

## **Board Minutes**

**DATE:** August 3, 2020

**PRESENT:** Chair Betsy Flanagan, Vice Chair Melinda Fagundus, Tracy Everette-Lenz, Anna Barrett Smith, Caroline Doherty, Benjie Forrest, Worth Forbes

**PRESENT REMOTELY:** Amy Cole, Mary Blount Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Ethan Lenker, Jennifer L. Johnson, Debra Baggett, Matt Johnson (remotely), Dr. Kristi Rhone, Tim DeCresie, Karen Harrington, Lavette Ford, Meredith Hill and Dr. Steve Lassiter

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

**TIME:** 6:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Carolina Room, The Kathy Taft Center, 2010 Allen Road, Greenville, NC 27834 and via <http://go.pittschools.org/livestream1>

Due to COVID-19, the Board of Education meeting was held at the Kathy Taft Center and remotely and was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chair Flanagan.

### 1) Start of Meeting

A) Chair Flanagan called the Board of Education meeting to order in Regular Session on August 3, 2020, at 6:30 P.M. in the Carolina Room in the Kathy Taft Center, 2010 Allen Road, Greenville, NC 27834.

B) Tracy Everette-Lenz led the Board members in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

### 2) Routine Business

#### A) Adjustments to the Agenda

After Chair Flanagan stated the Agenda items, Caroline Doherty made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented with a second by Anna Barrett Smith. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the Agenda as presented passed unanimously.

#### B) Public Expression

One public expression was received via email. Jennifer L. Johnson, Public Information Officer, shared the public expression email request received from Ms. April M.H. Blakeslee with the Board members. Ms. Blakeslee's concern was with the PCS choice of Plan B for restarting school.

Minutes Recorder: Carol Rankin

### 3) Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda items included the following:

- June 1 2020, Board Meeting minutes
- June 15, 2020, Board Work Session minutes
- June 24, 2020, Special Called Board Meeting minutes
- July 13, 2020, Special Called Board Meeting minutes
- July 20, 2020, Special Called Closed Session minutes
- June 1, 2020, Closed Session minutes
- June 15, 2020 Board Work Session Closed Meeting minutes
- June 24, 2020, Special Called Closed Session minutes
- Personnel Report for August 3, 2020

Anna Barrett Smith made a motion to approve the consent items, with a second from Caroline Doherty. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

### 4. New Business

#### A. Contracts, Devices and Software Purchases

Dr. Ethan Lenker, PCS Superintendent, reviewed a list of purchases needing Board approval. The items included the following:

- Custodial Contracts – CARES Act Funding -CPG Staffing, Mega Force Staffing Group, Inc. Express Employment Professionals –Up to \$1,500,000.00
- Edgenuity Software – CARES Act Funding -\$233,334.90
- STEMscopes Software - PRC 108 -\$109,907.50
- Kajeet Devices – CRF- \$170,512.40
- McGraw Hill – CARES Act Funding - \$70,285.38
- Vecna– CARES Act Funding - \$33,631.44

After some discussion occurred between Dr. Lenker and the Board members, Benjie Forrest made a motion to approve the list as presented, with a second from Vice Chair Melinda Fagundus. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the purchases as presented passed unanimously.

#### B. Policy 4316, School Dress Code and Appearance

Vice Chair Fagundus made a motion to waive Policy 2420, Adoption of Policies, to allow the revised Policy 4316, School Dress Code and Appearance, be approved before school starts on July 17 with a second from Anna Barrett

Smith. After some discussion, the motion to waive Policy 2420, Adoption of Policies, passed 8-1 with Mary Blount Williams voting against.

Caroline Doherty made a motion to approve revised Policy 4316, School Dress Code and Appearance, with a second from Anna Barrett Smith. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve revised Policy 4316, School Dress Code and Appearance passed 8-1 with Mary Blount Williams voting against.

#### B1. Policy Committee Report

Vice Chair Fagundus shared the following 30 new or revised policies with the Board members. These policies were discussed and reviewed at the July 27, 2020 Policy Committee meeting.

