

Currituck County Schools**Board of Education Meeting****05/12/2021 06:30 PM****Meeting Minutes**

Historic Currituck County Courthouse

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[Stream Live Meeting Here](#) or Mediacom Channel 18 on the mainland.

Attendees

Voting Members

Karen Etheridge, Chairman
Dwan Craft, Vice Chairman
Dr. Bill Dobney, Board Member
Janet Rose, Board Member
Kelly Williams Peters, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Dr. Matt Lutz, Superintendent
Albert Mercado, Student Board Member
Daniel Walker, Student Board Member

A. Call to Order

1. Invocation
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Virtual Instruction Recognition

Sandy Reynolds, Chief Information Officer, recognized the virtual teachers who provided instruction to students during the pandemic. On March 13, 2020 schools were closed due to Covid and forced into the virtual world. The district was not a 1:1 and was limited on digital resources. Prior to the pandemic the technology budget was cut at the state level. CARES ACT funding was eventually received. Although funds became available, devices were limited because of the need. Through much work, the district was able to provide devices to all students K-12. Pre-K students were also provided devices.

Mrs. Reynolds explained that recorded instruction was provided in addition to in-person and virtual instruction. Approximately 400 students elected to remain virtual. Staff was limited. Lindsey Daniels agreed to become the leader of the virtual teachers and instruction. Class mandates also provided a challenge. Two TA's were added to provide small group instruction.

Attendance was challenging. IEP's were also required virtually. Mrs. Reynolds explained the complexity of providing virtual instruction. She is hopeful that the district's students have not regressed. Transportation and School Nutrition were also integral during the challenging time. It was a community effort to educate the children.

The Board commended Sandy Reynolds and her department for their work.

B. Student Board Member Report

Student Board Members reported on end of year events, student awards and graduation ceremonies.

1. Recognition of Departing Student Board Members
Dr. Lutz and the Board thanked departing Taylor McCarthy and Olivia McDonald for their participation on the Board. Both students are graduating with college plans.

C. Public Comment Session

With no comments, the session was closed.

D. Approval to Amend Agenda to add item J. Approval of 2021-2022 School Calendars (Action)

The agenda was amended to add the approval of the 2021-22 school calendars.

Motion made by: Dwan Craft

Motion seconded by: Kelly Williams Peters

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

E. Budget Amendments for FY 2020-21 (Action)

Larissa York, Finance Officer, presented budget amendment # 5. The district's budget is just over \$50,000,000. Mrs. York explained the additional allotments provided from federal grants and Cares Act funds. Capital Outlay received \$100,000 from the County for three mobile units and there were additional funds from Medicaid reimbursement. The budget amendment was approved.

Motion made by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Motion seconded by: Dwan Craft

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

F. FY 2021-2022 Budget Resolution (Action)

Dr. Lutz and Mrs. York explained the budget resolution. The budget is very similar to the draft budget presented last month. If approved, this budget will be used with the start of the new fiscal year - July 1, 2021. Mrs. York explained that money from the County has been earmarked for the additional 12 teachers and 2.5 curriculum coaches. Dr. Lutz said that because the County is at a tier-3 funding level it depends heavily on local funding. Janet Rose confirmed that the earmarked funds included benefits for the new positions.

Mrs. York said the district received the federal funding allotment of \$1,632,646. The total operating budget is \$46,952,293.

Dr. Dobney reminded everyone that the BOE reviewed the budget at the previous two work sessions before approving. Chairman Etheridge thanked Mrs. York for her work on the budget.

Motion made by: Dwan Craft

Motion seconded by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

G. Summer School Update

Dr. Lutz informed the Board that state law was recently passed requiring all districts to provide summer school. A robust plan has been created to provide summer enrichments for identified students.

The summer session must either be 30 days or 150 hours. Transportation and School Nutrition must also be provided. Renee Dowdy, Assistant Superintendent, presented the district's plan which included physical activity for elementary students.

Students will be identified but enrollment into the summer program will be at the parent's discretion.

Mrs. Dowdy provided details on the summer program pay for teachers. To entice teachers, the law mandates a sign-on bonus for teacher meeting certain criteria including NBCT certification. Teacher will be paid \$150 for each student who becomes efficient at the end of summer program. Summer School will be held in addition to the Summer Reading Camps held for K-3 students.

To work with high school students who may hold summer jobs, three different sessions will be held throughout the summer. An elective will also be offered. Mrs. Dowdy provided the timeline of the programs. The deadline for enrollment is May 28th. Bus routes for summer programs will be created.

At the conclusion of the summer program - the district must report to DPI the results of the program. Mrs. Dowdy ended her presentation by encouraging students to participate in the program. Dwan Craft said the program took a tremendous amount of work to develop. Kelly Peters confirmed that in addition to letters being sent home an auto-call will be sent out to those students.

