

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTIONS TAKEN AT  
MONDAY, March 21, 2016, REGULAR MEETING**

This document summarizes formal actions taken on substantive matters at the regular meeting of the Northampton County Board of Education on March 21, 2016. This document is provided for the convenience of the public and does not constitute the official minutes of the meeting. For details such as the precise substance of main motions, any subsidiary motions, the names of members who made and seconded motions, staff presentations and public comments, and the times the meeting was called to order, recessed, reconvened, and/or adjourned, please consult the official minutes of this meeting, which are maintained as audio or video recordings and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent and on the Board of Education website.

**Members Present:** Rhonda Taylor, Chair; Marjorie Edwards, Vice Chair; Clinton Williams, Lucy Edwards, Kelvin Edwards, Phil Matthews, Keedra Whitaker, Dr. Monica Smith-Woofter, ex officio  
**Others Present:** Administration and interested parties

**ACTIONS TAKEN:**

**Closed Session.** The Board entered closed session at 5:30 p.m. pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (a)(6) to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Keedra Whitaker, Mr. Clinton Williams, and Mr. Kelvin were not present for the vote. Ms. Keedra Whitaker and Mr. Clinton Williams arrived during closed session.

**Approval of the Meeting Agenda.** The meeting agenda was approved. The Board amended the agenda to remove the agenda item, #14.02 Parking Lot Coating and Lining for Gaston Elementary School and Central Services, from the agenda to be discussed at the Facilities Committee Meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and be brought back to the April 4, 2016 Board Meeting.

**Good News Award.** Curtis Kirkland, a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student at Gaston Elementary School, was present at the Board Meeting to make a surprise presentation of red roses to Dr. Monica Smith-Woofter. His teacher stated that Curtis wanted to come and thank Dr. Smith-Woofter for working with him this year and he now feels that there are people who really care about him. Following his presentation to Dr. Smith-Woofter, Curtis read a letter that he had written to Dr. Smith-Woofter thanking her for everything she has done for him.

**Introduction of New Personnel.** Dr. Monica Smith-Woofter introduced the following Northampton County Schools' new personnel to the Board and audience:  
Cathy Powell, ISS Coordinator, Conway Middle School  
Cathy Gillus, Interim Finance Officer, Central Services  
George Holley, Substitute Teacher, Northampton County Schools

**Break.** The Board took a five-minute break at 7:15 p.m. The Board reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**Approval of Consent Agenda.** The Board approved the minutes under the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the approval of closed session minutes for February 8, 2016; the regular session minutes for September 14, 2015 and October 12, 2015; and the special meeting minutes for October 22, 2015. The consent agenda also included the following Request for Fundraisers:

Conway Middle School – PBIS – Krispy Kreme Sales – March 15, 2016 – April 6, 2016  
Central Elementary School – School-Wide – Basketball Game – March 22, 2016

**Paint Bids – Central Elementary School.** The Board approved to award a painting bid to Flying Colours Painting in the amount of \$29,500.00 to paint the interior of Central Elementary School.

**Acceptance of Donation – The Lamb Foundation of NC, Inc.** The Board approved to accept the donation from The Lamb Foundation of NC, Inc. for the Exceptional Children Program in the amount of \$2,775.25. This donation will be used to help with the needs of the exceptional children.

Mr. Kelvin Edwards arrived at the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

**The Way Forward Plan Update.** Dr. Smith-Woofter informed the Board that as a follow-up to our Retreats held on March 8 & 14, 2016 and our updates that they have before them the options that have been discussed over the last year or so and that Option 8 is no longer a viable solution as the voters did not vote in favor of supporting the Supplemental Tax for a new centrally located school. Therefore, Option 7 is before you for consideration and you may reference the various options on BoardDocs or the paper copy. The numbers in the brackets references the grade spans.

