

## **Board Work Session Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** April 19, 2021

**PRESENT:** Chair Melinda Fagundus, Vice Chair Tracy Everette-Lenz, Amy Cole, Caroline Doherty, Worth Forbes, Benjie Forrest, Don Rhodes, Anna Barrett Smith, James E. Tripp Jr.

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

**ALSO PRESENT REMOTELY:** Preston Bowers, Lisa Tate, Dr. Yanisha Mann

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

**TIME:** 12:02 P.M.

**PLACE:** Carolina Room in the Kathy Taft Center, 2010 Allen Road, Greenville, NC 27834

Chair Melinda Fagundus opened the Board Work Session at 12:02 p.m. Chair Fagundus noted that all Board members were present.

### Finance Update

#### 2021-22 Proposed Local Budget

Debra Baggett, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed 2021-2022 local budget to the Board members. Ms. Baggett's presentation focused on sources of revenue, fixed costs, and proposed requests to the County Commissioners. Much discussion occurred between Ms. Baggett and the Board members. Ms. Baggett requested that the 2021-22 local budget be allowed on the May 3, 2021, Consent Agenda. Consensus of the Board members was to allow this item on the May 3, 2021, Consent Agenda.

### HR Updates

#### 1. C.M. Eppes Middle School Project Update

Aaron Errickson, Director of Facilities, presented an update to the Board members regarding the C.M. Eppes Middle School renovation. Mr. Errickson shared the following information:

- Elevator is under construction
- Sprinkler system has been connected to the city service
- Roof decking and temporary roof are installed
- Metal truss framing is nearing completion for the new A-frame roof
- Contract completion date is September 10, 2021
- Accelerated completion date is August 12, 2021, for an additional cost of \$28,785.64 to PCS

Mr. Errickson then advised the Board members of an issue with an interior wall at C.M. Eppes Middle School in which a brick had shifted out of alignment. Mr. Errickson stated that a structural engineer had assessed the wall and determined it had shifted due to not being connected to the steel structure when it was constructed in 1968. He continued that it would be necessary to cut into the walls in numerous places and add rebar to address the issue. Mr. Errickson also noted that the district might be required to add an elevator to the wing to bring it up to ADA code. While a cost for the project is unknown at this time, the estimated cost could be between \$1 and \$2 million and would likely not conclude before the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Much discussion occurred between Mr. Errickson and the Board members. The Board members requested that the insurance company, city and/or state be contacted since this was an error caused by the 1968 contractor.

## 2. School Canopy Discussion

Matt Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented an update to the Board members regarding school canopies. Some of the information shared included the following:

- Phases 2 and 3 of the Chicod expansion and renovation project
- Schools with or without canopies
- ADM for each school
- Length of canopy needed for each school
- Cost to add a canopy at each school

There was much discussion between Mr. Johnson and the Board members. Chair Fagundus noted that, due to Mr. Forrest's motion being tabled at the April 12, 2021, Board meeting, this item would be the first item listed under New Business and voted on at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting agenda.

## EPS Updates

### 1. Media and Technology Update

Tim DeCresie, Director of Digital Learning, and Meredith Hill, District Media Specialist, shared a media and technology update with the Board members. Some discussion occurred between Mr. DeCresie, Ms. Hill and the Board members.

### 2. Virtual Academy Learning Update

Tim DeCresie, Director of Digital Learning, and Meredith Hill, District Media Specialist, shared a media and technology update with the Board members. Based on experiences in the 2020-2021 academic year, Ms. Hill made recommendations to the Board about revisions to the 1:1 student device agreement and changes to the fee structure to cover damage to devices, including a reduction in the device fee from \$25.00 to \$20.00. Some discussion occurred between Mr. DeCresie, Ms. Hill and the Board members.

### 3. Summer School Plan

Dr. Steve Lassiter, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Programs and Services, shared updates with the Board regarding the District's plan for Summer School. Some of the information shared included the following:

- House Bill 82
- Timeline of Activities
- Employee Compensation
- Summer School Structure
- Tentative Plan
- Teacher and Student Hours of Operation
- Student Selection

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

### Student Services Update

#### Social, Emotional Learning Update

Karen Harrington, Director of Student Services, and LaVette Ford, Director of Federal Programs, shared updates to the Board members regarding Social Emotional Learning. Some discussion occurred between Ms. Harrington, Ms. Ford and the Board members.

### Items from the Chair

Chair Fagundus shared the following items with the Board members:

- A request from Pitt Community College to reappoint Patti Sanders-Smith and Don Mills for another 4-year term as a Pitt Community College Board of Education appointed Board of Trustee. Consensus from the Board members, it will be added to the May 3, 2021, Agenda, under New Business.
- An update regarding a local bill sponsored by Representatives Brain Farkas and Chris Humphries to support calendar flexibility in Pitt, Lenoir, and Greene Counties.

### Adjourn

Chair Fagundus adjourned the work session at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Melinda Fagundus, Chair

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Dr. Ethan Lenker, Secretary