

Next Step

A report on Board action
Cumberland County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 11, 2019

Administrative Recommendations

Assistant Principals

Westover High School

Stephanie Kelly

CCS' Strategic Plan Gets Approval

Members of the Board approved Cumberland County Schools' 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. After eight months of gathering input and feedback from members of the community and schools, a blueprint that highlights key action steps that will "chart the course" of the district were adopted. The Plan highlights the following:

Our Vision: Every student will have equitable access to engaging learning that prepares them to be competitive, collaborative and successful in our global world.

Our Mission: Cumberland County Schools will provide a safe, positive and rigorous learning environment to prepare lifelong learners to reach their maximum potential.

Our Core Values: EXCELLENCE ~ EQUITY ~ INNOVATION ~ INTEGRITY ~ COLLABORATION ~ COMPASSION

Our Strategic Priorities: The major priorities that enable our vision and mission are (1) Successful Students; (2) Premier Professionals; (3) Exceptional Environment; and (4) Committed Community

Additionally, actions and measures have been identified to support the Strategic Plan's implementation. Development Team Co-Chairs Melody Chalmers, the assistant superintendent of Transformation & Strategic Initiatives, and Retired Maj. General Rodney Anderson will shift their focus to the execution of the Plan.

Approval Given to 2019-2020 Student Code of Conduct

After several additions and deletions, the CCS' 2019-2020 Student Code of Conduct received approval from the Board. School administrators received input from principals, parents and students to help update the document, which will be distributed to all CCS' students and their families at the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Crosby's Reappointment to the FTCC Board of Trustees Gets 'Thumbs Up'

The Board approved Ronald C. Crosby, Jr.'s reappointment to the

Board of Education

Donna Vann

Chair

District #4

Alicia Chisolm

Vice-Chair

District #1

Judy Musgrave

At-Large

Charles McKellar

At-Large

Greg West

At-Large

Porcha McMillan

District #2

Carrie Sutton

District #3

Susan Williams

District #5

Peggy Hall

District #6

Superintendent

Dr. Marvin Connelly

Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) Board of Trustees. He represented the interests of the CCS while serving on the College Board during the 2018-2019 school year.

New CCS Logo Embraced

A new logo for the Cumberland County Schools was adopted by the Board. The navy blue, orange and chartreuse graphic highlights the figure of a graduate reaching for the stars with an open-faced book as the background. On July 1, the Communications Department will begin disseminating updated Brand Guidelines, the new tagline and the new logo, which replaces the long-used graphic of an open book with a gold seedling sprouting upward.

Board Approves Procedure for Filling Vacant Seat

Full-Board approval was given to the procedure for filling a Board vacancy which comes after District #6 Board member Peggy Hall announced her resignation from the Board citing personal and medical reasons. According to the procedure, potential applicants will submit a letter of interest and resume by July 15. On Aug. 13, the applicants will be invited to a Special Board meeting (meet and greet reception) at 5:30 p.m. which will allow for one-on-one conversations. During the regularly scheduled Board meeting at 6:30 p.m., each applicant will present a verbal statement to the Board, who will thereafter nominate and vote on the applicants. The winner will be elected by majority vote. All Board discussions, deliberations, nominations and voting will take place in open session.

Board Recognitions

Betty Musselwhite, the associate superintendent of School Support Services, introduced the following honorees to the Board to be recognized:

Future Educator Recipients –

Recent graduates **Jordyn Baker from Reid Ross Classical High School, Elizabeth Edmonds from Cross Creek Early College High School, Michael Jackson II from Westover High School, Morgan Ludlum from South View High School and Santevia Reaves from Seventy-First High School** were recognized as participants in CCS' Future Educators program where they intend to pursue careers in education and plan to commit to teaching in the CCS upon the completion of an educator preparation program. As part of the program, they will take part in an annual summer professional development with \$1,000 stipend, which begins the summer following their freshman year of college to the summer of their senior year. With successful teacher evaluations, upon graduating from college, they will be offered an early employment contract for three years with the Cumberland County Schools.

Science Fair Project Winner –

Terry Sanford student Kaitlyn Zuravel was acknowledged for presenting her science project at the North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair in Raleigh. As one of 12 grand prize winners, she was awarded an all-expense-paid trip to the prestigious Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in Phoenix, AZ, last month. More than 1,800 projects from around the world were entered into various

competitions. Kaitlyn was recognized by the National Security Administration and awarded first-place honors in the category for Materials Science.