Ms. Taylor made a motion for the Board to accept Option 6, which includes the following configurations below for the 2016-2017 school year:

**Option 6**

Squire Elementary School (closed) or Pre-K only – Projected Capacity: 0/53  
Gaston Elementary School (K-4) or (Pre-K – 4) – Projected Capacity: 290/343  
Gaston Middle School (5-8, Early College & Alternative Program) – Projected Capacity: 285  
Central Elementary School (Pre-K – 4) – Projected Capacity: 263  
High School (9-12) – Projected Capacity: 433 (present site)  
Conway Middle School (5-8) – Projected Capacity: 394  
Willis Hare Elementary School (Pre-K – 4) – Projected Capacity: 327

Mr. Matthews amended the motion to add, looking at the 2016-2017 school year with another option that we would work out with the Commissioners for the 2017-2018 school year when more funds are available to do more with. Mr. Matthews seconded the motion. The motion did not pass with a 3-4 vote.

Mr. Williams made a motion for the Board to consider Option 7 shown below that the Board discussed on Monday night and that the Superintendent and her Administrative Staff will present to this Board, as soon as possible, a date or the timelines for this plan to come together for the 2016-2017 school year.

Ms. L. Edwards seconded the motion.

**Option 7**

Squire (Early College and Alternative Program) – Projected Capacity: 80  
Gaston Elementary School (1-8) – Projected Capacity: 626  
Central Elementary School (Pre-K – K) – Projected Capacity: 279  
Conway Middle School (1-8) – Projected Capacity: 627  
Gaston Middle School (9-12) – Projected Capacity: 433

**Close Willis Hare Elementary School**

**Close High School**

Mr. Williams amended the motion for the Board to consider adopting Option 4 that would include the following configurations below for 2016-2017 school year. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion.

**Option 4**

Gaston Middle School (9-12) – Projected Capacity: 433

Gaston Elementary School (1-8) + modular unit – Projected Capacity: 419

Squire Elementary School (closed) or Pre-K – K and Early College – Projected Capacity: 187

Conway Middle School (1-8) - Projected Capacity: 537

Willis Hare Elementary School (Pre-K– K) - Projected Capacity: 130

Could Leave Willis Hare and Conway as presently configured.

Central Elementary School (Pre-K – 5) - Projected Capacity: 339

**(HS campus closed) Alternative Program at Seaboard)**

Ms. Marjorie Edwards had to leave the meeting at 9:00 p.m., but she requested to be on telephone conference for the remainder of the meeting.

The motion passed by a 5-2 vote to amend the motion.

The motion passed by a 4-3 to adopt Option 4 for 2016-2017 school year.

Chair Taylor informed the Superintendent that Option 4 will be the option to take to the County Commissioners as follows to see if we can receive funding for it.

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Mr. Williams made a motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent and her staff to lead the Feasibility Study as well as other statutory requirements for the closing of the high school and once those findings are received it will be brought back to the Board so that they can schedule a Public Forum. Ms. L. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

**Personnel.** The Board approved the following personnel as amended. Mr. Kelvin Edwards and Ms. Keedra Whitaker abstained from the vote as they were not present during closed session.

**Certified Elections:**

Sierra Stokes, ELA Teacher, Conway Middle School, 3/1/16

Rosiland Roberts, Non-Permanent Substitute, Gaston Elementary School, 3/1/16

Bettie Ballard, Non-Permanent Substitute, Gaston Elementary School, 1/25/16

Denise Patterson, Non-Permanent Substitute, Gaston Elementary School, 1/25/16

Evelyn Ivey, Non-Permanent Substitute, Central Elementary School, 2/22/16

Jonnie Rawles, Non-Permanent Substitute, Central Elementary School, 1/28/16

**Classified Elections:**

Kathy Powell, ISS Coordinator, Conway Middle School, 3/1/16

Rodney Easter, ISS Coordinator, Northampton County High School, 3/7/16  
John Turner, Baseball Head Coach, Northampton County High School, 3/15/16

Substitutes/Volunteers:

