

Regular Session Board Meeting Highlights
April 8, 2020

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, through a remote meeting using the Zoom format. This was agreed to by the board members in order to comply with the Governor's Order regarding the Coronavirus Pandemic. Chairman Ray Felton called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. The following board members were present: Mr. Ray Felton, Mrs. Glendale Boone, Mr. Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Claire Whitehurst and Mrs. Sallie Ryan.

Mrs. Claire Whitehurst made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss personnel as outlined in North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Mr. Leslie Byrum seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. The board entered closed session at 9:03 a.m.

The board reconvened open session at 10:00 a.m. with all board members present.

Mrs. Claire Whitehurst made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Leslie Byrum seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

During Public Comments, Mrs. Barbara Toti, teacher at Gates County High, expressed her thanks to all the employees for their willingness to try new ways to provide learning opportunities for our students.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Barry Williams quoted the Winston Churchill Principle "Step into the challenge creatively and aggressively". He continued by congratulating the employees for exhibiting high levels of quality Churchillian leadership skills. Teachers are told to stay home, yet they come to school, not to be a hero, but to work. They are creatively finding ways to connect with their students. The "I can't" attitude does not exist. Principals are working every day, attending meetings and showing a positive attitude. Bus drivers, custodians and cafeteria staff are on the front lines as essential employees, and are working without expecting more compensation. Directors have been facilitating information received from the Department of Public Instruction and the Governor, and overseeing the implementation at our schools. He is very proud of all of our staff.

In the Report from the Board, Mrs. Sallie Ryan noted that she had attended some of the staff meetings and was very impressed with how our employees are working together and continuing to make our school system great.

Mrs. Sandra Pittman, Finance Officer, had provided monthly reports to the board prior to the meeting. She noted that our budget is in good standing and we are on target and where we should be this time of the year. There is still uncertainty about how this pandemic will affect our budget going forth.

Mrs. Ryan asked about subsidies for the daycare, due to parents taking their children out. Mrs. Pittman noted that most of the children that have stopped attending, are private pay, and therefore are not part of the subsidy program. She believes there will be state and federal funds to help, but she is not sure about amounts at this time. She should be able to provide more information next month.

Dr. Williams approved the following Out-of-District Request for 2019-2020:

- Raylin Lonnie Tyree to attend T.S. Cooper Elementary, contingent upon release from Pasquotank County Schools

Dr. Williams approved the following Out-of-District Request for 2020-2021:

- Victor Rountree to attend Gates County High, contingent upon release from Chowan County Schools
- Briana Nicole Evans, Dalton Patterson, Myra Patterson and Zachery Patterson to attend Gatesville Elementary
- Reece Williams to attend Buckland Elementary
- Chloe Monds to attend Gatesville Elementary
- Kamryn Riddick to attend Buckland Elementary
- Drake Webster Harrell to attend Buckland Elementary
- Austin Eure and Alexa Eure to attend Buckland Elementary
- Jake Vernon Williams and Hunter Allen Williams to attend Buckland Elementary
- Tyler Johnson to attend Buckland Elementary
- Cooper Hayes and Raylen Hayes to attend Gatesville Elementary

Dr. Williams approved the following crowdfunding request (more than \$500.00 – less than \$2000.00):

- Buckland Elementary DonorsChoose 5th Grade laptop

The board reviewed the Needs Based Grant Annual Report, for Central Middle School, prepared and submitted by the County Manager. There was no discussion.

Unfinished Business:

- Request from Heather Boyd from the March 9, 2020 meeting, has been tabled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

The following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

1. March 9, 2020 Regular Session Minutes
2. March 23, 2020 Special Called Session Minutes
3. Donation to purchase washers and dryers for elementary schools
4. Donation to purchase appliances and scores table for Central Middle
5. Budget Amendment No. 4 – State Fund
6. Budget Amendment No. 1 – Capital Outlay Fund
7. Budget Amendment No. 1 – Community Center Fund
8. Budget Amendment No. 3 – State Fund
9. Budget Amendment No. 1 – New Beginnings Daycare Fund

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

NEW HIRES

Amanda Harden – New Beginnings Daycare Assistant

VOLUNTEER

Lisa Henderson – Buckland Elementary and T.S. Cooper Elementary

RETIREMENT

Mary Eure – Bookkeeper – T.S. Cooper Elementary

Avis Holley – Teacher – Buckland Elementary

James Liles – Teacher – Central Middle

Linda Combo – Teacher Assistant – Gatesville Elementary

RESIGNATIONS

Christopher Stiles – Assistant Baseball Coach – Central Middle

Jennifer Dail – Assistant Softball Coach – Central Middle

Constance Parker Arline – Child Nutrition Assistant

Lori Ward – Position of Preschool Coordinator

Jean Knight – Bus Driver

TRANSFERS – 2020-2021

Employee	Transfer From	Transfer To
Keisha Smith	Buckland Elementary Receptionist	Gates County High/ Lab Assistant- replacing Cindy Barber
Cindy Barber	Gates County High Lab Assistant	District Behavior Support Coach

CHANGE GATES COUNTY HIGH BOOKKEEPER POSITION FROM 10-MONTH POSITION TO 12-MONTH POSITION

Stephanie Jordan

In Other Business the following items were discussed:

- The May Regular Session Meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2020 at the Gates County Board of Education Central Office. We will use the Zoom format to conduct the meeting remotely. Closed Session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and Open Session at 10:00 a.m.
- Board members will participate in the NCSBA Webinar – Tobacco, Vaping, CBD, and Substance Abuse: North Carolina Law and School Policies – April 21, 2020

Mrs. Glendale Boone made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Claire Whitehurst seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman Felton adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.