

Perquimans County Board of Education
Regular Session – July 25, 2022

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, July 25, 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 and welcomed new board members, Kristy Corprew and Matt Winslow, to their first meeting. Arlene Yates 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), Kristy Corprew (in person), Leary Winslow (in person), Matt Winslow (in person), and Arlene Yates (in person).

Approval of Agenda

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

Special Recognition

Dr. Dwayne K. Stallings Leadership Award

Gates County Schools Superintendent Dr. Barry Williams, who also serves as Chair of the NERESA, presented Dr. Tanya Turner with the Dr. Dwayne K. Stallings Leadership Award, which was recently awarded to Dr. Turner by the North Carolina School Superintendents Association (NCSSA). In honor of Dr. Stallings' legacy as an education leader and for all the efforts he gave for the northeast region and the superintendents of the region, the NCSSA established the Dr. Dwayne Stallings Leadership Award to honor current superintendents who follow in his footsteps as an educational leader. Dr. Williams congratulated Dr. Turner for emulating the standards of excellence that Dr. Stallings exhibited in his position as a true educational leader.

Code of Ethics Statement

In accordance with Board Policy 2120, at the annual organizational meeting of the board, all board members are expected to sign a code of ethics statement that includes the provisions in the policy. Board members read and signed the code of ethics statement as stated in board policy.

Election of Officers

Chairperson Dr. Anne White thanked the Board for choosing her as Chairperson for the last four years. She also thanked the leadership team at the Central Office for embracing and working with her. Dr. White said she had enjoyed her journey, but felt like it was time to allow someone else on the Board to enjoy that opportunity. Dr. White relinquished the gavel to Superintendent Turner to conduct the election of the board chair. Dr. Turner thanked Dr. White for her leadership and support. She also thanked Mr. Lassiter for his support as Vice Chair. The floor was opened for nominations. Dr. Anne White nominated Russell Lassiter. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Russell Lassiter as the Chair.

Dr. Turner relinquished the gavel to Chairman Russell Lassiter to conduct the election of the vice chair. The floor was opened for nominations. Dr. Anne White nominated Arlene Yates. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Arlene Yates as the Vice Chair.

Before proceeding with the agenda, Chairman Lassiter made a few comments. He stated he didn't know if his parliamentary procedures skills were as sharp as they needed to be and asked board members to call him out on it if he messes up. He said it is not important if he gets it right, but that it is very important that they get it right. He also said it was okay to disagree, but it was not okay to show each other disrespect. If issues come up they don't agree on, they should talk them out in a mature and adult way to come to a resolution. He said if they can do that, they will be a successful board. He thanked the board for their support for him as Chair. He also thanked Dr. White for her service and for leading the board for the last four years.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Matt Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the June 29, 2022 regular meeting and the July 7, 2022 special-called meeting as presented.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Kristy Corprew, the Board voted unanimously to approve the student transfer requests for 2022-2023 as presented by Dr. Turner.

Upon motion by Dr. Anne White 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

None

New Business

Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Junior Marshal Determinations

Perquimans County High School Principal Mr. Mickey Drew presented a proposal from the administrative team at Perquimans County High School to recognize our best students as Valedictorian and Salutatorian based on the way grades are calculated at the state level now. He said when they started this process, they considered coming to the board with a proposal to eliminate Valedictorian and Salutatorian. However, after talking with staff, students, and community members, that did not have much support. He said it was tradition to have the designations of Valedictorian and Salutatorian at Perquimans County High School. Mr. Drew presented how grades are calculated now across the state of North Carolina for Freshmen through Seniors. If a student in a class makes a 90 and a student in the same class makes a 98, they both get a 4.0. There was a situation with this year's graduating class where two students had the same GPA and could have been considered number one. Those two students had lower grades than a third student when calculated based on their performance in the class.

Mr. Drew presented a conversion chart to use for determining Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Junior Marshals. These grades would not go on an official transcript. The GPA on the transcript would be based on the state's ten-point scale. Beginning with the Freshmen class of 2022-2023, the conversion chart would be used to recognize the best student in each graduating class as Valedictorian. Mr. Drew explained that this would eliminate ties based on the quality of the student's work in all classes by awarding quality points on a sliding scale in line with the numerical grade in each class.

After a time of questions and discussion, the following action was taken. Leary Winslow made a motion to adopt the proposed GPA calculations for all future Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Junior Marshal determinations beginning with the incoming Freshmen class of 2022-2023 and to break any ties moving forward before that time starts. After some discussion, Leary Winslow withdrew his motion and made the following motion. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Dr. White, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed GPA calculations for all future Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Junior Marshal determinations beginning with the incoming Freshmen class of 2022-2023 as presented. After more discussion, the following action was taken. Upon motion by Kristy Corprew and second by Dr. Anne White, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the conversion chart presented by Mr. Drew which shall be used in the event of a tie in future years for the incoming Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors.

