

OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
EDGECOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting of the Board Held at Edgecombe County Board Rooms  
412 Pearl Street  
Tarboro, NC

August 13, 2018  
6:30 P.M.

Board Members Present:     Evelyn S. Wilson, Board Chair     Ann Kent, Vice Chair  
                                  William Ellis                             Raymond Privott  
                                  Evelyn Johnson                         Marva G. Scott

Board Members Absent:     Olga Dickens

Others Present:     Dr. Valerie Bridges, Superintendent  
                          Mrs. Abbey Futrell, Assistant Superintendent  
                          Dr. Marc Whichard, Assistant Superintendent  
                          David Coker, Director of Maintenance/Transportation  
                          Charlene Pittman, Director Student Support Services  
                          Deborah Stagner, Board Attorney  
                          Rose Cole, Board Liaison

**CALL TO ORDER:** Board Chair Dr. Evelyn S. Wilson welcomed everyone in attendance. The meeting was called to order. The Board led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**RECOGNITION:** Community & Communications Coordinator Susan Hoke recognized Mrs. Gwenevere Peebles, Multi-Classroom Leader II / PreK-2 ELA at Coker-Wimberly Elementary, as the employee of the month.

Community & Communications Coordinator Susan Hoke recognized Mrs. Ruth McDowell, Director of Child Nutrition for being awarded the 2018 State Child Nutrition Director of the Year by the School Nutrition Association (SNA).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges requested that items (6.6) School Safety Grants Program – School Resource Officers (SROs); (6.7) School Safety Grants Program – Additional School Mental Health Personnel; (6.8) cARTwheels Grant – NC Arts Council; and (6.9) Full Scale Active Shooter Simulation be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve the agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Member Marva G. Scott to approve the regular business board meeting open session minutes of July 9, 2018, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member William Ellis and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the special called board meeting open session minutes of July 30, 2018, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges informed the Board of school field trips she approved that were submitted after the July 9, 2018 board meeting, but occurring prior to the August 13, 2018 board meeting.

**Extended Day:**

**EECHS** (13198) – East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; Freshman Class; 07/13/2018; Departure: 8:00 a.m. – Return: 4:00 p.m.

**THS** (13202) – D H Conley High School, Greenville, NC; Varsity/Jr Varsity Football Team; 08/08/2018; Departure: 7:30 a.m. – Return: 2:00 p.m.

**Overnight:**

**NEHS** (13341) – Franklinton Center at Bricks, Whitakers, NC; Micro School Students; 08/13/2018 – 08/14/2018; Departure: 08/13/2018 at 8:30 a.m. – Return: 08/14/2018 at 2:30 p.m.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges informed the Board of a school fundraiser she approved that was submitted after the July 9, 2018 board meeting, but occurring prior to the August 13, 2018 board meeting.

**W. A. Pattillo Middle School** Football Team Fundraiser with O'Reilly Auto Parts to host a car wash and charge \$5 for cars and \$10 for trucks on August 11, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges stated we are excited we are in a new school year. The administrative teams have been working hard to ensure the schools are ready and prepared for the opening of schools. Dr. Bridges provided updates to the Board on the opening of the schools. Edgecombe Early College High School's open house was held on August 3, 2018 and their first day of school was August 7, 2018. The iZone Schools' open house was held on August 9, 2018 and their first day of school is today. The traditional schools' open house will be held on August 23, 2018 and their first day will be August 27, 2018. Dr. Bridges said hats off to Assistant Superintendent Dr. Marc Whichard and his team for pushing to get our administrative leaders and teaching staff positions filled with quality candidates. ECPS will continue to provide professional development that is streamlined to meet their instructional needs and programs that impact students' academic learning.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges and Transportation/Maintenance Director David Coker provided updates to the Board on the movement and plans going on in Princeville. FEMA is reviewing the area again and contemplating the possibility that the Town of Princeville will experience another flood in the future. Princeville is currently not labeled as a flood plain, but FEMA is going to change it to a flood zone. Mr. Coker informed the Board of the renovations FEMA is requesting to be made at Princeville Elementary School. Dr. Bridges and Mr. Coker answered questions presented by the Board.

Transportation/Maintenance Director David Coker provided updates to the Board on the progress in replacing the roof at SWEHS. Due to the rain, the progress has slowed down and they will not meet the time frame of having the work completed before school opens on August 27, 2018. The contractors cannot work if there is a 30% chance of rain and the weather forecast is reflecting several more days for a chance of rain. Mr. Coker answered questions presented by the Board.

