

Board Briefs

*A summary of action taken by the Vance County Board of Education
May 13, 2019
Vance County Schools Public Information Office*

County Appropriation Funding Request Approved For 2019-2020

The Vance County Board of Education at its regular monthly meeting approved a request for funding appropriations for the school system from Vance County for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The request includes total appropriations of \$8.4 million for the upcoming fiscal year from the county for local per pupil expenditures, as well as funds for local teacher supplement pay. Requested funds take into account local appropriations that pass through our school system and go on to fund the attendance of Vance County students enrolled in charter schools. The budget request also includes \$5.2 million in capital outlay funding from the county. This includes: \$425,000 for routine facilities maintenance; \$190,000 for teacher and student laptop computers; \$192,000 for replacement/purchase of activity buses; \$200,000 for painting and refurbishment of facilities; \$40,000 for physical education and athletic field refurbishment; and \$90,000 for Modern Learning Environment Grant matching funds. The capital outlay funding request also includes money to cover costs of heating and air-conditioning upgrades at Aycock, Zeb Vance and Dabney elementary schools, as well as at Vance County High School. Funds also are requested for upgrades in lighting at Clarke Elementary School. The total local funding request will now be submitted to the Vance County Board of Commissioners.

The board also approved an amended budget resolution for the current fiscal year that includes total appropriations from all sources of \$70.9 million.

Four-Day Work Week For Employees To Begin On July 1

The board approved a recommendation by Superintendent Anthony Jackson that the school system allow employees working this summer to work a four-day work week beginning July 1 and ending on August 2. During this period, all employees will work 10 hours each day, Mondays through Thursdays. Schools and school system offices will be closed on Fridays.

Class Size Waiver Affidavit Gets Required Board Approval

Board members approved a class size waiver affidavit, to be submitted to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, to allow 28 students to be served in one kindergarten class at New Hope Elementary School. The student enrollment in the class exceeds state standards for a maximum of 26 students in a kindergarten class. The class size waiver is expected to be approved by the state department.

Award-Winning Vance Robotics Team Receives Deserved Recognition

Some of the members of the Vance Robotics Team from Vance County High School attended the board meeting and received deserved recognition for the team's first-place finish in a recent robotics competition in Wake County with teams from high schools in the area. They also brought their "4291" robot with them for board members to view. Erin Williams, the teacher who leads the team, talked with board members about the competition and the many successes the team has had during this school year. Williams noted there are nine members of the robotics team who meet after school to develop their robot and make plans for competitions they will



enter. She also stated that she is currently working with Rey Horner, principal of Vance County High School, to offer a robotics course next year during the school day, so that students can be involved during the day in robotics studies and development. Williams and the three robotics team students who attended the meeting stressed that their goal for the upcoming school year is to place high enough in competitions to attend a national robotics conference scheduled to be held in Houston, Texas.

Board Honors Valuable Contributions Of School Nurses

School nurses in Vance County Schools were honored during the board meeting for their valuable contributions in our schools. The recognition was part of the school system's observance of National School Nurses Week and Day. The week was observed May 6-10 and the day was May 8. Assistant Superintendent Cindy Bennett recognized five of the schools' nurses who could attend the meeting and those who could not attend. She also read portions of a "Proclamation for National School Nurses Day" approved by the board. In part, the proclamation reads, "School nurses are professional nurses who advance the well-being, academic success and lifelong achievements of all students by serving on the frontlines and providing a critical safety net for our nation's most fragile children." The proclamation continues, "School nurses act as a liaison to the school community, families and healthcare providers on behalf of children's health by promoting wellness and improving health outcomes for our nation's children."



Personnel Recommendations Receive Board Approval

The board approved employment for Thomas Holtzman II, Technology support specialist I, Administrative Services; Eric Jones, Technology assistant, Administrative Services; Betsy Ellis, third-grade teacher, Dabney; Barbara Newsom, pre-kindergarten teacher assistant, Dabney; and Anita Dixon, receptionist, Dabney.

Temporary employment was approved for Whitney Brodie, as a substitute teacher for all schools.

The board accepted resignations from Johnnie Moore, head custodian, New Hope; Tracey Cole, second-grade teacher, E.M. Rollins; Makayla Mincey, third-grade teacher, E.O. Young; and Jillian Bullock, school nurse, Vance County Middle.

Retirements were approved for Louis Hargrove, Jr., School Nutrition assistant and bus driver, Dabney; Lisa Finch, kindergarten teacher, New Hope; and Cynthia Simpson, first-grade teacher, Zeb Vance.

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

Field Trip Requests For Vance County Middle, Zeb Vance Gain Approval

Board members approved two field trip requests. One approved request is for Vance County Middle School students to travel to Washington, D.C., on May 17, to visit several national monuments. A second approved request is for students from Zeb Vance Elementary School to travel to the N.C. Outer Banks on June 7, to visit the N.C. Aquarium, the Wright Brothers National Memorial and Museum and Jockey's Ridge State Park in the Nags Head and Kill Devil Hills area.

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

There were 27 out-of-county transfer requests approved by the board. Sixteen of the requests involved students living in neighboring counties or moving from out of state and seeking to attend Vance County Schools. The remaining eleven requests involved students who live in Vance County and will attend schools in Granville and Wake 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, June 10, 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, May 23

Community and Business Relations – Tuesday, June 4

Curriculum – Thursday, May 23

Finance – Wednesday, May 29

Personnel – Tuesday, June 4

Policy – Wednesday, May 29