Champion Athletes -

Student athletes **Trevon Berry from E.E. Smith High School and Isaiah Fultz from South View High School** were recognized by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association as outstanding athletes. Trevon was honored as the Unified Track 100-Meter State Champ, while Isaiah took the Association's 100-Meter Wheelchair State Championship title.

Student Services' Scholarship Award Winner –

Executive Director of CCS' Student Services Dr. Natasha Scott presented the first-ever CCS' Student Services Scholarship Award to **Christian Black from Cape Fear High School.**

Cumberland County Association of Principals and Assistant Principals (CCAPAP) –

CCAPAP President Dr. Mary Hales along with the Association's Treasurer, Maria Pierce-Ford, and the 2019-2020 President Dr. Pamela Adams, presented the following 11 local high school graduates as recipients of the 2018-2019 CCAPAP Scholarship:

Chelsea Pratt - E. E. Smith High School

Justin Ebert - Terry Sanford High School

Chykylle Boado - Westover High School

MacKenzie McNeill - Gray's Creek High School

Katelyn Bristley - Cape Fear High School

Davion Melvin - Douglas Byrd High School

Priscilla Boaheng - South View High School

Kailey Lopez - Jack Britt High School

Shelby McLamb - Pine Forest High School

Kendall Lowe - Cumberland International Early College High School

Alexander Willie - Cumberland International Early College High School

Heroic Employee -

Sybil Pinkney, a teacher assistant at **Ponderosa Elementary School**, was acknowledged by the Board for saving the life of a student in distress. Recently during lunch, she administered abdominal thrusts on a choking student and dislodged a piece of the pizza that got caught in the child's throat. EMS was immediately called; however, because of Pinkney's quick actions, she was able to clear the student's passageway and the EMS call was canceled.

NCASA 2019 Scholastic Director of the Year -

Robert Baker, who is chairman of Douglas Byrd High School's Cultural Arts Department, was acknowledged for recently be announced by the North Carolina Association for Scholastic Activities (NCASA) as its 2019 Scholastic Director of the Year. He was selected for his outstanding support of scholastic activities at his school.

NCASA Challenge Cup Winner -

On behalf of **Seventy-First Classical Middle School**, **Principal Patricia Ramos and Assistant Principal John A. McMillan** were recognized for recently being announced as the winner of the NCASA Challenge Cup for 1-A Small Schools. The award was presented based on student participation and excellence in various middle school competitions. This is the fourth consecutive year Seventy-First Classical Middle has earned this distinction. Also, this year, the school's Envirothon

Team and Show Choir placed 2nd in the state. The Show Choir was also awarded Best Show Design while Student Natalie Jones received an award for Best Female Stage Presence.

Horace Mann Funding Sweepstakes Winner –

Horace Mann Agents Steve Cales and Jennifer Tripp, who represent the CCS, made a surprise check presentation of \$5,000 to **Hope Mills Middle School** Media Coordinator **Toni Stewart**. Her principal, Yolanda Epps, worked with the Horace Mann reps to coordinate the DonorsChoose.org project donation presentation. Stewart was selected as one of 10 Horace Mann Fall into Funding Sweepstakes winners. She will work with her principal to determine what type of project would be best for their school. DonorsChoose.org provides a way for teachers to post classroom project requests, allowing donors to identify and choose projects to support.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Dr. Connelly announced his return after confronting health concerns. "I'm excited about being back in office, and I want to thank the Board, the Cabinet and everyone who supported me while I was out," said Dr. Connelly. "Your tremendous support meant a lot to me and my family." He extended 'a special thank you' to Associate Superintendent of Student Support Services Dr. Mary Black, who served as the acting superintendent in his stead, and asked her to share the following update:

- Excitement was expressed about "the next chapter in our journey as we move forward with the implementation of our new strategic plan." Words of gratitude were also expressed to Retired Maj. General Anderson and Chalmers for leading the Strategic Plan efforts, along with the Development Team and the community-at-large.
- Congratulations were extended to the more than 3,300 high school graduates of the Class of 2019 as they plan to attend college, join the military or the work force. The comments ended with the showing of a brief video that captured glimpses of CCS' 2019 Graduations.

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