

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

April 8, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

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

Others Present:             Dr. Valerie H. Bridges, Superintendent  
                                   Mrs. Abbey Futrell, Assistant Superintendent  
                                   Dr. Marc Whichard, Assistant Superintendent  
                                   Susan Hoke, Community & Communications Coordinator  
                                   Laurie Leary, Director of Finance  
                                   Jerome Williams, Director Maintenance  
                                   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.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges requested in section (8)B Items for Action, to add item (8.5.B) Approval of the Assistant Superintendent/Director of CISS Abbey Futrell submitting an America's Farmer Grow Rural Education Grant Application to Grow Rural Education. A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Member Evelyn Johnson and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

Community & Communications Coordinator Susan Hoke recognized Ms. Susan Herrin, North Edgecombe High School Math Teacher, as the employee of the month. Mrs. Hoke presented Ms. Herrin with a certificate. Mr. Greg Sessoms, State Farm Agent, could not attend the meeting, but provided Ms. Herrin with a gift card.

**FOCUS SCHOOLS:** Edgecombe Early College High School, SouthWest Edgecombe High School, and West Edgecombe Middle School provided focus school presentations to the Board to share with them the academic strategies, leadership, educational resources and programs they are using to promote and engage student learning to meet their goals to improve student academics and testing scores.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve the regular business board meeting open session minutes of March 11, 2019. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION: Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges informed the Board of school field trips she approved that were submitted after the March 11, 2019 board meeting, but occurring prior to the April 8, 2019 board meeting.

**Extended Day**

**Phillips Middle** (15359) – NC Aquarium, Roanoke; Jockey’s Ridge State Park & Jennette’s Pier, Nags Head, NC; Grades 6-8; 03/21/2019; Departure: 7:00 a.m. – Return: 3:30 p.m.

**NEHS** (15349) – Charles B. Aycock High School, Pikeville, NC, JROTC; 04/06/2019; Departure: 5:15 a.m. – Return: 6:30 p.m.

**MMA** (15867) – Morehead Planetarium & Science Center, Chapel Hill, NC; Grades 4-8; 04/06/2019; Departure: 8:30 a.m. – Return: 6:00 p.m.

**MMA** (15856) – Jockey’s Ridge State Park; Aquarium at Roanoke Island, Manteo, NC; Grade 4; 04/08/2019; Departure: 7:00 a.m. – Return: 5:00 p.m.

**Overnight**

**NEHS** (15684) – UNC at Pembroke, Pembroke, NC; Country Inn & Suites, Lumberton, NC; Robotics Team; 03/29/2019 – 03/31/2019; Departure: 03/29/2019 at 8:00 a.m. – Return: 03/31/2019 at 12:00 p.m.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges informed the Board of school fundraisers she approved that were submitted after the March 11, 2019 board meeting, but occurring prior to the April 8, 2019 board meeting.

**Princeville Elementary** Fundraiser with Krispy Kreme Donuts to Sell Donut Certificates for \$8 each on March 19 – April 1, 2019

**EECHS** PTO Fundraiser with Williams Plant Farm to Sell Pink Geraniums for \$13, Yellow Gerber Daisies for \$6, Red Knockout Roses for \$16, and Hanging Potted Ferns for \$15 each on April 2 – 15, 2019

Director of Maintenance Jerome Williams provided a progress update on the ECPS Professional Development Center and Princeville Elementary School. Mr. Williams informed the Board that the installation of cabinets, painting and flooring are the only task remaining to work on at the ECPS Professional Development Center and this work will be completed by April 30, 2019. The facility will be available for staff use on May 1, 2019. Mr. Williams informed the Board that 90% of the demolition of the interior of Princeville Elementary School is completed. The contractors have been working around the clock and all task are on schedule.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges informed the Board of the contract between ECBOE and Eastern North Carolina STEM (ENC STEM) to provide learning opportunities and leadership training to economically disadvantaged high school students. The goal is to increase growth mindset and college readiness in the pursuit of STEM majors/careers for the forty rising 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade ECPS students participating in the program. ENC STEM will facilitate a rigorous student-centered program at Tarboro High School for two weeks and at the NC School of Science and Math for one week. Funding for the program is provided through an appropriation from the NC General Assembly and there is no cost to the students participating participants or ECPS, with the exception of the use of the Tarboro High School facility.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: Policy Committee:**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve Policy 2500 – Hearings Before the Board and Policy 4130 – Discretionary Admission, 1st Reading, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member William Ellis and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

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

**Field Trips:**

**Extended Day**

**Stocks** (16212) – NC Museum of History, Raleigh, NC; Grade 5; 04/15/2019;  
Departure: 8:00 a.m. – Return: 4:30 p.m.

**SWEHS** (16217) – Seymour Johnson AFB, Goldsboro, NC; Cadets; 04/27/2019;  
Departure: 6:30 a.m. – Return: 2:30 p.m.

**Phillips Middle** (16246) – The Proximity Hotel, Greensboro, NC; Grades 6-8; 04/28/2019;  
Departure: 11:00 a.m. – Return: 8:30 p.m.

