

Board Briefs

A summary of action taken by the Vance County Board of Education

March 11, 2019

Vance County Schools Public Information Office

Board Approves School Year Calendars For 2019-2020

The Vance County Board of Education at its regular monthly meeting approved the 2019-2020 school year calendars for all of the school system's traditional calendar schools, as well as the year-round school at E.M. Rollins Elementary and the early start calendar for Vance County High School and Vance County Early College High School. The early start calendar changes the beginning date for students at Vance County High School. Both Vance County High and Early College High classes will begin for students on Monday, August 5. The earlier start allows these two high schools to closely follow the calendar of Vance-Granville Community College to provide students with opportunities for dual enrollment in college level courses. The last day of classes for students at the two high schools is scheduled for Thursday, May 21. The schools will have the usual holidays of Labor Day on September 2, Veteran's Day on November 11, Thanksgiving holidays on November 28 and 29, Christmas holidays December 24-26, New Year's Day on January 1, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 20, and Easter holiday on April 10. The Christmas break for students at Vance County High and Early College High will be December 19 through January 3. Their spring break is scheduled for April 6-10. Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2020 at the two high schools are scheduled for Saturday, May 23. The traditional calendar applies to all schools, except Vance County High, Early College High and E.M. Rollins Elementary. The traditional calendar has Monday, August 26, scheduled as the first day of classes for students and Tuesday, June 9, as the last day of classes for students. Traditional calendar schools will have the same holidays at the early start high schools. For traditional calendar schools, Christmas break for students will be December 23 through January 3, and spring break will be April 6-10. Students also will be out of school on Friday, April 3, which is designated as an optional teacher workday. For the year-round school at E.M. Rollins Elementary, the calendar sets the first day of classes for students for Monday, August 5. E.M. Rollins will observe the same holidays as all other schools for the 2019-2020 school year. The school's Christmas break for students will begin with an early release day on Friday, December 20, and go through Friday, January 3. The spring break for E.M. Rollins students will be April 6-10. In addition to these breaks, E.M. Rollins students will be out of school for their "track-out" periods October 7 through October 18, and April 13-17.

Summer Program For 2019 Now Scheduled Following Board Approval

The Summer Program for 2019 for students in elementary, middle and high schools was approved by board members. The Summer Program is designed to provide students with remediation if they scored a Level 1 or Level 2 on the end-of-grade assessment or if the student completed and failed a course with an end-of-course assessment for 2018-2019. For students in grades 4-8 for the end-of-grade assessments, they can repeat elements of a course and/or subject or have access to enrichment opportunities for the purpose of improving functional skills in the summer program. This includes additional science instruction for grades 5 and 8 and additional reading instruction for grades 4-8. For high school end-of-course assessments, students will receive instruction through Credit Recovery in the summer. Traditional calendar school students will have summer program instruction June 10-14 at their respective school sites. Year-round students will have summer instruction provided June 7-13 at E.M. Rollins, and Early College students will have instruction provided May 24-31.

Outstanding Students Recognized For Their Achievements

Board members, along with Superintendent Anthony Jackson, recognized several outstanding students during the meeting. Anna Ventura, a junior at Vance County High School, and Jordan Lewis, a senior at Vance County High School, were honored for creating the art work for the Arts Alive 2019 t-shirt and lapel button, respectively. Their work was selected from over 80 entries by art students at all grade levels. Andrew Markoch, director of arts programs in Vance County Schools, led the recognition of Ventura and Lewis and presented each of them with framed replicas of their art work. Jackson and board Chairwoman Dorothy Gooche congratulated coaches and members of the boys and girls basketball teams from Vance County High School for their extremely successful first seasons. Both teams won their regular season conference championships and the girls won the conference tournament. The boys reached the finals of the conference tournament and went all the way to the fourth round or Elite 8 of the state playoffs. The girls' team reached the third round of the state playoffs. The team members brought their trophies with them to the meeting and shook hands with each of the board members. Finally, the board recognized the outstanding team of students from the STEM Early High School who participated in the Future City competition held in late January at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. Principal Kristian Herring and Assistant Principal Melonee Hunter joined the group of students at the board meeting. In the competition, the STEM students went up against teams from schools across this region of the state as they made oral presentations and shared with a panel of judges the virtual city and three-dimensional city model they created. The STEM students received outstanding marks from the judges for their presentation and their model. Their Future City work also included lots of research, applying engineering standards to their project and collaborating to write an essay about their project.



members of the boys and girls basketball teams from Vance County High School for their extremely successful first seasons. Both teams won their regular season conference championships and the girls won the conference tournament. The boys reached the finals of the conference tournament and went all the way to the fourth round or Elite 8 of the state playoffs. The girls' team reached the third round of the state playoffs. The team members brought



their trophies with them to the meeting and shook hands with each of the board members. Finally, the board



recognized the outstanding team of students from the STEM Early High School who participated in the Future City competition held in late January at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. Principal Kristian Herring and Assistant Principal Melonee Hunter joined the group of students at the board meeting. In the competition, the STEM students went up against teams from schools across this region of the state as they made oral presentations and shared with a panel of judges the virtual city and three-dimensional city model they created. The STEM students received outstanding marks from the judges for their presentation and their model. Their Future City work also included lots of research, applying engineering standards to their project and collaborating to write an essay about their project.



Board Members Approve Renewal Of Audit Contract For School System

The board approved the renewal of its contract with the accounting firm of Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP to conduct the financial audit for the school system for the fiscal year that ends June, 30, 2019, at a total cost of \$49,650.

Committee Recommendations Granted Approval

Building and Grounds Committee – The board approved a recommendation to extend for another four years the lease agreement with Jonathan Renn, a local farmer, to plant crops on property owned by the school system and located adjacent to the campus of Clarke Elementary School.

Curriculum Committee – The board approved the School Improvement Plans for Dabney Elementary School and Vance County Early College High School as recommended through the committee.

Personnel Recommendations Receive Board Approval

The board approved employment for Rebecca Burns, a part-time nurse, Administrative Services Center; Susan Arnow, art teacher, Clarke Elementary; Debra Tomlin, fourth-grade teacher, E.M. Rollins Elementary; Anna Pendergrass, EC teacher assistant, Zeb Vance; and Melissa Elliott, community network coordinator (temporary position), AdVance Academy.

Temporary employment was approved for Stella Moore, long-term substitute teacher, Zeb Vance; Destiny Davis, long-term substitute teacher, Vance County Middle; and Deon Smith, long-term substitute teacher, Vance County Middle.

Resignations were approved for Armand Hargrove, behavior specialist, Administrative Services Center; Twyla Bullock, bookkeeper, Carver Elementary; Celeste Royster, teacher assistant, Clarke Elementary; Susan Jones, bookkeeper, New Hope Elementary; Andrea Noel-Reavis, EC teacher, Pinkston Street; Heather Lynn Karney, social studies teacher, STEM Early High; Joselyn Bobbitt, CTE teacher, Vance County High; and Wilbert Allen, bus driver, Vance County High.

Eleven requests for leaves of absence were approved by the board.

VCHS Field Trip Request Gains Approval From Board Members

Board members approved a field trip request for Vance County High School students who are members of the senior class to visit Busch Gardens, Kings Dominion and locations in Richmond, Virginia, May 4 and 5.

Out-Of-County Student Transfer Requests Reviewed By Board Members

There were 15 out-of-county transfer requests approved by the board. Eleven of the requests involved students living in neighboring counties or moving from out of state and seeking to attend Vance County Schools. The remaining four requests involved students who live in Vance County and will attend schools in other counties.

Upcoming Board And Committee Meetings Are Scheduled

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Vance County Board of Education will begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2019, in the Administrative Services Center on Graham Avenue in Henderson.

Upcoming meeting dates for the board's committees are as follows:

Building and Grounds – Thursday, March 26

Community and Business Relations – Tuesday, April 2

Curriculum – Thursday, March 26

Finance – Tuesday, March 26

Personnel – Tuesday, April 2

Policy – Tuesday, March 26