Eldora Tillery, Substitute Teacher  
Barbara Eason, Substitute Teacher  
Stephanie Mahoney, Substitute Bus Driver  
Nikia Johnson, Child Nutrition Assistant Substitute  
Fannie Weaver, Child Nutrition Assistant Substitute  
Patricia Dickerson, Substitute Teacher  
Shane Edwards, Substitute Bus Driver  
Alexandria Zacharopoulos, Substitute Teacher  
Megan Piland, Volunteer  
Erica Rachel, Volunteer  
Stephanie Mahoney, Volunteer  
Janetta Chambliss, Volunteer  
Jasmine Gee, Volunteer  
Patricia Dickerson, Volunteer

Resignations:

Mae Rose, Teacher, Willis Hare Elementary School, 4/8/16  
Megan Lewis, Teacher, Gaston Elementary School, 4/8/16

Leave of Absence:

Mark Rumley, Executive Director of Human Resources, Central Services, 2/25/16 thru 3/9/16  
Tikisha White, Director of Exceptional Children, Central Services, 3/14/16 thru 4/22/16  
Alice Woods, Administrative Assistant, Willis Hare Elementary School, Extension (no end date given)  
Mae Rose, Teacher, Willis Hare Elementary School, 3/18/16 thru 4/8/16

Additional Assignments:

Arthur Turner III, Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Euniqua Harris, Assistant Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Yvette Long, Assistant Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Delmonte Griffin, Assistant Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Taneishaa Palmer, Assistant Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Amy Harbin, Assistant Band Director, Northampton County High School, 2015-2016  
Albert Bennett, Assistant Principal, Northampton County High School, 1 Month – Summer 2016  
Albert Bennett, Athletic Director, Northampton County High School, 1 Month – Summer 2016

**For Information**

Administrative Transfers:

Daniel McCaw from Assistant Principal at Gaston Elementary School to Principal at Central Elementary School, 6/15/16  
Monica Edmonds from Assistant Principal at Northampton County High School to Principal at NCHS Early College, 8/1/16

**Superintendent's Information.**

Dr. Smith-Woofter shared the following information with the Board and audience:

- Dr. Smith-Woofter referenced with the Board about the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board Update where she mentioned that she needed them to complete the 360 Feedback Survey on her behalf for her participation, as 1 out of 18 Superintendents, in the Executive Leadership for Superintendents

Program to improve their professional practice. She informed the Board that the survey needed to be completed prior to the 2nd week in April.

- Dr. Smith Woofter requested that the Board review the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board Update in regards to the Restart Model to discuss and consider it for school improvement efforts.
- Dr. Smith-Woofter also asked the Board to look at their calendars for potential dates to replace the April 11, 2016 and the July 11, 2016 Board Meetings, as there were some conflicts with those dates. She informed the Board that she is recommending the April 11, 2016 Board Meeting be changed to April 4, 2016 and the July 11, 2016 Board Meeting be changed to July 5 or 6, 2016. It was the consensus of the Board to hold the April 11, 2016 Board Meeting on Monday, April 4, 2016 and the July 11, 2016 Board Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 6, 2016. The May 9, 2016 and June 13, 2016 Board Meetings will be on the regularly scheduled dates.
- Mr. Matthews reminded the Board Members of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting to be held at Willis Hare Elementary School on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.
- Ms. L. Edwards announced that there would be a Policy Committee Meeting on April 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.
- Mr. Williams announced that he would like for the Board to recognize Mr. Richie Harding tonight as he is one of our newly elected Board Members. He stated that Mr. Lloyd Pitman has already left and he is also one of our newly elected Board Members.
- Mr. Matthews stated that he would be interested in participating in the NCSBA Community Use of School Property and the Top 10 Legal Issues Facing School Athletic Programs Video Conferences. Ms. Harris informed him that Board Members can view the videos from Central Services or from their home and that they would receive credit hours when they participate.

**Adjournment.** The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. Monica Smith-Woofter, Superintendent

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**Adjournment.** The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. Monica Smith-Woofter, Superintendent