

## **Board Work Session Minutes**

**DATE:** June 17, 2019

**PRESENT:** Chair Anna Barrett Smith, Vice Chair Betsy Flanagan, Tracy Everette-Lenz, Benjie Forrest, Caroline W. Doherty

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Ethan Lenker, Debra Baggett, Jennifer L. Johnson, Matt Johnson, Dr. Steve Lassiter, Dr. Ve-Lecia Council, Mary Carter, and Media

**ABSENT:** Amy Cole, Melinda Fagundus, Worth Forbes, Mary Blount Williams

**IN-HOUSE COUNSEL:** Emma J. Hodson

**TIME:** 12:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Boardroom, 1717 West 5<sup>th</sup>. Street, Greenville, NC 27834

A) Chair Smith called the Board Work Session to order at 12:00 P.M.

### B) Miscellaneous

The following ECU staff presented a Community School update with the Board members.

- B. Grant Hayes, PhD, Dean, College of Education
- Dr. Angela Lamson, Professor, College of Health and Human Performance, oversees the intergraded health component at the ECU Community School
- Dr. Elizabeth Hodge, Professor and Assistant Dean, College of Education
- Dr. Art Rouse, Associate Dean, College of Education
- Tracy Cole, Principal ECU Community School

Ms. Cole shared a presentation which included the following:

- ECU Laboratory School opened for the 2017-2018 School Year with approximately 50 Scholars in grades 2, 3 and 4
- 2018-2019 School Year changed name to ECU Community School with approximately 80 Scholars in grades K-5
- 2019-2020 School Year with approximately 129 Scholars in grades K-5
- 2019-2020 School Year will have additional Modular Units due to growth
- Staff consists of five teachers in kindergarten through fifth grade, special education teacher/director, curriculum director, four teacher assistants, school nurse, school social worker, administrative assistant, and a principal

Dr. Lamson shared a presentation that included integrated care, wellness collaborative events, biopsychosocial screeners, and a health referral plan. She stated she was “meeting scholars and parents where they are” and it “is about understanding families, communities, and the possibilities for better physical, emotional, relational, and/or spiritual health.”

Much discussion occurred between the ECU Community School staff and the Board members.

### C) Operations

1) Division of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership (DEEL) Building Contract  
Aaron Errickson, Director of Facilities, discussed the cost to complete the DEEL offices, located on Allen Road, with the Board members. Mr. Errickson shared that the Board approved Farrior and Sons contract amount of \$987,600.00, but after working with Farrior and Sons and Hite Associates on value engineering options, the contract has been reduced to \$946,800.00, a savings of \$40,800.00. Contracts have been drafted by Hite Associates and sent to Farrior and Sons for a signature. Once the contract is reviewed by Ms. Hodson, In-House Counsel, the contract will be sent to the Board Chair for her signature. Some discussion occurred between Mr. Errickson and the Board members.

### 2) Summer Projects

Mr. Errickson shared the list of projects the facilities department plan to complete this summer. The list included the work that would occur at every school as well as a

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breakdown of work to be done at individual schools. Some discussion occurred between Mr. Errickson and the Board members.

### 3) Transportation/Bus Fleet

Matt Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, discussed transportation and bus fleet information with the Board members. Mr. Johnson shared that due to the addition of the two early high school colleges, ECU Community school and PCC courses offered to PCS students, that the transportation department is using all of the reserved inventory buses we had a few years back. Mr. Johnson said that a request for a loaner bus from DPI has been made. The loaner bus will be a reserved inventory bus from another county. He informed the Board members that transportation department is re-evaluating bus routes to see if any routes can be combined to free up a bus. Mr. Johnson also informed the Board members that PCS may need to purchase at least one yellow bus within the next year at a cost of approximately \$90,000.00, but would come back to them with the request at a later time.

### 4) Moyer Annex Expansion

Mr. Johnson discussed a possible Moyer Annex expansion with the Board members. He shared a drawing of the area used by PCS at this time and discussed the desire to add the adjacent 1865 square feet. The additional area would be used as a multi-purpose room as well as a kitchen, storage and additional bathrooms. Some discussion occurred between Mr. Johnson and the Board members. The Board members requested some additional data. No decision was reached.

## D) Finance

### 1) 2019-2020 Milk Bid

Debra Baggett, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the 2019-2020 Milk Bid with the Board members. Ms. Baggett stated PCS received two bids. After some discussion, Ms. Baggett requested the 2019-2020 Milk Bid with PET be added to the June 26, 2019, Special Called Board Meeting Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members was to allow the 2019-2020 Milk Bid with PET be placed on the June 26, 2019, Special Called Board Meeting Consent Agenda.

