

Central Carolina RESA Board of Directors Meeting
7208 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, NC
December 13, 2017
9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Minutes

Board of Directors

Pamela Baldwin (CHCCS), Pascal Mubenga (Durham), Rhonda Schuhler (Franklin), Alisa McLean (Granville), Patrick Miller (Greene), Dolores Gill (Johnston designee), Monica Smith-Woofter (Northampton), Rodney Peterson (Person), Ethan Lenker (Pitt), Dain Butler (Roanoke Rapids), Ray Spain (Warren), and Lane Mills (Wilson).

Affiliate Member Representatives

Barbria Bacon (NC School for Blind and Deaf), Art Rouse (ECU)

Special Guests

Jack Hoke (NCSSA)

Staff

Neil Pedersen, Dana Stutzman, Lisa Sonricker, and Patricia Hilliard.

Call to Order

Chair Elect Monica Smith-Woofter called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. She congratulated Rhonda Schuhler, Superintendent of Franklin County Schools, and Pascal Mubenga, Superintendent of Durham Public Schools, on their new positions. She also welcomed Jack Hoke, Executive Director of NCSSA who made brief remarks. The agenda for the meeting was modified to allow State Board member Amy White to meet with the Board from 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Discussion with Amy White

Amy White has served for the past 18 months on the State Board of Education and represents Region 3. She shared information about her background, that included graduating from Wake Forest University, serving as a high school social studies teacher, serving on the Wake County Schools Board of Education, and, more recently, leading the Community of Hope Ministries in Garner. She shared that some of the School Board's priorities are educating the whole child, ESSA, and aligning the strategic plan with funding sources. Superintendents shared some of their concerns over legislative issues such as class size mandates and the lack of communication from DPI and the State Superintendent's Office. Ms. White urged superintendents to contact her at any time at amy.white@cohmin.org or 919-201-1211 (c).

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Smith-Woofter asked members to review the minutes from the October 27th Board of Directors meeting. Patrick Miller moved and Pam Baldwin seconded approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Financial Statements

Dr. Smith-Woofter reviewed the financial materials for CCRESA Treasurer Jim Merrill, who was unable to attend the meeting. All expenses are on target for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Ethan Lenker moved and Rodney Peterson seconded approval of the Financial Reports. The reports were approved by a unanimous vote. In addition Rodney Peterson moved and Alisa McLean seconded a motion to move \$150,000 from the BB&T account to the CapitalOne Savings account in order to comply with the auditors' recommendation to reduce the balance at BB&T.

Appointment of New Secretary/Treasurer

Due to Jim Merrill's retirement effective February 1, 2018, it was necessary for the Board to select a replacement to serve out his term that ends June 30, 2018. Ethan Lenker was nominated by Patrick Miller to serve in this office. No one else was nominated. Patrick Miller moved and Lane Mills seconded to close nominations. Ethan Lenker's nomination was unanimously approved.

Preparation for Legislative Breakfast

Neil Pedersen reminded the Board that the Legislative Breakfast will be held on January 10th from 8:30-10:30 am at the Bridge Club in Raleigh. He stressed the importance of superintendents contacting their legislators, preferably by phone, to invite them to join them at the breakfast. Printed invitations were sent via U.S. Mail to the legislators' offices so that they would have the information in writing. The invitations asked legislators to respond to their superintendents. Neil asked for superintendents to confirm who will be attending before they leave for the Winter Break. The "drop dead" date is January 3, 2018. It was agreed that lobbyists and representatives from other professional organizations would not be invited.

Neil asked the Board for their ideas about how to conduct the meeting. It was agreed that it should have an informal tone. Patrick Miller will serve as the "MC" for the event. Legislators, hopefully, will start going through the buffet line by 8:45 and finish breakfast by 9:15. Legislators will be provided the position papers that NCASA developed on its five priorities. Jack Hoke indicated that he could send out talking points. The following Board members agreed to offer a brief (3-5 minutes) story or example related to the following priorities:

- Ross Renfrow: Class Size Mandates
- Dain Butler: Pay-Plan for School Administrators
- Ethan Lenker: School Performance Grades and Accountability System
- Lane Mills: Central Office Budget Cuts

It was noted that legislators may have some meetings that morning, but they probably would not begin prior to 10 a.m. Under this plan, we should be able to complete the program by 10 a.m.; however, the breakfast can continue on to 10:30 for those who can remain or for late arrivals.

Update on LAMP

Neil Pedersen updated the Board on the LAMP's implementation and the implications of proposed policy changes pertaining to Educator Preparation Programs that the PEPSC is recommending to the State Board. LAMP falls under Policy TCED-010 pertaining to "Innovative/Experimental Programs." Our program has been approved for five years through 2022. Our teachers will have three years to pass the Praxis II and the Pearson math and reading tests if applicable. At this time it's unclear if lateral-entry teachers will be required to pass the edTPA. Neil shared that the program is experiencing some problems in preparing teachers for EC licensure. He also shared that the districts would like us to expand to licensing elementary teachers; however, Board members suggested that we be cautious about this, particularly because these teachers will be expected to pass the Pearson math and reading assessments.

Teacher Contracts

Superintendents shared their current thinking about developing a policy related to the issuance of teacher contracts of varying length. Most seem to be considering one-year contracts the first three years and then some type of rollover contract. Cabarrus County Schools has developed a new policy on teacher contracts. There was some discussion about the role that EVAAS results and ratings on NCEES should play.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Merrill
Treasurer/Secretary