H. School Nutrition Update

Angela Rodriguez, School Nutrition Director, explained that although lunches are provided at no charge, Free & Reduced lunch applications are still needed in order for the district to receive federal funding. Breakfast is also free. Mrs. Rodriguez said curbside ordering is also available and will remain in effect for the summer programs. The district also provides Jarvisburg Christian Academy with meals.

Mrs. Rodriguez said that her staff is very selfless and has worked hard through the pandemic. She encouraged everyone to complete and submit a Free & Reduced application. The School Nutrition Dept. will process to see if the family is eligible.

Now and until June 15th the district can accept applications for the current school year. A new application is required for each new school year. Breakfast in the classroom has been successful. Mrs. Dowdy said the program benefits both the schools and students. Qualifying students can have testing and application fees can be waived. The program is just not for feeding elementary students. The status of course is confidential. Students are not identified.

Dr. Dobney thanked the department's for providing meals during the pandemic. Kelly Peters also complimented the work of the School Nutrition Department.

I. Field Trip Requests (Informational Only):

1. CCHS -Regional Golf Tournament, Wilson, NC - 5/2-5/3 2021
2. CCHS - State Golf Tournament, Pinehurst, NC - 5/9-5/10 2021

J. Approval of 2021-2022 School Calendars

The 2021-2022 School Calendar was presented for adoption. Dr. Lutz explained that, along with other districts, Currituck Schools has been waiting for a start date of either Aug. 16th or Aug. 23rd. The school start date is bound by law. Due to the delay the district created two calendars with August 16th and August 23rd as the start date fo the schools. The breaks remain the same. The benefit of the August 16th is that the end the semester and testing will take place before the winter holiday break.

Dr. Lutz said there is a bill that if passed would allow the district to start on August 16th. If the calendar with the August 16th start date was adopted by the Board, but the district was unable to start then the other choice would be the August 23rd calendar. DC/BD

Janet Rose expressed her concern with passing something against the law; although she was in favor of the August 16th start date. Kelly Peter said that everyone should be aware the if the district could not use the early start date then August 23rd would be used. That breaks are the same on both calendars. JP Knapp Early College is not affected and will use a separate calendar. Dr. Lutz said there were other districts who would start on August 16th if allowed.

Both calendars will be shared to inform parents and staff. The calendars are almost identical. The Board voted to use the August 16th calendar.

Motion made by: Dwan Craft

Motion seconded by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Voting:

Karen Etheridge - Yes

Dwan Craft - Yes

Dr. Bill Dobney - Yes

Janet Rose - No

Kelly Williams Peters - Yes

K. Consent Agenda (Action)

Motion made by: Janet Rose

Motion seconded by: Dwan Craft

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

1. Personnel Report Dated May 12, 2021

- a. Leave Report - Confidential
2. Administrator Renewal & Teacher Contracts
3. Board Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2021
4. Banking Reconciliations (Informational Only)

L. Information Items

1. Graduation Ceremonies:
 - May 21st JP Knapp Early College at College of The Albemarle, 7: 00 p.m.
 - May 27th Currituck Co High School on campus, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 28th Currituck Co High School "small groups", 1:00 p.m.
2. June 1st @ CCMS -End of Year Luncheon for Staff - 12:00 p.m.
3. Work Session - June 24, 2021- Knapp Professional Learning Center, 4:00 p.m.
4. Board of Education Meeting - June 24, 2021 - Historic Currituck County Courthouse, 6:30 p.m.

M. Board Members & Superintendent Comments

Dr. Dobney thanked all the staff for getting the district through the pandemic. The Currituck Middle School Auditorium will be dedicated to Buddy White on May 28, 2021.

Dwan Craft attend the fabulous prom at Whalehead Club. She thanked the County's Extension office for their 4H chick & butterfly program offered to the district's 2nd graders. She congratulated the Lady Knights on a fantastic season.

Kelly Peter announced it was school nurse's day and also teacher appreciation week. She thanked all of the staff for their hard work. The prom was beautiful and she congratulated all the seniors. She provided words for encouragement to Taylor and Olivia, departing student board members.

Janet Rose said the prom at Whalehead was amazing and the students were very well behaved. Shawboro and Knotts Island Elementary both had terrific fund raisers. She added that the community is doing great things for the students.

Dr. Lutz said the district will schedule visits and open houses for rising middle school students. Strategic planning continues with the collection of input which will create themes. Of course the accreditation process is part of the plan with Dr. Justin Durham, CCHS principal, leading the charge. Dr. Lutz explained that the district has started the practice of posting jobs and hiring early in the effort to fill existing, available positions quickly. The only new position added are due to unfunded class size mandates. He was pleased to see students enjoying the prom and thanked Sandy Reynolds and her team for creating the virtual school.

Karen Etheridge hoped that toughest part was behind the district. She was very proud of seniors and their dedication along with the district's athletes.

Everyone wished Taylor McCarthy and Olivia McDonald the very best.

N. Adjourn Meeting (Action)

Motion made by: Janet Rose

Motion seconded by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Chairperson

Secretary