

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
February 9, 2016

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in joint session with the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 6:00 p.m., in the Northeastern High School Media Center. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

	Mr. Barry Overman, Chairman	
Ms. Sharon Warden		Mrs. Virginia Houston
Mr. Walter Jolly		Mrs. Pam Pureza

The following Central Office and District staff members were present:

Dr. Larry W. Cartner, Superintendent
Mrs. Dianne Meiggs, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Joanne Sanders, Chief Academic Officer
Mr. Doug Hale, Finance Officer
Mrs. Tammy W. Sawyer, Community Schools Director/Public Information Officer

The following Board of Commissioners members were present: Cecil Perry, Vice Chairman, Jeff Dixon, Frankie Meads and Bettie Parker and Dr. William Sterritt

The following Pasquotank County staff were present: Rodney Bunch, County Manager; R. Michael Cox, County Attorney; Sheri Small, Finance Officer; and Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board.

Dinner provided by the Northeastern High School Cafeteria was served at 5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Barry Overman, Board of Education Chairman, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Mr. Cecil Perry, Vice Chairman of the Pasquotank Board of Commissioners, called the Commissioners meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Mr. Overman and Mr. Perry provided opening remarks.

II. Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools Updates

Strategic Planning Process

Dr. Cartner provided an update on the Strategic Planning Process underway in the school district and shared a copy of the minutes of the Strategic Planning Task Force Meeting held on February 3, 2016.

1:1 Technology Initiative

Dr. Cartner provided an update on the Board of Education Retreat which was held on January 14, 2016.

Dr. Cartner discussed the proposed 1:1 Technology Initiative. He talked about what needs to be done for the children in the school system relating to technology. He indicated that there is no research stating that technology alone will increase achievement. He asked everyone to think about the attention span of their children or grandchildren and indicated that education is about student engagement. Technology is a key piece for increasing student engagement. He discussed the exposure to technology that children have prior to entering school.

Dr. Cartner shared handouts regarding lease options and suggested schedules for implementing 1:1 technology.

Dr. Cartner discussed a Teacher Laptop Initiative and shared handouts regarding lease options for this initiative. He informed the group of that teachers are required (by the NC Department of Public Instruction) to use the PowerSchool Program which is a state-wide electronic database for student information. All grades, attendance, demographic information, discipline, etc. must be entered into the system and every teacher, every day has to access that database.

Dr. Cartner shared that the items above are two big pieces and the Board of Education would like to dialogue about them tonight. It is not a matter of "if", but is a matter of "when" to implement 1:1 Initiatives for students and teachers.

Following Dr. Cartner's presentation, Commissioners and Board members dialogued regarding the proposed grade span set for rollout, plan to distribute/monitor devices; managing lease to ensure most current equipment; replacements for lost/broken equipment; insurance; community internet access, and personnel needs related to technology.

Capital Projects

Dr. Cartner distributed a list of "Major Capital Projects" and discussed items on the list.

The Priority #1 project is the J. C. Sawyer Roof Replacement and it is ready for bid. The Board of Education will bring this forward to the Commissioners in March. This would keep the project on schedule in order to get the work done during the summer break.

The Priority #2 project is the River Road Middle School HVAC Replacement. Dr. Cartner discussed that the initial assessment was for dehumidifiers, but the results show the heat pumps should be replaced.

Dr. Cartner indicated that the bids for the Northeastern High School Chiller were opened recently and will be presented to the Board of Education in February.

Dr. Cartner provided copies of a proposed painting schedule and discussed painting needs throughout the system. Estimates are being solicited at the present time for projects.

Following Dr. Cartner's presentation, Commissioners and Board members dialogued about moisture issues related to peeling paint; infrastructure; HVAC needs; roof issues/needs; warranties, etc.

Chairman Overman discussed the need to maintain the buildings the school system has and the cost associated with maintaining buildings, especially older buildings.

Chairman Perry acknowledged the need to maintain buildings and indicated that he hoped the Board of Education understood the financial constraints for the County.

Capital Funding for Schools

Mr. Rodney Bunch, County Manager, asked Sheri Small, County Finance Officer, to share up to date information on revenue sources.

Ms. Small shared a handout (Restricted Revenue Sources for Capital Funding for School: for the year ending June 30, 2015) and discussed funding sources.

Board members and Commissioners discussed available funding sources.

III. Dialogue With Boards

Members of both Boards discussed issues relating to the community and to the school system.

There was discussion regarding the possibility of exploring placing the ¼ Cent Sales Tax Referendum on the ballot for voters. The need to provide information that would educate the public about the sales tax was discussed.

IV. Closing Remarks

Commissioner Dixon noted that he was pleased that the two Boards are establishing an ongoing relationship. He noted that in the past, the two Boards have only spoken at budget time.

Mr. Perry thanked the Board of Educating for hosting the meeting and for the communication shared.

Mr. Overman thanked the Commissioners for meeting with the Board and for the open dialogue.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary