

Northeast Regional School Of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 11, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm

Place: NERSBA Jamesville Campus

Present: Mac Hodges, Joe Landino, Benjie Forrest, Dwight Respass, Michael Dunsmore, Kenneth Harrell, Ethan Lenker, Jean Woolard, Simon Griffin, Karen Clough

Tardy: Paul Spruill, Matthew Babcock, and Jerry Phelps

Absent: Julius Walker, David Peele, Norris Tolson

Chairman Mac Hodges called to order the meeting of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board of Directors at 4:30 pm on March 11, 2015.

Inga Spruill proceeded with the roll call.

Benjie Forrest led the Board in prayer and in the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Hodges presented the agenda for additions and deletions. With no changes to the agenda, Benjie Forrest moved to approve the minutes with a second by Dwight Respass. The motion passed unanimously by the board.

Chairman Hodges offered the January minutes (February meeting cancelled due to weather conditions) for consideration and noted that the minutes were posted on the NERSBA website. Simon Griffin moved to approve the minutes with a second by Michael Dunsmore. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Finance Report: Ethan Lenker

Dr. Lenker reported the budget by Fund per Budget Amendment #4 shows the State, Local, RTTT, Golden Leaf, Carnegie funding at \$1,499,989.35. The budget funding per student is reported at \$9,090.84.

NERSBA as of currently has a projected \$74,272.60 carry over fund balance.

With no further discussion Michael Dunsmore moved to accept the budget report as presented with a second followed by Kenneth Harrell. The motion passed unanimously.

NERSBA Curriculum Committee Report: Tracie Asby

Tracie Asby reported that the Committee has reviewed options of where the school is moving as far as the curriculum and discussed promotion, attendance, graduation, award recommendations that will be discussed later in meeting under the new business item.

Cooperative Innovative Schools Grant Update: Julie Gurganus

Julie Gurganus reported that NERSBA has been approved for the CHIS Grant and pending approval by the North Carolina General Assembly and will receive \$315,000 a year for the next 5 years of the grant cycle.

Mr. Davis noted the next step is this will go straight to the General Assembly in terms of the funding/budget package.

2013-2014 Report Card: Julie Gurganus

Board members were provided the Test Security Requirements for the ACT test that was given to the juniors. This was just to inform the board members of how strict testing administration is from safely storing to taking measurements of how far apart student seating requirements are, etc. All of this information has to be documented and sent in with testing material.

Golden Leaf Foundation Grant Update: Hal Davis

Board members were provided a copy of the letter that Chairman Hodges wrote to Mr. Mark Sorrells of the Golden Leaf Foundation confirming the board's commitment to maintain the Director of Technology position which is currently included as an integral part of this program after the formal conclusion of the grant. Jean Woolard moved to maintain the technology facilitator position. Mr. Kenneth Harrell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

NERSBA Teacher Support Program: Jennifer Loeffler

Mr. Davis provided information to the board that each school system is required to have a beginning teacher support program to mentor new teachers with guidance.

Matthew Babcock moved to approve the NERSBA Beginning Teacher Support Program followed with a second from Karen Clough. The motion passed unanimously by the board membership.

New Business: Hal Davis

North Carolina School Board Association Update & Policy Development:

Scholastic policies from the North Carolina School Boards Association have been forwarded to Mr. Hodges and himself. A board committee previously appointed by Mr. Hodges will start reviewing the policies and present them to the NERSBA board for approval. The committee members are Chairman Ethan Lenker, Michael Dunsmore, Julius Walker, and Hal Davis.

NERSBA Promotion Guidelines/Recommendations:

Tracie Asby presented the grade level promotion requirements developed by the NERSBA Curriculum Design Committee which will be in place for all incoming students. Promotion requirements are outlined as noted below:

10th grade: 9 high school credits* ^ (including ACA & English I)

11th grade: 18 high school credits* ^ (including English II & 7 college credit hours)

12th grade: 26 high school credits* ^ (including English III & 21 college credit hours)
13th grade: Complete NC High School Requirements* ^ & 33 college credit hours.

*Some credits are dual enrollment credits.

^Each grade level promotion requires the completion of a Supervised Agriculture Experience Project.

Graduation Requirements:

All above benchmarks noted above.

- * Internship with Research/Production Project
- * Seminar Class
- * Completion of 5 Supervised Agriculture Experience Projects (SAE)

Absences:

In order to receive credit for a NERSBA course, scholar may not miss more than 8 absences for a semester course 16 absences for a year –long course. Should a scholar miss more than the permitted number of absences, the scholar/parent will meet with a committee consisting of NERSBA staff members to review the students’ absences and course information. The committee will then decide if the scholar will receive credit for the course.

Jean Woolard moved to approve the promotion/graduation and attendance policy followed by a second from Michael Dunsmore. Matthew Babcock asked to amend the motion with the addition of some type of word smithing on the Internship with Research/Production Project line.

Jean Woolard accepted this note as a friendly amendment. Benjie Forrest stated these requirements become effective with the beginning incoming class of 2020. The motion passed unanimously by the board membership.

NERSBA Academic Awards/Recommendations: Julie Gurganus

Mrs. Julie Gurganus presented information from the Curriculum Development Committee regarding academic awards presented to scholars by NERSBA. The following goals and criteria were outlined for board approval:

To develop a National Honor Society, scholars enrolled in grades 10-13. Scholars may continue to be in the National Honor Society while enrolled in grade 13, but will not be eligible for induction during their 13th year. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school for at least one semester and must have a minimum scholastic average of 85%.

Recognizing Scholars:

- Principal list - all A’s includes all classes (high school and college)
- Honor Roll list - A’s and B’s all classes (high school and college)
- Highest GPA (weighted) for undergraduate scholars at all grade levels
- Highest average per subject given at all grade levels
- Graduation Marshalls (top 5 scholars who have the highest weighted GPA’s)

Recognizing Graduates:

- Valedictorian - Student with the highest Weighted Grade Point Average
- Salutatorian - Student with the second highest Weighted Grade Point Average
- Honor Society Members (sash/overlay purchased through NHS)

- NC Scholars (Verbal recognition and seal on diploma)
- Scholars who have attained a FFA State Degree
- Scholars who have attained as Associate Degree. (Scholars will have the option to wear any ropes attained at the college level at their high school graduation).
- Scholars who have attained any High School and or College Certificates will be recognized

Following discussion by all board members, Dwight Respass moved to table the NERSBA Graduation Recognition /Awards Committee Recommendations until he can receive input from the NERSBA Parental Advisory Committee. This will be brought forth next month with alternatives along with curriculum committee input. Joe Landino seconded the motion as presented by Mr. Respass which passed unanimously by the board membership.

2015-2016 NERSBA Academic Calendar Proposal:

The proposed calendar was presented to board for the 2015-2016 academic year. Matthew Babcock moved to approve the calendar with a second followed by Michael Dunsmore. The motion passed unanimously by the board membership.

Education Field Trip Approval:

Martin County Schools has invited NERSBA to be a part of their student exchange program. Parents and students assume all cost of program. Matthew Babcock moved to approve participation in this program by NERSBA students with a second by Paul Spruill. The motion passed unanimously.

NERSBA Substitute Faculty Recommendations:

Hal Davis recommended Dr. Richard Welcher and Mrs. Deborah Hollis as substitute teachers for NERSBA. Benjie Forrest moved to approve the additions with a second followed by Paul Spruill. The motion passed unanimously.

NERSBA Industry Education Day/National FFA Officer Visit:

This event was scheduled to be held on February 26, but was postponed due to weather. This activity will be rescheduled in the near future. National FFA President Andy Paul was to visit NERSBA that day and we are working with the State FFA office to have this rescheduled.

Mr. Davis announced the next scheduled board meeting is April 15, 2015 at 4:30 pm at the Jamesville NERSBA Campus.

Karen Clough moved to go into closed session (NC G.S. 143-318.11(6)/Personnel. Benjie Forrest seconded the motion which was approved by a majority vote.. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Inga Spruill