

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

### **Zoom Session**

**May 14, 2021**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

### **Minutes**

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

Ethan Lenker (Pitt), Lane Mills (Wilson), Rhonda Schuhler (Franklin), Steve Ellis (Nash), Anthony Jackson (Vance), Eric Cunningham (Halifax), Eric Bracy (Johnston), Cathy Moore (Wake), Pascal Mubenga (Durham), Alisa McLean (Granville), Mary Young (Warren), and Rodney Peterson (Person).

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

Fran Riddick (NC State), Martinette Horner (UNC), Diana Lys (UNC), Freda Hicks (NCCU), Lakisha Rice (NCCU), and Jennifer Jarrett (NCCU)

#### **Staff**

Ed Croom, Dana Stutzman, Lisa Sonricker, and Kathy Saunders

#### **Call to Order**

CCRESA Executive Director, Ed Croom called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### **Approval of the March 19th Minutes**

Ethan Lenker, CCRESA Board Chair, reminded attendees that they had received a copy of the March 19<sup>th</sup> Minutes via email and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions or further discussion. Alisa McLean moved, and Eric Bracy seconded a motion to approve the Minutes. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

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

Dr. Lenker asked Board Members if there were any questions regarding the Financial Reports or the Financial Memo. Lane Mills and Dana Stutzman reported that all budget items for the CCRESA were on track. There were no financial questions brought forth by

Board Members. Rodney Peterson moved, and Pascal Mubenga seconded a motion to approve the Financial Reports. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

### **Approval of FY2021-2022 Budget**

Dr. Croom presented the proposed budget for the upcoming year. He noted the RESA runs a very tight budget, and even with effort to be mindful of all expenditures, the RESA will run at a deficit of \$30,000 due to revenue shortfalls. There were no questions on budget line items. Rhonda Schuhler motioned, Alisa McLean seconded, and the budget was approved unanimously.

### **Dues/Long Range Planning**

As a response to the revenue shortfalls, Dr. Croom, with prior approval from the Executive Committee, set forth a proposal to amend the current membership fee structure. The amendment would increase minimum dues from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for districts with an ADM under 15,000 and capping the maximum at \$25,000 instead of \$20,000. The Affiliate Membership fee would increase by \$250, making it a total of \$2,750.

Dr. Jackson reminded Superintendents that dues were initially decreased in 2012 to give districts a financial reprieve while the RESA was receiving Race to the Top Funds. This decrease was meant to be a temporary pause and it was always the intention to have dues increase after the RTTT fund balance was spent down. Dr. Schuhler also noted that due to incoming Covid relief funds, it would be timely to implement the increase for the upcoming year.

Assuming membership remains consistent for FY21-22, the proposed fee structure will increase revenue by approximately \$70,000. This will cover the shortfall and put the RESA in a strong financial position for many years to come.

The motion to increase membership dues was put forth by the Executive Committee, there was no dissent, and the motioned carried. The amended fee structure will be in effect for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

### **Executive Board Elections**

The current CCRESA Executive Board has fulfilled their two-year term of service, and it is time to elect a new member. Dr. Rhonda Schuhler will move from the Vice Chair to Chair, and Dr. Lane Mills will move from Treasurer/Secretary to Vice Chair. Dr. Shuhler nominated Alisa McLean to serve as the Treasurer/Secretary for the 2021-2023 term. No other nominees were put forth. Rodney Peterson moved to closed nominations, Pascal Mubenga seconded, Dr. McLean's election was approved by acclamation.

### **NCSSA Committee Elections**

Dr. Croom thanked Valerie Bridges and Lane Mills for representing the RESA at NCSSA Board Meetings for the past two years and opened the floor for new nominees. Dr. Mubenga nominated Cathy Moore and Dr. Lenker nominated Rhonda Schuhler. Rodney Peterson motioned to close nominations and Alisa McLean seconded. Nominations were approved unanimously and Ms. Moore and Dr. Schuhler will represent the CCRESA at NCSSA Board Meetings.

