

*Northeast Regional School  
Of  
Biotechnology and Agriscience  
Board Meeting Minutes*

Date: April 16, 2014

Time: 4:30 PM

Place: Vernon James Center

Present: David Peele  
Mac Hodges  
Benjie Forrest  
Joe Landino  
Norris Tolson  
Lloyd Armstrong  
Dwight Respass  
Lynn West  
Michael Dunsmore  
Kenneth Harrell

Absent: Ethan Lenker  
Jean Woolard

Chairman David Peele called to order the April meeting of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board of Directors at 4:30 pm on April 16, 2014, at the Vernon James Research and Extension Center. Inga Spruill proceeded with the roll call.

Vice Chairman Mac Hodges led the board in prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Peele offered the April agenda for additions and or deletions. Vice Chairman Mac Hodges added to item number 8 a question for North Carolina New Schools to address the issue of NERSBA receiving funds cover the costs extended summer employment for twelve month employees. Mac Hodges moved with a second from Dwight Respass to approve the agenda as amended. With no further discussion the motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Peele then offered the March minutes for consideration and noted that the minutes were posted to the NERSBA website. Norris Tolson moved to approve the minutes as presented followed with a second from Joe Landino. The motion to approve the March board minutes was approved by the full board.

**Public Comments:** None

**NERSBA Board of Director Membership**

Mrs. Denise Moulden, Clerk of Court of Washington County proceeded with the swearing-in of new NERSBA board members: Lloyd Armstrong, Juluis Walker, Jr., Norris Tolson, Matthew Babcock, Dwight Respass and Simon Griffin.

After the ceremony by Mrs. Moulden, each board member presented biographical information about themselves to the entire board.

Chairman Peele noted the board is happy to have the additions to the board and is looking forward to their participation and contributions to our school. The board still has one position open for a business representative. Paul Spruill with Tideland EMC will be recommended to the Chamber of Commerce in Washington County for consideration as a NERSBA board member. Dwight Respass moved to approve this recommendation with a second form Kenneth Harrell. The motion was unanimously approved by the board.

Chairman Peele will review Senate Bill 125 for terms of office for each board member prior to the next scheduled board meeting.

**Finance Report : Michael Cowin:**

Michael Cowin, Finance Office with Pitt County Schools presented the finance report. This report covered in detail the fiscal year from July 1, 2013 through April 15, 2014. Mr. Cowin noted there will be a potential carry-over of approximately \$65,000.00 for the 2014-2015 school year.

**NC New Schools: Mrs. Joyce Loveless:**

Mrs. Joyce Loveless from the North Carolina New Schools presented information regarding the College and Career Promise Program for NERSBA. College and Career Promise Program:

- Academic program to set the course of study. The purpose is to provide a framework and parameters to the NERSBA Board of Directors to consider as they seek and establish a Curriculum Planning Committee. The primary role of the Curriculum Planning Committee will be to develop and review the NERSBA Program of Study and provide feedback on proposed local electives in addition to reviewing student supports in place at the school.

- The curriculum committee will be comprised of 3 members, principal, lead teacher, one student, one parent and representatives from college partners and NCSU.
- Meetings would be scheduled quarterly during the year beginning in the fall.
- A curriculum guide should be presented to board by the principal and lead teacher for review and approval and suggest a timetable for course development with the first reading of this document in January, with final approval in February of each calendar year.
- Committee members should also leverage community college, business and university contacts to advocate for courses offerings that are aligned with the schools mission/vision.
- The curriculum planning team should play no direct role in scheduling classes for any student. The committee may review a master schedule and submit waiver request to the State Board of Education for the innovative consistent delivery of curriculum to students as deemed appropriate.

After the presentation, chairman Peele questioned why North Carolina New Schools representatives are not on this committee. Mrs. Loveless noted that representatives may be added as a member at a later date.

#### Critical Activities for NERSBA in Curriculum Planning Committee:

- The school should conduct an analysis of intended majors/careers for each student and include the information in the students' cumulative folder or through an e-repository. Each student should be enrolled in coursework that leads to credentialing or transfers related to the identified majors/careers.
- Career and College Pathways from Beaufort Community College should be identified.

Dr. Tony Habit with NC New Schools noted that a letter needs to be written to the Community College State Board to request that NERSBA be granted flexibility within the five county region to partner with any of the community colleges across the five geographic regions (Beaufort, Martin, Pitt, Washington, Tyrrell counties).

