

KANNAPOLIS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

Date: September 13, 2021	Present:	Mr. Todd Adams, Chair
		Mr. Kevin Clark, Vice Chair
Time: 5:30 PM		Mrs. Anita Parker
		Mrs. Kristina Cook
Place: A. L. Brown High School		Mr. Kevin Garay
KPAC		Dr. Chris Triolo
		Dr. Jessica Grant
		Ms. Kim Soryz
		Mr. Brian Shaw, Attorney
		Mrs. Ashley Forrest, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Todd Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:34 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Parker that the Board convene in Closed Session, pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged, and pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of student information that is confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and pursuant to Gen. Stat 143-318.11(a)(6) to prevent the disclosure of personnel information that is confidential under N. C. Gen. Stat. 115C-319 through -321. Mr. Clark gave the second and the motion carried.

Closed Session was recessed 6:27 p.m. and the Board returned to Open Session at 6:37 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mrs. Parker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Clark gave the second and the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Parker made a motion to approve and close the Closed Session minutes from August 9, 2021. Mrs. Cook gave the second and the motion carried.

Dr. Grant requested approval of the student assignment list as presented with ten students granted acceptance to Kannapolis City Schools. There was also a list approved on August 18, 2021, with two students granted and two students denied release from Kannapolis City Schools and fourteen granted and five students denied acceptance to Kannapolis City Schools. Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the student assignment lists as presented. Mrs. Parker gave the second and the motion carried.

Ms. Soryz requested approval of the personnel list as amended with two persons requesting a leave of absence (for action), ten persons leaving employment (for information), thirty-nine persons recommended for employment (for action), and five persons recommended for employment changes (for information). Mrs. Cook made a motion to approve the personnel list as presented. Mr. Clark gave the second and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND STATEMENT

Upon a motion by Mrs. Parker and second from Mrs. Cook, the minutes from the August 9, 2021, Open Session and the July 27, 2021, credit card statement were approved as presented.

RECOGNITIONS

Eight persons from Forest Park Elementary were recognized: Rayshaun Cunningham, a current 5th grader at FPES, radiates positive energy into his classroom and is a role model to students. Wendy Figueroa Caballero is also a fifth grader at FPES and her teacher, Mrs. Simmons, says she has all the characteristics to a true FP Bear. She is a leader, she encourages others, she holds herself accountable, and takes her responsibility as a student very seriously. All Saints Episcopal Church has been a great community partner to FPES by providing “Blessing Bags” to each teacher and food bags for about 25 students to take home biweekly. Martha Pell is a fantastic tutor for FPES who works effectively with all groups of students and teachers. Ms. Pell has expanded the scope of her position by taking the time to truly analyze the skills and abilities of her students, then providing detailed reports to teachers about the work and progress that is accomplished during her sessions. As a TA/BD, Latoya Borders has a smile that lights up the room. She is always willing to jump in to lend a helping hand and she has a heart of gold. Lindsy McDaniel is a Kindergarten teacher at FPES. She is a proactive teacher who is always looking for ways to improve her teaching practice and maximize student learning. Kelly Fainter is the Instructional Data Coach at Forest Park but serves in so many ways beyond her title. She organizes meetings, supports teachers, and is consistently willing to jump in wherever she is needed! Laura Gray embodies what it means to be a bus driver. While also fulfilling her TA responsibilities at FP, she takes the time to get to know her students and build lasting relationships with them.

The Board also recognized the Hilbish Ford Teacher of the Month, Stephanie Brooks from FLWES. The family that nominated Mrs. Brooks shared how helpful her communications have been and that their third grader regularly tells them the amazing things happening in Mrs. Brooks’ classroom.

The JV and Varsity Cheer teams were congratulated for their 2021 State Championships. They were applauded for their dedication and enthusiasm for KCS and our community.

KCS had two employees retire since the last retiree recognition, Terri Gilliam and Carletta Klutz. Ms. Klutz was present at the Board meeting and board members thanked her for her more than thirty years of service to KCS.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christopher Cash had submitted a request to make public comment, but was not present at the meeting. No other requests for public comment were received.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mr. Garay shared current COVID data for our community. He also noted there have been 19 requests for remote learning with medically-fragile documentation and 11 of those have been approved. Mr. Garay recommended that KCS continue with its current masking and other COVID-related protocols through the October 2021 board meeting. Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented. Mrs. Parker gave the second and the motion carried unanimously amongst the board members present.

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Dr. Matt Schleider presented a 2020-2021 EOY data overview that was made public by the state on September 1, 2021. It was noted that all states were granted a waiver by the US Department of Education for any school comparison data and performance designations, but not for administering EOY assessments for the 2020-2021 school year.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION UPDATE

Dr. Chris Triolo provided an academics update which included the onboarding work he has done in his new role as KCS Assistant Superintendent. He also outlined the efforts of the C&I leads to remain grounded in the district strategic plan, the team's current work and next steps, and the upcoming process to review and support School Improvement Plans.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT

Ms. Kim Soryz shared that the district would like to offer the Prudential 403(b) programs, sponsored by the NC Retirement Systems Division, during open enrollment this fall. Mrs. Parker made a motion that the district offer the Prudential 403(b) starting with this fall's open enrollment. Mr. Clark gave the second and the motion carried.

Closed Session was formally adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several announcements and upcoming events were discussed.

Attorney Brian Shaw overviewed the class action litigation connected with JUUL and the districts who have recently signed on to participate. He counseled board members that participation by KCS would not involve the expenditure of funds and would require a relatively low amount of work to complete the Plaintiff Fact Sheet. Attorney Shaw recommended a motion consenting to have KCS join the litigation against JUUL and authorizing the Superintendent and Board Attorney

to continue the process and take needed actions. Mrs. Parker made the motion. Mrs. Cook gave the second and the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Kevin Garay, Superintendent

Todd Adams, Chair