### **Audit Committee Elections**

Audit committee members review the yearly audit prior to its presentation to the Board and meet once a year. Dr. Croom opened the floor to nominate three members to the audit committee and reminded attendees that Executive Committee members are not permitted to serve on the Audit Committee. Dr. Schuhler nominated Rodney Peterson, Dr. Mubenga nominated Eric Cunningham, and Dr. Mills nominated Steve Ellis. No additional nominees were put forward and Lane Mills motioned to close nominations, Alisa McLean seconded, and the committee membership was approved unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

### **CCTI Update**

Lisa Sonricker, CCTI Program Director, presented an update to the Board on the status of the teacher licensure program. CCTI has focused on new marketing and recruitment strategies and have created videos that highlight the success stories of our participants. Two videos with teachers from Wake and Wilson are currently posted online at [ccteaching.org](http://ccteaching.org) and a 3<sup>rd</sup> video featuring one of our Durham teachers is in production.

Ms. Sonricker reminded Superintendents that there is no cost to districts for teachers to participate in CCTI and there is also no limit to how many teachers the program can accept. The districts listed below all have teachers enrolled for the Fall of 2022 and we look forward to adding to this list:

- Warren County
- Wake County
- Orange County
- Durham County
- Nash County
- Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
- Roanoke Rapids Graded Schools

### **CCP3 Update**

Dr. Lakisha Rice and Ms. Jennifer Jarret from NCCU presented on the current successes of the Central Carolina Principal Preparation Program – the partnership program between the CCRESA and NCCU that gives teacher leaders the opportunity to earn their MSA for free and gives 2 years of additional support while they are in administrative leadership roles.

In order to get ahead with recruitment for the 2022 cohort, NCCU would like to request district support in the following areas:

- Provide NCCU with an HR contact and/or a contact who manages the district website and social media outlets
- Promote CCP3 on your social media
- Ability to attend Principal leadership meetings
- Select 3-5 strong candidates to apply to the program

Applications will be open from September 15<sup>th</sup> – December 1<sup>st</sup>. Interviews will be held in mid-December and districts will be notified of the teachers selected to participate in the program by early January. Superintendents and an HR representative will sign a confirmation letter to show support for the candidate upon their acceptance into the program. A handout detailing this information and a copy of the presentation was shared with Board Members via email and are posted on the meeting website.

Dr. Schuhler noted her teachers have had success in the program but requested a clear line of communication be set up regarding internships. Dr. Rice noted the request and will talk to her internship placement team about setting up a timelier process.

### **CCRESA Councils Update**

Dr. Croom shared that all CCRESA Councils have been continually active over the past few months. The Equity Council in particular, worked outside of scheduled council meetings to draft a letter of recommendations for students who may have been left behind during the pandemic. The letter was shared with Board Members via email and is posted to the meeting website.

The CCRESA was given the opportunity to join the National Association of Educational Service Agency at a discounted rate for the first year. Details of their professional development services can be found at [aesa.us](http://aesa.us).

### **Open Discussion**

- A handful of districts use Panorama as a survey tool. One district noted that there have been parent complaints about the personal nature of some of the questions on the survey and that a small number of parents have questioned the use of the vendor.
- Superintendents noted that their input was not considered or requested about many of the bills coming through the General Assembly and they feel that they are left reacting to legislation instead of being proactive. Many districts already have policies in place and implementation of some of these bills would be extremely difficult, if not impossible to implement. There are many questions to the motivations of the legislation put forward.
- Superintendents would like more open dialogue with the education lobbies and NCDPI leadership. Dr. Croom will invite State Superintendent Truitt to attend the June 10<sup>th</sup> CCRESA Zoom Call.
- There is concern that the original purpose of Charter Schools has not been accurately represented to the public, and they are being set above LEAs while not being held to the same accountability standards as traditional public schools.

- NCDPI shared new information on School Nutrition that may have a financial impact on some districts.
- A suggestion was made that legislative recommendations could be made by the RESA, as there is often strength in numbers, it may have more of an impact.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Dr. Croom gave congratulations to the newly elected committee members and representatives and adjourned the meeting at 10:20am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lane Mills

CCRESA Secretary/Treasurer