### 2) Additional Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools

Ms. Baggett, Chief Financial Officer, shared that Ayden-Grifton High School, Bethel Elementary, C.M. Eppes Middle School and E.B. Aycock Middle School will be added to the existing CEP schools. CEP schools offer breakfast and lunch to both students and staff every day at no cost.

## E) EPS

### 1) Calculating Marshall Rank

Mary Carter, Director of Secondary Education, led a determining junior marshalls discussion with the Board members. Ms. Carter shared several options including:

- Continuing with the current practice
- Revert to using 1<sup>st</sup> semester GPA
- Insert an additional step that requires the principal to review selections and the option to add administrative appointments
- Completely overhaul the perception of graduation marshal from academic award to community/school service opportunity

Much discussion occurred between Ms. Carter and the Board members. No decision was reached.

### 2) Portrait of a Graduate

Jennifer L. Johnson, Public Information Officer, and Dr. Steve Lassiter, Assistant Superintendent of EPS, shared a portrait of a graduate update with the Board members. Ms. Johnson and Dr. Lassiter discussed to steps already taken and those PCS are taking to determine what the PCS portrait of a graduate should resemble.

### 3) End of Grade Retakes Update

Dr. Lassiter shared the following end of grade student retake information with the Board members.

- 2017-2018 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA: 107 students and Math: 38 students
- 2017-2018 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA: 61 students and Math: 8 students

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- 2018-2019 – 4-8 Grade ELA: 2,160 students
- 2018-2019 – 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science: 315 students

Some discussion occurred between Dr. Lassiter and the Board members.

#### 4) Istation/iReady/mClass

Dr. Lassiter shared with the Board members that the following information was received from Mark Johnson, State Superintendent, on June 13, 2019.

*“Educators, we will be launching a new reading diagnostic tool, Istation, over the summer. Istation is a tool designed by teachers for teachers and has proven results of helping students grow. State law requires North Carolina to have one reading diagnostic tool for every K-3 class. Recently, a new state law required the Department of Public Instruction to evaluate diagnostics and select one to be implemented next school year. We will be working with local leaders to provide live webinars, in-person trainings, and ongoing support over the summer and throughout the year so that you will be comfortable with the new learning platform.”*

*Here are some exciting aspects of Istation for K-3 teachers and students:*

- *Istation’s goal is to provide teachers a quick and easy-to-use tool to allow more time for teachers to teach with personalized instruction, 1-on-1 supports, and small group learning environments.*
- *Istation is intuitive, its assessments are formative, and its content adapts to the individual needs of students.*
- *Students receive personalized data profiles and because the formative assessment is quick and easy to take, students are able to spend more time with their teachers than they do on devices.*
- *An entire class can be assessed in approximately 30 minutes, and data is available to the teacher immediately, allowing him or her to immediately begin personalizing instruction.*
- *Teachers will be able to select from 3000 teacher-led lessons and lesson plans to help assist in this personalization. These lessons are recommended to the teacher based on a student’s individual needs.*

*We will continue to update this website with more information, such as details on enrollment and professional development, over the coming days and weeks. We are excited by the journey ahead, and we are committed to supporting you and your teams as we embark on this new initiative together.”*

Dr. Lassiter and Lisa Tate, Director of K-5, shared that this mandate will replace the statewide use of mClass, an assessment tool that PCS uses now. He also shared with the Board that PCS uses iReady, a K-8 diagnostic tool, which is different than Istation a K-3 diagnostic tool.

Much discussion occurred between Dr. Lassiter, Lisa Tate and the Board members.

#### F) Student Services

##### Strive for Five

Karen Harrington, Director of Student Services shared Strive for Five, part of the READ ENC early literacy campaign, with the Board members. Ms. Harrington shared that the goal of the Strive for Five initiative is to educate parents on how important it is to have students attend school on a regular basis and to help all students read at or above grade-level by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Some discussion occurred between Ms. Harrington and the Board members.

#### G) School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

Ron Butler, Director of Community Schools, shared a SHAC update with the Board members. Mr. Butler said the following topics were discussed at the May 22, 2019 SHAC meeting.

- Nutrition – how poor nutrition and dehydration affects student athletes
- Narcon – Nurses and 1<sup>st</sup> responders would like to carry Narcon
- Electronic cigarettes – risks and education of e-cigs to students

Mr. Butler asked the Board members to recommend or volunteer to serve on the Community Schools and Recreation Advisory Board. Little discussion occurred between Mr. Butler and the Board members.

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H) Board Training

Chair Smith asked the Board members for the approval for their Administrative Assistant to send Board member credit hours' request forms to North Carolina School Board Association (NCSBA). Consensus of the Board members was to allow the Board Assistant to send the credit hours' request forms to NCSBA for the training Board members have received during Board Work Sessions.

I) Adjourn

The Board Work Session adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anna Barrett Smith, Chair

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Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary