

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ELIZABETH CITY-PASQUOTANK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
February 7, 2017**

The Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education met in joint session with the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 5:30 p.m., in the Pasquotank County High School Media Center. The following Board members were present and constituted a quorum:

Ms. Sharon Warden, Chair

Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Vice Chairman	Mr. Walter Jolly
Mrs. Virginia Houston	Mrs. Pam Pureza
Dr. Sheila Williams	

The following Central Office and District staff members were present:

Dr. Larry W. Cartner, Superintendent  
Mr. Steve Lassiter, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Joanne Sanders, Chief Academic Officer  
Mr. Andrew Cox, Finance Officer  
Ms. Tammy W. Sawyer, Community Schools Director/Public Information Officer

The following members of the Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners were present:

Mr. Cecil Perry, Chairman

Dr. William Sterritt	Mrs. Bettie Parker
Mr. Jeff Dixon	Mr. Joe Winslow

The following Pasquotank County staff members were present:

Mr. Rodney Bunch, County Manager  
Ms. Sheri Small, Finance Officer  
Mr. Mike Cox, County Attorney  
Ms. Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board.

Chair Warden called the Board of Education meeting to order.

Chairman Perry called the Board of Commissioners meeting to order.

Ms. Warden welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

Jennifer Loeffler, Pasquotank County High School English teacher, shared a brief presentation on the use of Chromebooks in English classrooms. She highlighted activities being used in classrooms and the flexibility provided to students and teachers.

Dinner was provided by the Pasquotank County High School Culinary Arts I & II Classes. Dr. Cartner recognized Chef Rory Remillard, Culinary Arts Instructor, and his students and thanked them for providing the delicious meal.

Dr. Cartner shared a PowerPoint presentation “Updates and Dialogue” which highlighted:

- 1:1 Progress
- Grant Update
- Early College Update
- AdvancEd Reaccreditation Process
- Strategic Plan Update
- Unknowns (State Budget, Class Size Mandate, Hospitalization, etc.)
- Supplements for Teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals
- Budget Projections
  - Current Status
  - Big Picture of Basic Needs
  - Fixed Costs in Local Budget
  - Areas of Potential Reduction in Local Budget
- Significant Issues for 2017-18
- 2017-18 Large Capital Needs
- Student Growth Projections

Dr. Cartner discussed budget needs and implications. He indicated significant funding issues for 2017-18 include the need for \$1.8 million in local funding to maintain at the current level and reported that the school district depleted Fund Balance reserves to maintain for 2016-17. He discussed the State’s Class Size Mandate and the potential funding issues surrounding the mandate. He also discussed Capital Needs which included a replacement wrecker for the Transportation Department, roof work, HVAC replacement, window replacement and painting of schools.

Dr. Cartner indicated the district appreciates funding the County has provided and understands they also have funding issues. He asked that funding be provided to prevent the district from going backward.

Dr. Cartner closed his presentation by commenting on the district’s “excellence factors” – personnel, finance, program and visionary.

Dr. Cartner informed Commissioners that “*Explore ECPPS .... A Tour of Schools*” has been scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> and encouraged them to participate

Mr. Perry asked if the district has increased supplements for math and science teachers. Dr. Cartner indicated the district does not differentiate by subject matter for supplements; however a signing bonus is offered for hard to fill positions (Math, Ex. Children).

Dr. Sterritt commented on information he has head/read about the potential impact of class size mandates and his disappointment that classes such as Art, Music, PE, Drama, etc. may have to be cut. He indicated it is important for educators to remember that those classes keep students in school. Dr. Cartner responded that he agreed 100% and indicated it would do no one any good to lose those classes – they are not extras, but in fact they build social skills.

Mrs. Pureza asked Dr. Cartner to share more information on teacher supplements and the challenges the district is experiencing in recruiting teachers. Dr. Cartner and Mr. Lassiter discussed the recruiting schedule planned for this year and the fact that the district lost teachers to neighboring districts with higher supplements. Mr. Dixon asked about the proximity of the district to the Hampton Roads area and pay in Virginia for teachers. Dr. Cartner indicated that it has a huge impact when folks can travel 30-45 minutes for higher pay.

Mr. Winslow commented that he is proud of what the school system has accomplished, in particular the steps taken to open the Early College High School and the AP Courses offered in schools. He asked what the district is doing from a technical standpoint (vocational classes). Dr. Cartner responded that the district ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the state this year with the number of students receiving certifications in Career/Technical Education courses.

Ms. Warden commented that the Early College High School will also be geared toward STEM and would offer opportunities. Dr. Cartner shared that the district will start the Early College with the expectation that students will complete their high school diploma and associate degree requirements in four years.

Ms. Warden thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to stay and watch a basketball game underway at the school. She also asked everyone to support a petition going around about bringing back the Teaching Fellows program at the State level.

A motion was made by Pam Pureza, seconded by Virginia Houston, and unanimously carried to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 7:02 p.m.

The Commissioners also adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary