

# **Central Carolina RESA Board of Directors Meeting**

**NCSBA Assembly Hall**

**October 22, 2021**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

## **Minutes**

### **Board of Directors in Attendance**

Eric Bracy (Johnston), Pascal Mubenga (Durham), Cathy Moore (Wake), Rhonda Schuhler (Franklin), Cindy Bennett (Vance), Frank Creech (Green designee), Rodney Peterson (Person), Valerie Bridges (Edgecombe), Nyah Hamlett (CHCCS), Eric Cunningham (Halifax), Ethan Lenker (Pitt), Alisa McLean (Granville), and Lane Mills (Wilson).

### **Affiliate Member Representatives in Attendance**

Fran Riddick (NC State), Freda Hicks (NCCU), and Barbria Bacon (ESDB).

### **Guests**

Jack Hoke (NCSSA), Amy White (SBE), Melany Paden (NCDPI), and Tabari Wallace (NCDPI).

### **Staff**

Ed Croom and Dana Stutzman

### **Call to Order**

CCRESA Executive Director, Ed Croom called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Croom suggested reordering the order of the agenda to allow guests to present prior to the Business portion of the meeting.

### **Jack Hoke – NCSSA Update**

- 67 Superintendents attended the 2-day face-to-face conference
- Winter Conference at the Grandover and working on finalizing the Agenda

- Working with the State Superintendent on the following topics:
  - Operation Polaris
  - Leandro
  - Office of Learning Recovery and Acceleration
  - Budget – discussions happening behind closed doors, but said to be resolved in 2-3 weeks
- Met with community college Presidents and discussed low enrollment issues. K-12 schools over the state are seeing a drop in enrollment
- Jack Hoke thanked Superintendents for their leadership through this difficult time

#### **Amy White – State Board of Education**

- Ms. White noted that Superintendents have been doing an amazing job leading North Carolina schools
- Human capital – the need for qualified teachers is of high importance
- Sits on the Student Learning & Achieving Committee
  - Don't be discouraged by recent Read to Achieve data. This is something to grow on and fully support a do-over
  - CTE offering students amazing opportunities
- Charter School innovation – turbulence of students in and out
- Freebird McKinney and his team are visiting Superintendents as representatives of the Superintendents office and the State Board
- Pilot Project ACTIVATE Program – one issue they are tacking is high school athletics during the pandemic
  - Update on mental health policy
- Please reach out – call/email to let her know what issues you would like to discuss

#### **Board Feedback**

- Charter schools are re-segregating areas. Many charters are not fulfilling the promises of their original applications and there needs to be checks and balances. This issue is not focused to one district, but many in the RESA are affected by it. LEA funds are going

out to charter schools, but when the students return to public schools, resources are not returned.

- NC Access Grant should allow charters to address those issues. Superintendents can reach out directly to discuss issue in more detail

#### **Tabari Wallace - NCDPI Office of Principal Engagement**

- Principals of the Year will meet for quarterly roundtables starting next week
- A goal of the roundtable will be to set up a Professional Development matrix – how are districts intra-training your staff and how can DPI support this endeavor in each district
- Last week of Principal Appreciation – flood social media with #ncsupportsourprincipals
- Roundtable will create a “menu” of options for how districts can accomplish their goals

#### **Melany Paden - NCDPI North Central Regional Support**

- Thank you to the Superintendents who have recommended their new Principals to meet virtually once a month to discuss problems of practice and “right now” issues
- AIM Conference – we know Superintendents are incredibly busy, but please register to attend
- NCDPI is coming to districts for LETRS training and Read to Achieve. Tabari Wallace is also able to come out for district visits.

#### **Approval of the September 24<sup>th</sup> Minutes**

Board Chair Rhonda Schuhler noted the Board had received a link to the September 24<sup>th</sup> Minutes posted on the CCRESA website and asked members to take a few minutes to review. Rodney Peterson moved, and Pascal Mubenga seconded a motion to approve the Minutes. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

#### **Approval of the Financial Report**

Board Secretary/Treasurer Alisa McLean introduced the Financial Report, also noting that a digital copy was available, and all finances were in good standing. Dana Stutzman noted that action was taken following the Board’s decision to move \$100,000 from the FirstIB CD to the Business Savings Account at the previous Board Meeting, and that move is reflected in the

Financial Report. Lane Mills motioned and Eric Cunningham seconded the motion to approve. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

### **District Updates/Issues**

- Are districts experiencing bus driver staffing issues due to the inefficiency of the licensure process?
  - People are in the pipeline to fill the position, but are having to wait several days to weeks for licensing
  - NC not having reciprocity with VA licenses is a detriment to districts on the border
  - The RESA will collect feedback and share issues at the state level
    - DOT manages this department
- Any districts dealt with their Boards calling special sessions to revise the calendar for November 12<sup>th</sup>?
  - Many districts have made this an Optional Workday. Some can label it a “Wellness Day” and forgive time for hourly workers.
- Are any districts struggling with Principal turnover?
  - Yes, and are low on Assistant Principals and teachers to promote and fill the positions due to lack of classroom coverage.
- Any success with addressing staff covering classes?
  - Franklin County has set up a payment structure to compensate teachers for classroom coverage, grading papers, or planning for another class. RESA will share this document with Superintendents.

Dr. Croom adjourned the meeting at 10:00AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alisa McLean

CCRESA Secretary/Treasurer