- Policy 2127, Board Member Technology Use
- Policy 4203, Curricular Animals
- Policy 1310/4002, Parental Involvement
- Policy 1320/3650, Title I Parent and Family Engagement
- Policy 1610/7800, Professional and Staff Development
- Policy 2300, Board Meetings
- Policy 3410, Testing and Assessment Program
- Policy 3460, Graduation Requirements
- Policy 3620, Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations
- Policy 4040/7310, Staff-Student Relations
- Policy 4110, Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission
- Policy 4120, Domicile or Residency Requirements
- Policy 4230, Communicable Diseases-Students
- Policy 4270/6145, Concussion and Head Injury
- Policy 4325, Drugs and Alcohol
- Policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety
- Policy 4400, Attendance
- Policy 5015, School Volunteers
- Policy 5050, Emergency Closings
- Policy 5210, Distribution of Non-School Material
- Policy 6325, Parking Areas for Students
- Policy 6420, Contracts with the Board
- Policy 7100, Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
- Policy 7130, Licensure
- Policy 7240, Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace
- Policy 7241, Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operations
- Policy 7410, Teacher Contracts

- Policy 7560, Permitted Salary Deductions for Absences and Discipline of Certain Exempt Employees
- Policy 7620, Payroll Deductions
- Policy 7900, Resignation

Caroline Doherty made a motion on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of new or revised 30 policies. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the 30 policies passed 8-1 with Mary Blount Williams voting against.

#### C. Student Device Agreement

Meredith Hill, District Media Specialist, presented information to Board members regarding student device utilization and device return rates from the spring deployment of devices for remote learning. Ms. Hill also presented information to the Board about a student device agreement and asked that the Board members approve the technology use fee of \$25.00 that will be used to cover the cost of device repair or damage. After much discussion, Worth Forbes made a motion to approve the technology use fee of \$25.00 with a second from Benjie Forrest. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the technology use fee of \$25.00 passed unanimously.

#### D. Title I Plan

Lavette Ford, Director of Federal Programs, presented the Title I Plan with the Board members and requested approval. Ms. Ford discussed the following information with the Board members.

- Title I funding decreased \$64,000.00, however CARES Act funding will help make up that amount
- Wintergreen Primary will be removed as a Title I school next year if their percentage of reduced lunch population does not increase
- Ayden Elementary, Ayden Middle and Stokes reached CEP status this year
- Pre-K allocation increased due to benefits, insurance and salaries
- Dollar amount per student changed from \$432.00 to \$423.00.

After some discussion, Anna Barrett Smith made a motion to approve the Title I Plan, with a second from Melinda Fagundus. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to approve the Title I Plan passed unanimously.

#### E. Pitt County Schools/COVID 19 Update/Reopening Plan

The following staff members, Matt Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Jennifer L. Johnson, Public Information Officer, Karen Harrington, Student Services Director, and Dr. Steve Lassiter, Assistant Superintendent of

Educational Services and Programs, shared a PCS COVID 19/Reopening Plan including the following information with the Board members.

- COVID-19 Signage for Schools
- School Water Fountains will be shut-off due under the Department of Health and Human Services Recommendations, Students will be allowed to bring water bottles
- Raptor will include COVID-19 Screening Questions
- Classroom Cleaning Procedures
- Hand Sanitizer Stations, PPE, Disinfectant and Thermometers Delivery Schedule
- Information is Fluid
- Schools will have a designated COVID-19 Isolation Room
- Daily Attestation Forms from Parents
- Screening Flow Chart for Schools
- Updates regarding Communication Strategy
- Updates Provided to Parents
- Tentative Instructional Day Timeline
- First Week of School Schedule
- Learning Zone Calendar
- Curriculum and Instruction Details

#### 5. Closing Comments

Closing Comments were made by Dr. Lenker, Board members and Chair Flanagan.

Chair Flanagan ended the meeting by saying thank you to Dr. Lenker for being calm, cool and collected during this difficult time. She thanked him for his leadership and the Senior staff for their colossal team effort to reinvent school. She also thanked the Board members for their hard work including the moment they decided on hold graduations and including their courage for doing what was right for their communities to go with School Opening, Plan B. She stated that having confidence in Dr. Lenker and his Senior Staff made Board members' decisions easier.

#### 6. 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)(3) to consult with our attorney, with a second from Worth Forbes. After Chair Flanagan polled the Board members, the motion to go in to Closed Session passed unanimously. The time was 8:53 P.M.

#### 7. Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:04 P.M.

Minutes Recorder: Carol Rankin

8. Adjourn

With a motion to adjourn by Caroline Doherty and a second from Anna Barrett Smith the motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Time adjourned was 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Elizabeth M. Flanagan, Chair

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Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary