
[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
Dwan Craft presented the invocation.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students of Moyock Elementary School.
3. School Spotlight- Principal Brandi Kelly & Moyock Elementary School
Moyock Elementary was featured for the October School Spotlight. Principal Brandi Kelly and Assistant Principal Melissa Reynolds presented the history of the school, starting back in the 1920's. Principal Kelly spoke on the challenges the school faces such as the pandemic and the growing population. The school improvement team is focusing on maintaining the quality of education and supporting teachers. The addition of the school's Curriculum Coach is a great asset. Surprisingly, the student population is now 52% military-family connected. Ms. Reynolds spoke of the school's effort to address the achievement gap created by the pandemic. The school also places emphasis on teacher morale.
4. Exceptional Teacher of the Year Recognition
Jamie Miller, Director of Exceptional Children, introduced the 2021-2022 EC Teacher of the Year. The teacher was nominated by administrators and voted on by peers. McKenzie Popovich of Moyock Elementary was selected. Ms. Miller and Ms. Reynolds spoke on how Ms. Popovich engages with students and collaborates with teachers. Her IEP meetings are very well conducted. Ms. Popovich will also be recognized at the Fall State's Fall EC Conference in November.

B. Public Comment Session

Mr. Jeffrey Sodoma thanked the Transportation Department for running a bus into the new neighborhood. He then expressed his concern with the mask mandate. Mr. Sodoma has noticed anecdotal speech issues with his daughter since the mandate. He does not believe masks are helpful to students in the elementary grades. Mr.

Jeffrey asked the Board for a plan when vaccines become available to younger students.

C. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion made by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Motion seconded by: Janet Rose

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

D. Student Board Member Report

Student BOE members reported on the school activities, events and athletics.

E. Instructional Coaches Update & Presentation

Christy Hodges, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, introduced the district's Instructional Coaches: Diane Davenport, Cristie Fields, Beth LaVoie, Helen Taylor, Emily Forehand and Lynetti Warden. They each spoke on their work to support the district's curriculum plan. Their teacher support consists of analyzing data, curriculum planning and aligning the district's curriculum plan. Professional development is primary. The first year focus has been on creating Professional Learning Communities (PLC). Proven strategies are used for learning acceleration. They spoke on the importance of collaboration. The coaches also utilize surveys to gain teacher input. The input has been very positive. The coaches also provide support to beginning teachers. The coaches use their time to discuss best practices, teaching practices and instructional alignment among the district. It is a goal to have a full time dedicated Instructional Coach in each school.

Dr. Dobney asked what grade levels and curriculum are supported. Currently coaches support multiple schools and various grade levels. Dr. Dobney said that Currituck had the highest schools in the state when each school had a designated coach. Janet Rose asked about the PLC's and added that she heard concerns with the TRC's. Ms. Hodges said the state took away the TRC program - instead Running Records is now used. She stated the benefits of Running Records. Ms. Rose said that assessments can now run as long as 3 weeks versus 2 weeks.

Janet Rose asked if more coaching positions could be added. Dr. Lutz said only 2.5 positions were currently funded but more could be added if successful. Chairman Etheridge asked how the success was being tracked. Dr. Lutz said it would be through the student achievement data. The Board and Ms. Hodges discussed the use and benefits of pacing guides in K-8. Ms. Hodges said a goal is to add the guides at the high school level. Currently each Instructional Coach visits two schools each week with Knotts Island & Central Elementary being supported on an as needed basis.

Janet Rose asked if teachers can ask for direct support. Ms. Hodges said Instructional Coaches can provide one-on-one assistance.

Dr. Dobney asked how Ms. Hodges supported the coaches. The coaches replied that Ms. Hodges supports, promotes, and helps to grow and develop the coaches. They have experienced some resistance to their assistance but also understand that teachers are stressed.

F. Safe Schools Update & Mental Health Services

Virgina Arrington, Student Services Coordinator, provided an update on the pandemic issues and the mental health services available to students. The district is required to implement a mental health and training policy for all staff, this includes

anyone who has direct contact with students. This was a mandate from the SBOE. The program requires six hours of content training. Vector training was selected. The program uses videos for self training. The training deadline is December 17, 2021. Ms. Arrington said currently 85% of the district's staff have completed the training. Ms. Peters asked how the training was tracked. Ms. Arrington said training is tracked electronically and teachers receive CEU's. The program includes child abuse and sex trafficking.