Director of Student Support Services Charlene Pittman informed the Board that the General Assembly worked with the State Superintendent to launch a new School Safety Grant Program –

School Resource Officers (SROs). This program includes funding to NC Public Elementary and Middle Schools for training and/or employment of SROs. ECPS was awarded \$100,000.00. These funds will allow for more hours of support in the ECPS school district.

Director of Student Support Services Charlene Pittman informed the Board that the General Assembly worked with the State Superintendent to launch a second new School Safety Grant Program – Additional Mental Health Personnel. This program will improve safety in public schools by providing services for students in crisis and additional mental health support personnel (school social workers, psychologists, nurses, and/or counselors). ECPS has submitted a grant application requesting funding in the amount of \$152,955.75.

Director of Student Support Services Charlene Pittman informed the Board that The Music Project through cARTwheels Grant is special funding with the NC Arts Council. The purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the power of music in supporting and enhancing the school curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to interact with professional musicians, learn about the components of music, experience various instruments and how they interact in a band, as well as potential careers in music. ECPS has submitted a grant application requesting funding in the amount of \$10,000.00. Ms. Pittman also informed the Board that Mr. John Brown's Little Big Band will perform this year on November 15, 2018.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges informed the Board that a Full Scale Active Shooter Simulation will be held at SWEHS on August 15, 2018. Participants will arrive at 7:00 a.m. Observers may arrive at 7:45 a.m. Participants from each school will participate as role players. The purpose for this event is to enhance lifesaving proactive methods with the local law enforcement officers, fire departments, emergency management and emergency medical services personnel in the event of an active shooter situation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

CONSENT ITEMS: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges requested that the Board approve the following consent items:

**Fundraisers:**

**West Edgecombe Middle School** Fundraiser with All-Star Sports Products to Sell T-shirts for \$10 each on August 1 - 12, 2018.

**Phillips Middle School** Football Cheerleading Team Fundraiser to Sell Raffle Tickets for \$10 each on August 14 - 18, 2018

**South Edgecombe Middle School** Fundraiser to Sell Short Sleeve T-shirts for \$12 and Long Sleeve T-shirts for \$16 each on August 23 - September 5, 2018

**Phillips Middle School** Volleyball Team Fundraiser to Sell Chicken Plates for \$8 each on August 24, 2018

A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve the consent items, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

ITEMS FOR ACTION: A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the Contract between Edgecombe County Board of Education and Rhonda Powell for Private

Transportation Services for August 13, 2018 to June 29, 2019, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson, and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member William Ellis to approve the North Edgecombe Class of 1983 using the NEHS Cafeteria on September 7, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Requires approval due to the event exceeding 9:00 p.m., per the Community Use of Facilities Policy (#5030), as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott, and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member Evelyn Johnson to approve the Tuition Rate for 2018-2019, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott, and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member Marva G. Scott to approve the 2018-2019, Title I, Part A, Grant, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the 2018-2019 Title I, Part C, Migrant Education Grant, as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Ann Kent, and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member William Ellis under the North Carolina Open Meetings Law, Section 143-318.11 (a) (1), (a) (3), and (a) (6), to go into Closed Session to consider personnel matters, to consult with the attorney to preserve attorney-client privileged information, including pending litigation to discuss K. B. and L. B. v. Edgecombe County Board of Education, et al., Case No. 4:16-CV-00271-D (EDNC), and to prevent the disclosure of student records rendered confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, and the disclosure of personnel records rendered confidential under G.S. 115C-319 through 321. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION: A motion was made by Member William Ellis to approve the personnel management list, as discussed in closed session. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott with a majority vote, nay vote by Vice Chair Ann Kent, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the regular business meeting closed session minutes of July 9, 2018, as presented in closed session. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve the special called meeting closed session minutes of July 30, 2018, as presented in closed session. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE: None

ITEMS BROUGHT BY BOARD MEMBERS/SUPERINTENDENT FOR CONSIDERATION/  
DISCUSSION: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges shared with the Board that ECPS has 5  
super seniors in the Scholar Teacher Program and that the following contributions have donated  
by:

Barnhill Contracting Company	\$90,000
Anonymous	\$ 3,000
Rev. Richard Joyner	\$ 250 per month
Others have said they will participate.	

The goal is to receive enough funds invested so the tuition can be paid with the interest. ECPS is  
also getting the super seniors involved in summer camps and programs to provide experience.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bridges informed the Board that the ECPS Annual Convocation will  
be held on August 21, 2018 at SWEHS from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided.  
All Board members present stated they plan to attend.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Member William Ellis to adjourn. The  
motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and, with a unanimous vote, approved by  
the Board.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. Valerie Bridges, Superintendent

Approved by the Edgecombe  
County Board of Education

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evelyn S. Wilson, Chairperson

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_