Chairman Peele offered the plan as presented to the board. Norris Tolson moved to approve the plan followed by a second from Matt Babcock. Norris

Tolson amended his motion and added "writing the letter to the State Board asking for flexibility within the community colleges in our participating counties." Chairman Peele asked the board to vote on the amendment that will modify the original motion to include the three community colleges in our regional area that NERSBA serves. The amendment and motion as amended passed unanimously by a full vote of the board of directors.

Principal Davis and Mrs. Joyce Loveless reminded that board that the NERSBA Design Principle Review is rescheduled for May 21, 2014 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at Vernon James Research Center.

With respect to extended summer employment, vice chairman Mac Hodges asked Mrs. Loveless to follow up on his request noted earlier in the meeting. Mrs. Loveless answered "yes" that four faculty members from NERSBA will receive funding through "Race-To-The-Top" (RttT) for extended summer employment. Principal Davis stated that the required paper work has been completed.

#### **Virginia Study Visit Review: Tracie Asby and participants:**

Mrs. Tracie Asby along with four students, parents, Mr. Joe Landino and Mr. Jewell Tetterton participated in a study visit coordinated by NC NEW Schools to Charlotte County, Virginia in March. A power point was shown by the students outlining the educational opportunities they experienced. This was a very successful trip and students would like to incorporate some of the ideas they saw into our new facility that will be built in the future.

#### **New Business:**

- Budget Plan for 2014–2015/NERSBA Budget Committee Meeting report: Vice Chairman Hodges stated that the Budget Committee has not completed a formal budget recommendation due to issues regarding facilities for next year.

Principal Davis stated he's meeting with Mr. Michael Cowin next week on budget issues/concerns.

Principal Davis thanked the new board members for their guidance and leadership and looks forward to working with them. He would like to do an orientation session about the school with our new board members as soon as the final board member is approved.

#### **Update on NERSBA: Principal Hal Davis:**

- School Security and Safety: Mr. Davis reported that he looking at ways to make our school safe for students/factuality. Parents are concerned about all schools with respect to safety and security of

students faculty, guardians and visitors. Principal Davis thanked Mr. Tetterton for all he has done for NERSBA with the utilization of facilities.

- NERSBA Industry Education Day: The second annual NERSBA Industry Education Day was held on Thursday, March 20, 2014. Mr. Tolson and 14 business and industry representatives were in attendance. Bertie Early College attended a morning session and NERSBA attended an afternoon with industry representatives. The day concluded with the NERSBA New Student Orientation session which was very successful as well.
- NERSBA Student Recruitment Update: Principal Davis provided information to board members of applications by LEA, gender, race and sex. Student interviews are to be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup> with acceptance letters forwarded to prospective scholars by May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- NERSBA Easter Holiday/Spring Break: Spring Break for students and faculty is scheduled April 21<sup>st</sup>–25<sup>th</sup>. Principal Davis will be at the VJC that week completing interviews.
- Regional FFA Rally/NERSBA FFA Semi-Formal: These events will be held on Friday, May 02, 2014. The Regional FFA Rally will be held at Beaufort County Community College. The FFA Semi-Formal will be held for all students at the Vernon James Center from 6:45 pm until 10:00 pm on that date.
- Freshman Field Trip to ECU, May 6, 2014: All ninth grade scholars will be attending a STEM Program visit to East Carolina University on Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup>. This will facilitate the use of the east campus site for primary elections on the same day.

Mr. Davis also noted that Jason Hogan with Jostens was at the Vernon James Center today to assist the school with developing a formal color scheme and logo/school seal. He met with students and presented options for colors, logos, and mascot design to promote our school. Hopefully by June recommendations to the board on these will be presented.

As a personnel item, Principal Davis recommended to the board that Mrs. Laurie Spencer be employed as a substitute for NERSBA. Lynn West moved to accept Mrs. Spencer followed with a second from Vice-Chairman Mac Hodges. The motion passed unanimously with Jo Landino abstaining from voting because of being family for the record.

Mr. Joe Landino moved for the board to go into closed session NC G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(5) with a second from Vice-Chairman Mac Hodges. The motion passed unanimously at 6:25 pm.

Next scheduled Board Meeting will be May 21, 2014 at 4:30 PM.

With no further business meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm by Chairman Peele.

Minutes submitted by: Inga Spruill