

## **Board Work Session Minutes**

**DATE:** February 17, 2020

**PRESENT:** Chair Betsy Flanagan, Vice Chair Melinda Fagundus, Caroline W. Doherty, Tracy Everette-Lenz, Worth Forbes, Benjie Forrest, Amy Cole, Anna Barrett Smith, Mary Blount Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Ethan Lenker, Debra Baggett, Jennifer L. Johnson, Dr. Steve Lassiter, Dr. Ve-Lecia Council, Matt Johnson, Aaron Errickson, Virginia Gaynor, Beth Ann Trueblood and Media

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

**TIME:** 12:05 P.M.

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

A) Chair Flanagan called the Board Work Session to order at 12:05 P.M.

### B) Superintendent Items

1) Dr. Lenker, Superintendent, shared the request he received to name the new professional development building located on Allen Road, The Kathy Taft Center, after the late state school board member, Kathy Taft, with the Board members. After some discussion, the consensus of the Board members was to allow the professional building on Allen Road to be named the Kathy Taft Center and to place the naming of the building on the March 2, 2020 Board meeting Consent Agenda.

2) Dr. Lenker also shared the request he received to name the D.H. Conley High School office area, The Mrs. Pearl Hardy Frizzell Office Annex, after the late Pearl Frizzell who started work at D.H. Conley on the first day the school opened and worked there until her passing in 2019, with the Board members. After some discussion, the consensus of the Board members was to allow the D.H. Conley office area to be named the Mrs. Pearl Hardy Frizzell Office Annex and to place the naming of the office area on the March 2, 2020 Board meeting Consent Agenda.

### C) Finance

#### Finance Update

Debra Baggett, Chief Financial Officer, shared the 2019-2020 budget resolution with the Board members. The items shared included the following:

- No Approved State Budget
- Budget Operating Revenue and Expenses
- State Budget
- Local Budget and Appropriations by Year
- Local Fund Balance
- Special Revenue Fund Budget
- Capital Fund Category and Regular Capital Outlay

After much discussion occurred between Ms. Baggett and the Board members, Ms. Baggett requested that the 2019-2020 budget resolution be allowed to be placed on the March 2, 2020, Board Meeting Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members

Minutes Recorder: Carol Rankin

was to allow the 2019-2020 budget resolution to be placed on the March 2, 2020, Consent Agenda.

#### D) Human Resources

##### 1) Spring 2020, Job Fairs

Dr. Ve-Lecia Council, Assistant Superintendent of HR, shared the job fair calendar showing dates and places where the job fairs will be held with the Board members.

##### 2) 2020-2021 Early College High School Academic Calendars

Dr. Council shared the 2020-2021 early college high school calendars with the Board members. After some discussion, Dr. Council requested the 2020-2021 early college high school academic calendars be allowed to be placed on the March 2, 2020, Board Meeting Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members was to allow the 2020-2021 early college high school academic calendars to be placed on the March 2, 2020, Consent Agenda.

##### 3) 2021-2020 Academic Calendar Discussion

Dr. Council shared the process and timeline she has in place for the 2021-2022 academic school calendar with the Board members. Some discussion occurred between Dr. Council and the Board members.

#### E) Educational Programs and Services

##### 1) Student Dress Code and Appearance Policy Review

The Board members, Senior Staff and four principals representing elementary, middle and high school discussed the pros and cons of the current student dress code and appearance policy. Much discussion occurred around the table and with the principals. Consensus of the Board members was to add this item to the March 16, 2020, Board Work Session to discuss the possibility of adding the color gray for pants, allowing any color jacket and allowing college apparel to the current policy and/or other revisions.

##### 2) Exceptional Children's Department Update

Virginia Gaynor, Exceptional Children's Department Director, shared a department update with the Board members. Items shared included the following:

- Exceptional Children's Demographics
- Disability Categories
- Programs and Services Available
- School Psychological Services
- K-8 Programs
- 6-12 Programs
- Project Search
- Autism Program
- Evidence-Based Strategies
- Visual Impairment
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

Much discussion occurred between Ms. Gaynor and the Board members.

##### 3) Review of Policy 4150, School Assignment

The Board members, Ron Butler, and Coaches Rob Maloney and Paul Cornwell discussed the pros and cons of the 365-day athletic sit-out rule located in policy 4150.  
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Much discussion occurred around the table and with the coaches. Worth Forbes asked Mr. Butler to present the athletic eligibility protocol of checks and balances at the next board work session. Then Mr. Forbes requested that Policy 4150 be revised to state “all open enrollment transfer students will be required to a 365-day athletic sit-out”. Mr. Forbes then requested the revision of Policy 4150 be allowed to be placed on the March 2, 2020, Board meeting Agenda.

#### F) Operations

##### A.G. Cox Middle School Project Update

Matt Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, stated that bids for the A.G. Cox Middle School renovation project came in five million dollars over budget. Some of the reasons for the overage included the following;

- Area being flooded with construction work/opportunities
- Duration of the project
- Storm water controls
- Lack of multiple plumbing, electrical and mechanical contractor bids

Mr. Johnson advised the Board members that the state construction office recommends that if a project requires a 15% reduction in cost with value engineering and negotiations a better value may be to postpone the project and rebid at a later time, possibility with a new design. Mr. Johnson stated it was his recommendation to pull the project at this time. He also shared that the County Commissioners would vote on the project at their meeting tonight. Several Board members stated that it was ok to pull the A.G. Cox project at this time, but not the priority. Much discussion occurred between Mr. Johnson and the Board members.

#### G) Public Information

Due to time constraints the following agenda items were not discussed; PCS United Way Campaign, Immunizations Public Campaign and Grow Local Event for March 23-30, 2020. Chair Flanagan requested that Ms. Johnson present all three item at the March 2, 2020 Board meeting.

#### H) Miscellaneous Items

Due to time constraints the June 25, 2020, Board meeting for the purpose of approving the budget resolution was not discussed.

#### I) Adjourn

The Board Work Session adjourned at 3:01 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Elizabeth M. Flanagan, Chair

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Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary