

Regular Session Board Meeting Highlights
November 5, 2018

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 5, 2018, at T.S. Cooper Elementary School. Chairman Ray Felton called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Mrs. Claire Whitehurst made a motion to enter into closed session at 3:05 p.m. and Mrs. Glendale Boone seconded the motion to discuss matters that are confidential by law, including confidential student matters and to approve closed session minutes, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1); to confer with the Board Attorney and preserve the attorney/client privilege as allowed by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3); and to discuss personnel as allowed by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. The following board members were present: Mr. Ray Felton, Mrs. Glendale Boone, Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson.

Mr. Felton reconvened open session at 4:08 p.m., with the following board members present: Mr. Ray Felton, Mrs. Glendale Boone, Mr. Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson.

Mrs. Boone made a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Whitehurst seconded the motion. Motion passed with three yea votes.

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

There were no Public Comments.

Donna Winborne, CPA, presented a powerpoint with highlights from the Draft Audit Report. She presented draft copies of the report to the board. She noted that Gates County Schools had no findings for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. She attributed this to the dedicated staff of the finance department. Mr. Felton congratulated Mr. Blanchard and his staff for their hard work.

The New Student Advisors to the Board introduced themselves. They are as follows: Ben Hawkins, 12th Grade at Gates County High School, Jordan Mitchell, 10th Grade at Gates County High School and Daijha Blount, 10th Grade at Gates County High School.

Amanda Hobbs, AIG Coordinator, presented a power point and a handout for the board, giving details about the entrance criteria for students. She noted she has been researching surrounding counties and has met with a team of teachers here in the county. They have devised new entrance criteria, that she feels will increase the number of students eligible for the AIG Program. She wants to ensure that all students are given opportunities to excel.

Mrs. Amber Buxton, principal, provided a video highlighting the happenings at T.S. Cooper Elementary.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Williams reported the following:

- Lockdown Drills are continuing to be conducted at the schools. Each of the schools has done very well, and each drill has provided information on how we can improve on the process.
- Bricks and bleacher blocks, from the demolition of the 8th grade wing at Central Middle School, have been distributed to community members. Plaques with important dates of the history of the school were also given.
- Gates County Schools has received new technology that is being implemented in the classrooms.
- The Saunders Science Scholars Program has gotten off to a great start. Four Teachers have attended training classes. Twelve students and their adult counterparts are participating at this time.
- Dr. Williams attended the North Carolina Schools Boards Association's Fall Law Conference in October. The conference provided a variety of timely legal topics, with a focus on school safety issues.
- Dr. Williams presided over the Northeast Regional Educational Service Alliance's Fall Leadership Conference on November 1st and 2nd. He noted that the organization raised over \$40,000, in the last two years, to provide professional development for Gates County Schools, and the surrounding counties.
- He introduced Dr. Jack Dale with the American Association of School Administrators. Dr. Dale is mentoring Dr. Williams as part of a program to promote high quality superintendents. Dr. Dale spoke about the program and the training that is provided to superintendents across the country. Dr. Williams will be involved in this program for eighteen months. Mr. Felton commended Dr. Williams for paying the cost of this program out of his personal funds.

During the Report from the Board, Mr. Byrum commented on the NCSBA Fall Law Conference that he attended also. He noted that one of the speakers, from the Sandy Hook School Shooting, focused on what student information can be released to law enforcement. The speaker also suggested that principals work with law enforcement, to become aware of potential problems with students, before a crisis occurs. Other board members commented on various school events they had attended, including the HOSA event, and moving forward on the Central Middle School construction project.

Mr. Rube Blanchard, Finance Officer, gave the Financial Report and provided an update on New Beginnings Daycare.

Dr. Williams approved the following out-of-district requests for 2018-2019

- Julian Champlin to attend Buckland Elementary School
- Logan Claverie released to attend Perquimans County Schools, contingent upon acceptance by Perquimans County

The following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

1. Approval of Minutes - October 1, 2018 Regular Session
2. Copy Paper Donation to Gates County High School
3. Donation to Gates County High Cheerleaders
4. Crisis CHAT Link to be added to our district website
5. Overnight Trip for GCHS FFA Students to Guilford County, NC
6. Fundraiser Request for GCHS OCS Students
7. Budget Amendment No. 3 - State Funds
8. Budget Amendment No. 3 - Local Fund No. 2
9. Budget Amendment No. 2 - Capital Outlay Fund No. 4
10. New Beginnings Daycare Fundraiser
11. East Carolina University NC School Health Training Memorandum of Understanding

There was no New Business.

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

1. NEW HIRES
 - Corey Riddick – Bus Mechanic II – Transportation Department
 - Carla Riddick – Exceptional Children’s Teacher Assistant at Gatesville Elementary – Child Specific
2. TEACHER MENTOR
 - Amy Cooper – Gates County High School
3. RESIGNATION
 - Penny Pittman – Bus Driver – Effective 8/27/2018
4. LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS
 - Sherl Lowe – Buckland Elementary
 - Elaine Vaughan –Buckland Elementary
 - Teri Campbell – Gates County High School
5. LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANTS
 - Madeline DiPeppe – Buckland Elementary
 - Cecelia Anderson – Buckland Elementary
 - Tracy Carr – Buckland Elementary
 - Pamela Clark – T.S. Cooper Elementary
 - Robert Harrell – T.S. Cooper Elementary
 - Sharneka Dillard – Central Middle School

6. COMMUNITY CENTER VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS

- Audriana Hathaway
- Damari Holley
- Shakara Riddick

In Other Business the following items were discussed:

- The regular November session will be held at the Central Office on Monday, December 3, 2018, with closed session beginning at 5:00 p.m., and open session at 6:00 p.m. *This was later changed to closed session beginning at 3:00 p.m. and open session at 4:00 p.m.*
- The Board plans to attend the Lions Club Christmas Parade on December 8th, 2018
- Board Members Ray Felton, Glendale Boone, Leslie Byrum and Board Member Elect Sallie Ryan will attend the NC School Boards Association Annual Conference November 12-14, 2018.

Dr. Dickerson made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Boone seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yea votes.

There being no further business, Chairman Felton adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.