**Princeville Elementary** (15668) – Duke Energy Center for Performing Arts, Raleigh, NC;  
Grade 5; 05/14/2019; Departure: 8:00 a.m. – Return: 4:00 p.m.

**Stocks Elementary** (16025) – Marbles Kids Museum, Raleigh, NC; Kindergarten; 05/17/2019;  
Departure: 8:15 a.m. – Return: 4:45 p.m.

**Extended Day & Out-of-State**

**Coker-Wimberly Elementary** (16245) – Kings Dominion, Doswell, VA; Grades 5; 05/10/2019;  
Departure: 7:00 a.m. – Return: 6:00 p.m.

**SEMS** (15379) – Kings Dominion, Doswell, VA; Band; 05/10/2019; Departure: 7:00 a.m. -  
Return: 11:30 p.m.

**Out-of-State & Overnight**

**NEHS** (16150) – Kings Dominion, Doswell, VA; Fort Myer Military Base/IH Army Hotel,  
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Fort Myer, VA; Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA;  
Smithsonian: National Air and Space Museum/National Museum of Natural History/National  
Museum of American History, White House, Supreme Court Building, Library of Congress,  
Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, World War II Memorial, African  
American Museum, Jefferson Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Franklin Delano  
Roosevelt Memorial, Washington Monument, Holocaust Museum, Capitol Building, Washington,  
DC; Golden Corral, Fredericksburg, VA; JROTC; 04/19/2019 – 04/22/2019; Departure:  
04/19/2019 at 9:00 a.m. – Return: 04/22/2019 at 9:00 p.m.

**Fundraisers:**

**NEHS** Yearbook Committee Fundraiser to Sell Ads for the Yearbook to Local Businesses for \$25  
per quarter page on April 9 – 22, 2019

**G. W. Bulluck Elementary** Physical Education Department Fundraiser to Sell Concession Items  
from \$.50 - \$1 during Field Day on April 12, 2109

**Coker-Wimberly Elementary** Fundraiser with PIP Printing to Sell T-shirts for \$8 for Students  
and \$12 for Adults on May 6 – 18, 2019; and Sell Concession Items from \$.25 - \$1 on May 17,  
2019 and May 18, 2019 during the “Cinderella” Spring Musical performance

A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the consent items, as presented.  
The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by  
the Board.

ITEMS FOR ACTION: A motion was made by Member William Ellis to approve the Director  
of Innovation submitting an Innovative School Startup Grant application to Walton Family  
Foundation in the amount of \$325,000, 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 Lillie R. Worsley to approve the request for waiver of facility  
use fees for the Concerned Citizens for Involvement and Improvement organization to use the G.  
W. Carver Elementary School auditorium on May 2, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. to conduct

a National Prayer Day, 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 accept the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Grant 2019 Career Award for Science and Mathematics Teachers awarded in the amount of \$175,000 (One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars), 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 Evelyn Johnson to approve the Proposed Budget for 2019-2020, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Raymond Privott, and with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to approve the Assistant Superintendent/ Director of CISS Abbey Futrell submitting an America's Farmer Grow Rural Education Grant Application to Grow Rural Education in the amount of \$25,000, 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 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 Lillie R. Worsley and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

**OPEN SESSION:** A motion was made by Member Raymond Privott to approve the personnel management list, as discussed and amended in closed session. The motion was seconded by Member William Ellis and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

A motion was made by Member William Ellis to approve the extracurricular activities – spring sports, as discussed 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 Member Marva G. Scott to approve the regular business meeting closed session minutes of March 11, 2019, as presented in closed session. The motion was seconded by Member Lillie R. Worsley and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

**BOARD CORRESPONDENCE:** Board Chair Dr. Evelyn S. Wilson asked if a response had been mailed to Ms. Cathy Boyd Parker regarding her letter requesting a historical marker be placed at W. A. Pattillo Middle School as reminder of the former W. A. Pattillo High School Trojans, which was discussed at the March 19, 2019 Board Retreat. Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges said she will send a letter to Ms. Parker.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges invited the Board to visit the Micro School at NEHS tomorrow, April 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. to see the students present their design projects.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges informed the Board that Director of Finance Laurie Leary and she met with Edgecombe County Manager Eric Evans and Assistant County Manager William Johnson on April 3, 2019 regarding the budget request for the 2019-2020 school year.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie H. Bridges informed the Board that a G. W. Carver Elementary School Pre-K student passed away from drowning on April 5, 2019 while on a family vacation.

Board Chair Dr. Evelyn S. Wilson shared with the Board that Member Raymond Privott's sister, Annie Privott, passed. Dr. Wilson gave Rev. Privott a card on behalf of the Board.

ITEMS BROUGHT BY BOARD MEMBERS/SUPERINTENDENT FOR CONSIDERATION/  
DISCUSSION: None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice Chair Ann Kent to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Marva G. Scott and, with a unanimous vote, approved by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Valerie H. Bridges, Superintendent

Approved by the Edgecombe  
County Board of Education

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

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