

Board Work Session Minutes

DATE: May 18, 2020

PRESENT: Chair Betsy Flanagan,

PRESENT REMOTELY: Vice Chair Melinda Fagundus, Tracy Everette-Lenz, Caroline W. Doherty, Benjie Forrest, Worth Forbes, Mary Blount Williams, Anna Barrett Smith, and Amy Cole, joined at 12:04 pm

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Ethan Lenker, Jennifer L. Johnson, Dr. Steve Lassiter, Karen Harrington, Paul Briney, and Norman McDuffie

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL: Emma J. Hodson

TIME: 12:00 P.M.

PLACE: 3rd Floor Boardroom, 1717 West 5th Street, Greenville, NC 27834, and via <http://go.pittschools.org/livestream>

Due to COVID-19, the Board Work Session was held remotely. At 12:00 P.M., Chair Flanagan called the Board of Education Work Session to order by polling each Board member.

2020-2021 Interim Budget Resolution

Debra Baggett, Chief Financial Officer, requested the 2020-2021, interim budget resolution, which allows PCS to operate of the current budget until next year's budget has been received, to be placed on the June 1, Board meeting Consent Agenda. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, consensus was to allow the 2020-2021 interim budget on the June 1, 2020, Board meeting Consent Agenda.

2020-2021 Calendar Update

Dr. Ethan Lenker, PCS Superintendent, shared the changes made to the 2020-2021, academic calendar and early college high school calendars due to the recent General Assembly regulations with the Board members. The changes made to the calendars included the following items.

- 5 Additional Student Days
- 5 Remote Learning Days
- High School Exams before Christmas
- First Day of School for Teachers is August 11
- First Day of School for Students is August 17
- Unbalanced High School Semesters

Some discussion occurred between Dr. Lenker and the Board members. Benjie Forrest wanted the record to show that he did not have a problem with the high

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school exams being held before Christmas. Dr. Lenker asked the Board members to allow the revised 2020-2021 calendars to be placed on the June 1, 2020, Board meeting Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members was to add this item to the June 1, 2020, Board meeting Consent Agenda.

Local CTE Plan

Beth Ann Trueblood, Director of CTE, shared the 2020- 2021, Local CTE plan with the Board members. The presentation included the following information:

- Draft of the Local CTE Plan
- Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment for 2020-2022
- New Courses in Business
- Electrical added to J.H. Rose High School
- Awarded NC GreenPower Solar Schools Grant/Partnership with GUC for Solar Modules on Campus
- Credentialing: 5747 (11th in State)
- CTSO Participation Continues to Grow
- 5-year Computer Purchase for Computer labs
- Career Exploration Lab added at C.M. Eppes and Chicod
- Update STEM Labs at 3 Schools
- Tradesformers now has 7 Employers
- Grow Local had 3500 Students Scheduled in March
- Defined Career Development Plan for Middle and High School Students
- Articulation Agreement with Pitt Community College
- Grow Assistant Principals' Knowledge of CTE

Much discussion occurred between Ms. Trueblood and the Board members. Ms. Trueblood asked the Board members to allow the Local 2020-2021 CTE plan to be placed on the June 1, 2020, Board meeting Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members was to add this item to the June 1, 2020, Board meeting Consent Agenda.

Anti-Bullying Efforts

Karen Harrington, Director of Student Services, shared a Bullying/Suicidal Ideation/Social Media Presentation with the Board members. The presentation included the following information.

- District Efforts to Address Bullying by Year
- Understanding Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Parent Resource Guide
- Pitt County Schools ACES/Trauma-Informed Work
- School-Based Mental Health
- National Data Regarding Bullying
- Middle School Students Experience Higher Rates of Bullying
- 3 Areas of Focus: Students, Parents and Schools

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Some discussion occurred between Ms. Harrington and the Board members.

Unpaid Lunch Debt

Dr. Ethan Lenker and principals Paul Briney and Norman McDuffie discussed unpaid lunch debt and steps the schools currently take to control the debt. Some discussion occurred between Dr. Lenker, Mr. Briney, Mr. McDuffie and the Board members.

Athletic Eligibility Protocol

Ron Butler, Director of Health, Physical Education, and Community Schools, discussed athletic eligibility protocol with the Board members. Mr. Butler shared starting in the 2020-2021, school year, Pitt County Schools will require the coach, athletic director and principal to complete a North Carolina High School Athletic Association student-athlete eligibility checklist form for any student athlete attending a high school outside their district and email to him the form once completed. Mr. Butler stated this protocol will help ensure student athletes that transfer schools are eligible to participate in sports at the school they attend. Some discussion occurred between Mr. Butler and the Board members.

A.G. Cox Middle School Project Update

Matt Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, shared an update on the A.G. Cox Middle School Project which is being redesigned with the Board members. The presentation included the following information.

- Redesigned the project to lower the cost of the project
- Reduced environmental impact, acreage and erosion control
- Reduced length of the project and the complexity of the project
- Redesign is 80% complete
- Redesigned from a one-story to a two-story building for additional classroom and including a media center
- Overall floor plan, administration area stays the same, eliminated the small expansion to the cafeteria
- Reduced footprint of the parking lot/retained parking area on Sylvania Street/ gained 14 parking spots
- A501 unit floor plan/ first floor includes 3 tradition classrooms, 2 math/science classrooms, art room, teacher resource room
- A601 unit floor plan/ second floor includes 4 traditional classrooms, maker's space, video production center, media center
- Design includes an elevator
- Plans ready for review by mid-June
- Reaching out to several contractors and sub-contractors to ensure more bids

Some discussion occurred between Mr. Johnson and the Board members.

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Pitt County Schools Coronavirus Update

Dr. Lenker shared the following information with the Board members:

- Tentative graduation schedule depends on implementation of Governor's Phase II guidelines

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

Dr. Steve Lassiter, Assistant Superintendent of EPS, shared the following information with the Board members:

- Remote learning plan
- Digital learning credits for teachers
- Remote learning to continue after May 22, 2020
- K-12 resources available for students as well as paper packets through June 5, 2020 and thought-out the summer

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

Items from the Chair

Chair Flanagan had no items to share.

Closed Session

Vice Chair Fagundus made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to General Statute 143.318.11 for the following purposes: under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information. (*G.S. 115C-319 et.seq.*) under subsection (a)(3) to consult with our attorney: to preserve the attorney-client privilege with a second from Anna Barret Smith. After Chair Flanagan polled each Board member, the motion to go into Closed session passed unanimously. The time was 2:23 P.M.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 2:33 P.M.

Adjourn

Time adjourned was 2:34 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth M. Flanagan, Chair

Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary