



**JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Tuesday, Ma 16, 2023

**Hosted by Durham Public School Board of Education
9:00 a.m.**

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order and Welcome – Bettina Umstead, Public School Board Chair**
2. **Agenda Review**
3. **Approval of Minutes – January 31, 2023 (*Minutes Attached*)**
4. **Presentation on Mental Health (40 min)**
Dr. Nakia Hardy - Deputy Superintendent, Academic Services
Dr. Laverne Mattocks-Perry - Senior Executive Director, Student Support Services
5. **Alliance Educational Health (25 min)**
6. **Foundation - Series on the LE School Initiative (20 min)**
Magan Gonzalez, Smith - Executive Director, DPS Foundation
7. **Pre-K Enrollment Update (*Attachment*)**
8. **Closed Session (30 min)** - a set secret in school
9. **Public Comment (5 min)**
10. **Adjournment**

**Next Meeting Scheduled for August 15, 2023 at 9:00
a.m. Hosted by the Board of County Commissioners**



**JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

**Hosted by Durham County Government
Commissioners Chambers
200 E. Main Street
Durham, NC 27701**

9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Present: Board of County Commissioners – Chair Brenda Howerton, Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs, Commissioners Nida Allam, Nimasheena Burns and Heidi Carter

Board of Education Members – Chair Bettina Umstead, Vice Chair Jovonia Lewis, Board Members Natalie Beyer, Emily Chavez, Millicent Rogers and Alexandra Valladares

Other: County – Dr. Kimberly Sowell (County Manager), Claudia Hager (General Manager), Al Andrews (County Attorney), Deborah Craig-Ray (General Manager), Gudrun Parmer (Interim General Manager), Peri Manns (Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services), Joanne Pierce (General Manager), Shannon Trapp (Chief of Staff), Monica Wallace (Clerk to the Board), Macio Carlton (Deputy Clerk to the Board), Keith Lane (Budget Director) and David Ades (Assistant Budget Director)

DPS – Dr. Pascal Mubenga (Superintendent), Dr. Stacy Stewart (Chief of Schools), Dr. Nakia Hardy (Deputy Superintendent of Academic Services), William “Chip” Sudderth II (Chief Communications Officer), Dr. Julius Monk (Deputy Superintendent for Operational Services), Paul LeSieur (Chief Financial Officer), Dr. Alveria Lesane, (Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources), Mathew Palmer (Director of Strategic Planning Initiatives), Nicole Smith (Board Executive Assistant)

Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Howerton welcomed everyone and called the January 31, 2023 meeting to order.

Agenda Review

The agenda was presented for review. No changes were made.

Approval of Minutes – November 29, 2022

The Board reviewed the November 29, 2022 minutes. Chair Howerton asked were there any corrections noted prior to the approval. Hearing none, a motion was entertained.

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Board Member Beyer to approve the November 29, 2022 meeting minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

DPS Budget Discussion

Paul LeSieur, DPS Chief Financial Officer shared a presentation titled *ESSER Funding Quarterly Update FY 2022-23 – Quarter 2* which highlighted the following: COVID-Related Appropriations, CARES Act and GEER Appropriations, CRRSA and ARP Appropriations, Timeline & Per Pupil Appropriations, Summary of CRRSA and ARP K-12 Emergency Relief Funding Allocations, Summary of K-12 Relief Funds, Questions & Discussions.

Commissioner Burns thanked Mr. LeSieur for sharing the breakdown of appropriations and asked for clarification on the homeless grant. DPS staff responded that the homeless grant supported lodging, clothing, transportation – dollars also support families in transition and offered student support services. Commissioner Carter mentioned the Homeless Services Advisory Committee had someone who was actively engaged in this conversation. County Manager Sowell asked were there any problematic pieces that would need to be funded after the ESSER funds expired. Dr. Mubenga responded the grants would cover some but not all projects. Mr. LeSieur stated staff would come back later to discuss items not covered by ESSER funds.

Vice Chair Jacobs inquired about filling positions. Mr. LeSieur responded DPS was prepped and ready to go with the aggressive recruitment season which included a plan to seek teachers/staff outside of North Carolina. Dr. Mubenga added they were making efforts in recruiting but were also being conscious in maintaining the staff currently employed. He noted they were fortunate to be able to give up to \$5000 to employees for retainment and offer \$2000 as a recruitment bonus to bring on new staff.

Chair Howerton mentioned transportation – asking how much was being spent and what were the dollars being used on. Board Chair Umstead responded they were thankful for the local funding which helped but there was a need on the statewide level for more funding to support school transportation. Vice Chair Jacobs stated there was a need to look at more flexible transportation polices. Board Vice Chair Lewis stated a *Safe Routes to School Resolution* was passed last week and asked for full Board support. Chair Howerton stated she would share the resolution with the Clerk so that it could be formatted and added to an upcoming agenda for approval.

Commissioner Burns asked that both Public Information Departments get together to inform the community about the needs and share updates from DPS. Board Vice Chair Lewis stated she would like there to be more conversations around teaching housing. Chair Howerton mentioned the work of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and how they were seeking

support from the state level around teaching housing. She asked that staff allow Al Andrews the new County Attorney an opportunity to get up to speed so that he can share an update in the future. Dr. Mubenga mentioned the importance of future growth and land – requesting a conversation take place in the near future about what land availability in the County.

Commissioner Allam inquired about the efforts and pipelines in place for Principals, questioning the investments currently in place. Dr. Mubenga responded they were in a good place with currently 55 Principals and 80 Assistant Principals. He also highlighted the pipeline in place with North Carolina State University and North Carolina Central University, adding that the future Principals would come from the rank of the Assistant Principals in place.

Paul LeSieur, DPS Chief Financial Officer shared a presentation titled *FY2023 – 24 Budget Overview and Discussion* which highlighted the following: Highlights from Recent Budget Cycles, FY 2023-24 Budget – Initial Components, FY 2022-23 Budget – Teacher Supplement, Budget Calendar, State Budget Highlights, State Budget Update – Teacher Pay, State Budget Update – Compensation, State Budget Update – Other Key Items, Discussion & Questions.

Commissioner Carter inquired about the \$4 million requested – asking if it would bring all DPS staff up to living wage. Board Member Rogers reminded the Board that DPS staff were not making the same wages as County staff. She stated there were discussions held regarding the salary study to bring the lowest paid employees up to the available wage. Vice Chair Jacobs questioned Wake County’s allocation being lower per pupil vs. Durham County. Dr. Mubenga responded DPS would be able to implement lower allocations if the state would provide the funding requested and if local dollars were also provided. Mr. LeSieur stated staff would be able to provide additional documents as needed.

Vice Chair Jacobs stated DPS and the County both received ARPA resources and asked that everyone be conservative as the budget year was approaching. She inquired about the current vacancy levels of staff, enrollment numbers and data on Charter/home schools, the status of the online programs and questioned the plan/policy around lapse salaries. Vice Chair Jacobs also questioned the increase in teacher supplements – asking how that would be covered. Mr. LeSieur responded DPS did not have the additional dollars to cover the teacher supplements, it was anticipated to come from state funds; however, DPS would be able to pay a portion. Vice Chair Jacobs stated the County approved \$10 million dollars in ARPA fundings that supported DPS, afterschool programs and internal childhood health. She requested to have a conversation about teacher housing and to learn more about the redistricting plan and CTE/Career Readiness – noting that there was a lot of money being investing and a report was needed to share the status of the dollars spent.

Dr. Mubenga stated there was a salary study available and it would be shared with the Clerk.

Chair Howerton requested a mental health presentation be shared at a later meeting.

Public Comments and Additional Board Comments

1. Neil Khaner, Substitute Teacher with DPS was seeking better support for the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of the students. He also requested more positions and increased pay for teachers.
2. Karthik, Parent of DPS Students stressed the importance of nutrition and requested that free

meals be offered to all students.

Board Chair Umstead thanked all citizens for their comments.

Commissioner Carter congratulated the School Board on Redistricting and Vice Chair Jacobs expressed gratitude for the new LGBTQ Policy.

Adjournment

Having no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Recorder

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

**Next Meeting Scheduled for May 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
Hosted by the Board of Education**

DRAFT



Durham PreK Update May 8, 2023



Children and Families

- In the 2022 – 2023 school term there were **51** locations where public preschool seats were available.
 - Of the 51 sites, **23** were in Durham Public Schools, **22** were in private child care, and **6** were in Head Start programs
- In the 2022 – 2023 school term there were **1521** public preschool seats in Durham funded through local, state, and federal resources.
 - Of these, **604** seats were funded *fully or in part* by Durham’s local funds through a braided funding plan
 - All public preschool seats in Durham benefit from the local funding investment that pays for a universal application process, quality improvement activities, and family support.
- In the 2022 – 2023 school term **40** preschool before and after school care (wrap care) scholarships were funded in a local pilot.
- On April 30, Durham PreK seats receiving local funds were enrolled at **90% (544)** for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Enrollment data for seats without direct local funds will be available soon.
 - In total, we received **2,002** applications for the current school year. Applications for this school year closed at the end of April.
- **1,099** applications have been received to date for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - 1,033 are in progress (this excludes ineligible and withdrawn applications)
 - So far, applications with missing documentation have decreased by **48%** with increased consumer education and staff follow up along with application design changes.
- Consumer education videos in English and Spanish continue to be added to the Durham PreK website and online application portal. Access them [HERE](#) from our Durham PreK application page and check out our latest video, [Getting Help with Your Durham PreK Application](#).

Outreach

- Durham PreK was represented at the following community events/locations in April:
 - Tabling at Duke Pediatrics
 - Durham’s Partnership for Children’s Spring Fling
 - Distributing flyers at Regency Laundromats, Food Lion on Fayetteville St., Compare Food on University Dr., Staff Development Center, and community partner meetings
 - Durham Community Food Pantry
 - Durham Earth Day Festival



- **Upcoming Outreach Events!**

- Our second Roll Up & Enroll application event- 11 AM - 2 PM on Saturday, June 10th at the DPS staff development center on Hillandale Road. Click [HERE](#) for flyers and event details.
- Our second Family Information Session will be on May 25th from 5-7 PM and will focus on the placement and enrollment process.
- On-site referrals will be given at the [UNC Children's Primary & Specialty Care at Carolina Pointe](#) clinic on four dates from mid-May through mid-June, focusing on PreK enrollment.
- Don't forget, you can view the [Durham PreK Outreach Calendar](#) on the Durham PreK website!

Public Engagement

- **Durham PreK Website**

- In April, the website had **7,464** page views from **2,646** users. **79%** of those (2,391) were new users. The application and site locations page remain the most popular.
- Annie Braker, an intern from UNC-Chapel Hill interviewed local early childhood experts from Durham for her advocacy video leadership project. Check it out on our new [Advocacy page!](#)

- **Durham PreK Social Media**

- The Durham PreK team ran a Facebook/Instagram advertisement for the application in early March-April that reached **79,715** and generated over **2,129** visits to the website.
- Our combined reach from Facebook and Instagram posts for the month of April was **36,659**.
- Our record-breaking YouTube analytics are captured below. The “Durham PreK Application Information” video and the, “Getting Help with Your Durham PreK Application” videos are the most popular.



- **Durham PreK Newsletters**

The April issues of the Durham PreK newsletters focused on advocacy. They were sent to 2,568 total subscribers. Analytics and links for each newsletter are below.

- [Teacher Talk](#)- 41.62% open rate and a 26.83% click rate.
- [Community Connections](#)- 44.88% open rate and a 4.23% click rate.

Preschool Providers

- Lyons Farm Elementary was our most recent Durham PreK Spotlight. Learn more about their accomplishments [HERE](#).

Workforce Development

- DPK has hired a Workforce Support Manager to lead the new Teacher Apprenticeship Program, funded for two years from a private donation.
- The Pre-K Expo will have a new format, consisting of on-demand, recorded sessions featuring local higher education opportunities and career pathways in the early childhood education field.