School Nutrition Bids

School Nutrition Director Kimberly Cullipher presented the School Nutrition bids for 2022-2023. She entertained questions regarding price increases for bread and milk, school lunch prices, criteria for student qualification for free/reduced, among other related items. Upon motion by Dr. Anne White and second by Leary Winslow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the School Nutrition bids for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 as presented by Ms. Cullipher.

Board of Education Representative on Perquimans County Schools Foundation Board

Leary Winslow stated he has been the Board of Education representative for the past two or three years. Matt Winslow was serving as a community member as members are chosen. Leary Winslow stated he could support the Foundation in a capacity outside of being a board member. Now that Matt Winslow is a Board of Education member, he can't be on the Foundation Board. Leary Winslow said he would like to relinquish his duties to Matt Winslow and nominate him to be the Board of Education representative. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Dr. Anne White, the Board voted unanimously to elect Matt Winslow to serve as the Board of Education representative on the Perquimans County Schools Foundation Board for 2022-2023.

NCSBA Video Library Subscription Service

Dr. Turner announced that the North Carolina Schools Boards Association is offering for the first time a video library subscription. Any training that they offer throughout the year will be available through this video subscription service. Not only would it be available to board members, but it would also be available to anyone in our school system upon purchasing the subscription. The videos would provide a way for board members to earn required CEUs. They would not count toward the NCSBA Master Board Training; however, NCSBA said they would review and consider that as a possibility. The subscription is \$1,500 from the point it is purchased through June 30th. Prior to the vote, Dr. White recused herself from this action item. Upon motion by Leary Winslow and second by Arlene Yates, the Board voted unanimously to subscribe to the NCSBA Video Library Subscription Service for 2022-2023 in the amount of \$1,500 as presented.

Reports / Updates

Transportation Update

Transportation Director Terry Sawyer stated that after discussion at the last principals' meeting, they decided to combine four routes so there would be less ride time on the bus. The Transportation Department is in the process of doing this, but can't finalize it yet because they don't have all students' information, especially students' information that will be received at the Back to School Bash. He said several routes have already been combined. The buses that are being combined are Perquimans Central/Hertford Grammar and Perquimans Middle/Perquimans High. The schools will have staggered start times. Last year, there were 22

buses on the road. They hope to reduce that number by two. There are 25 full-time bus drivers at this time; some drive only in the morning or only in the afternoon. When asked about the new bridge, Mr. Sawyer said the Department of Transportation said that the new bridge will be open by the time school starts. This will save approximately 15 minutes on route times.

As a side note, Dr. Turner mentioned that Mr. Sawyer, Mrs. Williams and many of the bus drivers attended Timothy Steward's funeral yesterday. Mr. Sawyer drove the bus to the funeral. They did a last call on the transportation radio in Mr. Steward's honor and memory.

Finance

Chief Finance Officer Rube Blanchard announced that the State passed the budget. He received an email from DPI School Finance that said by tomorrow afternoon, they would have initial allotments. After receiving the allotments, Mr. Blanchard will start forming the budgets.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Turner shared the following information:

- Current vacancies and plans to cover those positions
- PQ Five Star Child Care License
- CTE Summer Accelerator Program and Internship Placements this year and plans for next year
- Upcoming Dates

Other:

Vice Chairwoman Arlene Yates asked about the possibility of having to revisit masking due to COVID. Dr. Turner stated she talked to Albemarle Regional Health about this. The North Carolina Strong Schools Toolkit was abandoned and the CDC guidance has been adopted. They no longer recommend that staff report their vaccination status or participate in screening. Masks are recommended but not mandatory even if community levels are at high transmission. Universal contact tracing is not recommended since it is not possible due to all the tests that are now available.

Mrs. Yates thanked the Board for nominating and electing her as Vice Chair for the 2022-2023 school year.

Board Chair's Comments

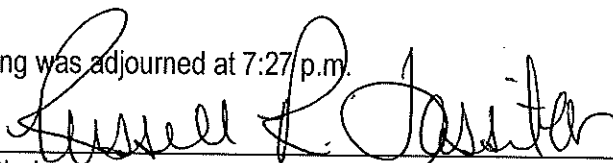
Mr. Lassiter again thanked Dr. White for leading the Board for the last four years, especially through the difficult period of COVID. He also thanked the Board for supporting him as Chair.

Announcement

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Monday, August 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. @ Central Office

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Chairperson



Superintendent