Ms. Arrington presented data on the positive COVID cases and quarantines. The district has had three days without any new cases or quarantines. The district also started offering diagnostic testing to help keep students in the school. The average time to receive the results is nine hours. This can allow students to stay in school.

Chairman Etheridge said the district had to require masks because of the quarantine requirements. Ms. Arrington reviewed the state's quarantine. A positive case at school can force a section of unmasked students out of school for 10 days. The quarantine does not apply to students with masks. Janet Rose stated that she looked forward to making the masks optional and questioned when the district could try again. Dr. Lutz said the first week of school without masks resulted in 170 students quarantined. He, too, looks forward to eliminating masks. The district will continue to review the situation. Ms. Rose said she would like to see K-2 without masks. Virginia Arrington said that possibly face shields would work for phonic instruction. Ms. Rose said that another school district has removed the mask requirement during phonics instruction. The Board discussed the issue of wearing masks and the effect on student speech. Ms. Arrington will reach out to other districts.

Ms. Peters made the motion to move forward to create a plan to remove masks during phonics instruction. Chairman Etheridge said the district will continue to wear masks but will look into not wearing them during special instruction and Spanish, seconded by Janet Rose.

1. Masks in the Schools (Action)
Motion made by: Kelly Williams Peters
Motion seconded by: Janet Rose
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

G. Field Trips:

Dr. Lutz presented past and future overnight field trip requests.

1. CCHS Cross Country, Invitational @ Kernersville, NC - 10/8-9 2021
2. CCHS FFA, Competition @ Sanford, NC - 11/12-13 2021

H. Consent Agenda (Action)

Motion made by: Dwan Craft
Motion seconded by: Dr. Bill Dobney
Voting:

Unanimously Approved

1. Personnel Report Dated October 21, 2021
 - a. Leave Report Confidential
2. Technology Contract (informational):
 - a. CDW - desktops
3. Transportation Contracts (informational):
 - a. Edulog Transportation - revised
 - b. Samsara (GPS for Buses) -revised
4. Joint Meeting Minutes July 21, 2021
5. Special Meeting Minutes July 28, 2021

6. Special Meeting Minutes August 27, 2021
7. Board Meeting Minutes September 16, 2021
8. Banking Reconciliations (Informational Only)
9. Budget Report as of October 15, 2021

I. Information Items

1. Special Joint Meeting with Currituck County Commissioners- October 27, 2021 - Cooperative Extension Center, 5:00 p.m.
2. Work Session - November 18, 2021- Knapp Professional Learning Center, 4:00 p.m.
3. Board of Education Meeting - November 18, 2021 - Historic Currituck County Courthouse, 6:30 p.m.

J. Board Members & Superintendent Comments

Ms. Peters attended homecoming with a very large crowd. The band and cheerleading was great. She congratulated the homecoming queen and king. The dance was very successful. She thanked everyone for making the schools successful and keeping students in school.

Ms. Rose visited schools and had the opportunity to attend the NCSBA Law Conference. She thanked Dr. Durham, CCHS Principal and the SGO for a wonderful homecoming dance. She thanked all the staff for keeping the schools functioning. The Currituck Women's Club is celebrating bus drivers. She added that staff are allowed in games at no charges and she encouraged the community to volunteer in the schools.

Dr. Dobney congratulated Ms. Popovich. He recently visited schools and received positive staff development opportunities. Dobney said that when he was a principal conducting classroom observations, he noticed students missing class time as they switched for enrichments and other services. He developed a schedule with an enrichment block that addressed the instruction disruption. The enrichment block schedule went on to be used in other districts as well as published in the School Board Journal.

Ms. Craft recognized Boy Scouts Troop 127 who attended the meeting to view parliamentary procedures. She thanked MES for their spotlight and recognized Vic Ramsey, CCHS Tennis Coach, who celebrates 150 tennis wins.

Dr. Lutz said it was a great homecoming event. The district will review the mask options. Although the district has a mask mandate in place, the past nine weeks of school have been normal. The atmosphere of the buildings is very positive. October is Principal Appreciation Month.

The 2021 graduation ceremonies have been tentatively scheduled; JPK- May 20th & CCHS- May 26th

Chairman Etheridge ended the meeting by stating that the district was doing great things!

K. Adjourn Meeting (Action)

Motion made by: Janet Rose

Motion seconded by: Dr. Bill Dobney

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Chairperson

Secretary