

## **Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 5, 2018

**Present:** Chair Mildred A. Council, Vice Chair Anna Barrett Smith, Caroline W. Doherty, Melinda Fagundus, Betsy Flanagan, Benjie Forrest, Worth Forbes, Robert Moore, and Mary Blount Williams

**Attorney:** Emma J. Hodson

**Time:** 6:30 P.M.

**Place:** Pitt County Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Boardroom

### 1) Start of Meeting:

A) Chair Mildred A. Council called the Board of Education meeting to order in Regular Session on March 5, 2018 at 6:30 P.M.

### B) Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Melinda Fagundus led the Board members in a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2) Routine Business:

Caroline Doherty made a motion, with a second from Robert Moore, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Agenda passed unanimously.

### 3) Special Recognition

Mary Holloman, Hope Middle School teacher and Quill Team Coach, came and shared her Quill Team's accomplishments with the Board members. Ms. Holloman said this is the second year that Hope's Quill team has won first place in the state writing competition held in Chapel Hill. The team consists of many students but only four can participate in the state competition. The team members present were Carter Adrias, Ian Branigan, and Emily Fleming and the team member not present was Anna Rosenberg. Benjie Forrest, on behalf of the Board members, recognized each team member and Coach Holloman with a "Creating Excellence in the East" Award.

Victoria Bridgers, South Central Civics teacher, came to share the accomplishments her Civics class has achieved since she encouraged them to get involved in local government. Students working as teams shared the projects they chose, to impact the community, with the Board members. Projects included creating care packages for the homeless and senior citizens in nursing homes, raising awareness of human and sex trafficking, helping children with dental care, and by helping underprivileged kids by being role models. The students present were Ariana Bullock, Annaka Evans, Sydney McDuffie, Kennedy Fipps, Mason Denius, Ryan Hodges, Ashton Phillips, Greyson Smith, Brylee Phillips, Emme Wainright, Quentin Sanders, and Rami Darawsheh. Betsy Flanagan, on behalf of the Board members, presented each student and Ms. Bridgers with a "Creating Excellence in the East" Award.

Janarde Cannon, South Central High School principal, recognized Lauren Piner for recently being named North Carolina Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year.

Betsy Flanagan, on behalf of the Board members, presented Ms. Piner with a “Creating Excellence in the East” Award.

Dr. Sharon Moore, Associate Professor, ECU Athletic Training Education Program, recognized Ron Butler for recently receiving the North Carolina Athletic Trainers Association (NCATA) Sports Medicine Person of the Year Award. Dr. Moore shared that Mr. Butler is the first Athletics Director to receive this award in its 21-year history, with all previous recipients being physicians. Chair Council, on behalf of the Board members, presented Ms. Butler with a “Creating Excellence in the East” Award.

Jennifer Johnston, Stokes School principal and Misty Simmons, Stokes’ PTA president, came to share that Stokes Schools recently received a \$10,000 Green Families Foundation Grant. Ms. Simmons told the Board members with additional funds from the PTA, Stokes was able to purchase a new sound system.

#### 4) Public Expression:

Lisa Reardon, a J.H. Rose High School parent, addressed the Board members concerning school safety stating “safe schools must be our immediate priority.”

Tierney Reardon, a J.H. Rose High School student, addressed the Board members by reading a personal writing from her journalism class concerning school safety stating “we need more than sympathy and extra rules, real change is needed, everyone needs to work together to protect our communities.”

Scarlett Stovall addressed the Board members concerning school safety. Ms. Stovall asked the Board to take action to make all schools secure including having master’s degree level counselors and by asking the community and teachers for their suggestions.

Keith Cooper representing the Eastern North Carolina Regional Association of Black Social Workers came to address the Board members concerning the achievement gap among minorities.

#### 5) Consent Items:

Robert Moore made a motion to approve the consent items as presented, with a second from Mary Blount Williams.

The Consent Agenda items included the following:

- February 19, 2018 Board Work Session minutes,
- February 5, 2018 Board Meeting minutes,
- February 5, Closed Session minutes,
- Personnel Report for March 2018,
- Summer School Proposal 2017-2018, and
- Extended School Year 2018 Summer Program,

With no discussion, the motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

#### 6) New Business

Chair Council shared the 1st Reading of revised Policy 7410, Teacher Contracts with the Board members. No action was taken.

Closing Comments:

Closing comments were made by Dr. Lenker, Board Members, and Chair Council.

6) Closed Session

Vice Chair Smith 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: to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to consider and give instructions concerning a judicial action titled Kozel v. City of Greenville, Pitt County Board of Education, and other defendants, with a second from Caroline Doherty. The motion was unanimous. Time was 7:32 P.M.

Adjourn:

Benjie Forrest made a motion to adjourn with a second by Caroline Doherty. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Time adjourned was 8:13 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mildred A. Council, Chair

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Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary

Minutes Recorded by Carol Rankin