless students pushed our district into a different bracket. Ms. Cullipher distributed a handout to board members. The percentages were high enough for Perquimans Central and Hertford Grammar School to qualify for CEP. This means that students for those two schools qualify for free meals. Ms. Cullipher referred to the district numbers on the handout. She said if the Board decided to implement CEP for the district, there is a chance of going in the hole slightly. Based on the numbers provided, with no additional participation, there would be a deficit of approximately \$1,000 per month. However, CEP would allow every student to eat every meal at no charge. With a 1.2% increase in lunch participation, School Nutrition would break even. Ms. Cullipher illustrated the difference in participation at Perquimans Central vs. Perquimans Middle. At Perquimans Central, CEP claiming was about \$3,000 more than traditional claiming. At Perquimans Middle, which has the lowest percentage of qualifying students, traditional claiming was about \$3,000 more than CEP claiming. As a district, 89.6% qualify as free for CEP. Ms. Cullipher entertained questions and comments from board members and the Superintendent. Upon motion by Anne White and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to operate Community Eligibility Provision across the district during the 2023-2024 school year.

Policy Revisions

Dr. Turner presented proposed revisions to Policy 4400 Attendance for a first reading. Dr. Turner explained there have been inconsistencies across the schools in the way attendance has been handled (when parent notes are accepted and for the number of days). Prior to COVID, the Board had adopted a tight policy on

attendance. When COVID happened, the district had to operate differently, especially when students could be tested at home and did not have to go to the doctor. As a result, it became more difficult with excused and unexcused absences. At the last principals' meeting, policies from other districts were examined in the area of attendance. To gain consistency across the district, the principals, based on their experiences at school, composed an amendment to the policy that is consistent with several policies across the state. The proposed revisions to the policy are in Section C., Excused Absences. Dr. Turner entertained questions and comments from board members. Action will be taken at the May meeting.

Finance

Budget Amendments

Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard presented budget amendments for the Board's consideration, explaining in detail the reason for each amendment. Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve State (Fund 1) Budget Amendment #4, Local (Fund 2) Budget Amendment #3, Federal (Fund 3) Budget Amendment #4, Capital Outlay (Fund 4) Budget Amendment #5, and Local (Fund 8) Budget Amendment #3.

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Blanchard presented the Expense-Budget Analysis (YTD) for April 2023. The benchmark was 83%, with 64% actually spent YTD (without the new school construction budget). The report was run on April 18, 2023, and did not include the April payroll or expenditures paid after that date. Including April payroll, the percentage actually spent increased to 72% (without the new school construction budget). Mr. Blanchard also presented the budget summary and board report as of April 24, 2023, sorted by 2-digit purpose code for State, Federal, Child Nutrition Funds, Local, Capital Outlay, and Other Sources of Revenue. He shared revenue and expenses for Capital Outlay and the proposed budget, YTD spent/encumbered, and budget remaining for each expense listed. The balance in Capital Outlay for general repairs was \$72,343.24. The balance of the Public School Building Capital Fund Lottery Fund was \$566,785.73. The balance of the Public School Building Capital Fund School Building Repair & Renovation Fund (PSBRRF) was \$591,214.33. The Public School Building Capital Fund Needs Based Lottery Fund, the funding source for the new school construction, remained at \$20,819,089.00.

Proposed Budget Request

Mr. Blanchard presented the proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023-2024. This was the same information that was presented to the Commissioners last month at the joint work session, but in a booklet format. Upon motion by Matt Winslow and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023-2024 as presented. The budget request will be formally presented to the County Commissioners next week on May 3rd at 8:00 p.m. at the EMS Auditorium.

Proposal for Banking Services

Mr. Blanchard requested approval from the Board to put out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for banking services. The district currently uses PNC Bank. With the rising cost of monthly service fees, almost non-existent local customer service, and recurring problems with banking errors, Mr. Blanchard would like to see what other banks charge and how problems are resolved (local vs. telephone call to another locality). Banking options in Hertford are very limited with only one other bank within the immediate area that will allow for school banking services. Upon motion by Anne White and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request to put out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for banking services.

Perquimans High School Track Project

Maintenance Director Mr. Jamie Johnson presented the recommendation to award the contract to A. R. Chesson Construction Company for the Perquimans High School Track Project in the amount of \$1,263,147.

Mr. Johnson entertained questions and comments from board members about items that were eliminated in order to meet the budget for the project. Upon motion by Anne White and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to award the new Perquimans High School track project to A. R. Chesson Construction Company, Inc. and to approve the construction contract for the work in the amount of \$1,263,147.

Reports / Updates

Student Discipline Data

According to Assistant Superintendent Mr. James Bunch, the number of reportable offenses has risen since the last meeting for a total of 12 offenses for the school year. This is reflective of the trend that has been reported as the result of a survey by the US Department of Education which indicated an increase in reportable acts in the state and nation. Suspensions for the month of March were as follows: Perquimans Central - 1, Hertford Grammar - 12, Perquimans Middle - 18, and Perquimans High - 8.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Turner shared the following information:

- Vacancies: Exceptional Children's Pre-K Itinerant Resource Teacher (PCS), Exceptional Children's Teacher (PCHS), PE Teacher (PCMS), Exceptional Children's TA (HGS), Social Studies (PCMS), Speech Pathologist (PCS), Assistant Principal (PCHS), Art Teacher (PCHS), Math Teacher (PCHS), School Psychologist, Academic Success Facilitator, Custodians, Bus Drivers and Monitors, and Child Nutrition Substitutes.
- Enrollment: PCS – 405/36 PreK, HGS – 397, PCMS – 380, PCHS – 514, Total – 1,696
Note: ADM increased by 5 since last month; gained 37 students since last year; PCHS had 26 mid-year graduates; 70 Kindergarten students registered thus far (8 more since last month); May 5th next registration day
- Child Nutrition Charges: January - \$827.24; February - \$1,323.97; March - \$1,280.16; April - \$1,156.53
- Budget Presentation to the County Commissioners – May 3, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. at EMS Auditorium
- Cooper Update / Spring Break - Storytime with Cooper (therapy dog)
- Completion of NCSSA Aspiring Superintendent Program: Dr. Kanika Griffin
- Perquimans FFA Plant Sale: May 3-4, from 4-7 p.m. at PCMS Green House
- Photos of corsages and boutonnieres for students made from flowers grown by FFA
- PCHS and PCHS Band performance at Busch Gardens
- Upcoming Dates for End-of-Year Events

Dr. White thanked Dr. Turner and the staff for the articles that were shared statewide about our school system.

Board Chair's Comments

Chairman Russell Lassiter reminded board members about the budget presentation to the County Commissioners on May 3rd at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Lassiter said he attended Field Day at Perquimans Central School this morning He said it was a good day and a good time for parents to see their kids in action.

Announcements

- Budget Presentation to County Commissioners – May 3, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. at EMS Auditorium
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office

Closed Session

Upon motion by Arlene Yates and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously at 7:23 p.m. to enter closed session pursuant to G.S. 143.318.11(a)(1) and (6) to consider closed session minutes, student transfer requests, and personnel matters.

Return to Open Session

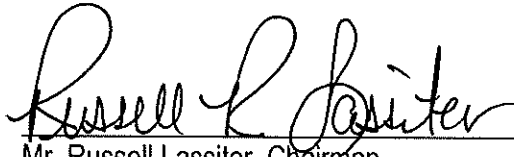
Upon motion by Kristy Corprew and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously at 7:33 p.m. to return to open session.

Personnel Summary Report

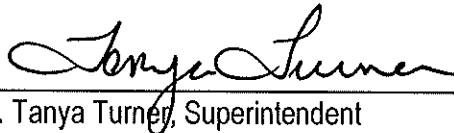
Upon motion by Kristy Corprew and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Superintendent's recommendations regarding personnel items as presented.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



Mr. Russell Lassiter, Chairman



Dr. Tanya Turner, Superintendent

