

# Next Step

A report on Board action  
Cumberland County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
**August 13, 2019**

## Administrative Recommendations

### Assistant Principals

E.E. Smith High	Kenneth Williams
Montclair Elementary	Darius Gillespie
Spring Lake Middle	Corine Warren
Warrenwood Elementary	Tyrell Davis
Westover High	Vernon Tucker
Benjamin Martin Elementary	Amanda Hefner
Elizabeth Cashwell Elementary	LaTonya Adams
Cumberland Polytechnic High	Patsy Ray

### Principal

Cape Fear High Brian Edkins

### Curriculum Specialist ELA (K-5)

Elementary Education Tiffany Eakins

### Executive Director of Exceptional Children's Services

Student Support Services Dr. Pamela Adams-Watkins

## Vacant District #6 Seat on the Board Filled

The Board approved Joseph Sorce, a retired CCS' educator, to fill the vacant seat on the Board after former District #6 Board member Peggy Hall announced her resignation from the Board citing personal and medical reasons. Fourteen citizens expressed their interest in filling the position. The applicants attended a Special Board meeting (meet-and-greet reception) before tonight's meeting. After the vote, Sorce chose to take the oath of office tonight as his wife, Emma, stood by his side.

## Board Supports Red Ribbon Week

Members of the Board were in full support of the proclamation for Red Ribbon Week in Cumberland County (October 23 – 31, 2019). The proclamation states that the "Cumberland County Schools commits its resources to ensure the success of the Red Ribbon Campaign ... and encourages all citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, as a visible statement that we are firmly committed to a drug-free community." The document further cites that "alcohol and other drug abuse has been identified as one of the greatest threats to the future of our nation, and the 15- to 24-year-old group is dying at an alarming rate" because of the abuse.

## 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

**Joseph Sorce**

District #6

**Superintendent**

Dr. Marvin Connelly

## **Board Recognitions**

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

### **2019 Network Champion of the Year Recipient –**

Paul Berry from NC Serves presented Dr. Connelly with the 2019 Network Champion of the Year Award for the Cumberland County Schools. The CCS, which is the first school district in the nation to make referrals, actively supports military-connected families and students to provide continued support and partnership while building community connections. During the 2018-2019 SY, the district's MSTCs (Military Student Transition Consultant) connected 58 families to vital resources.

### **Retiring of the CCS Logo –**

In the act of retiring the previous CCS' logo, Board Chair Donna Vann presented the logo, which contains a graphic of an open book with a gold seedling sprouting upward, to former CCS' Superintendent Dr. William C. Harrison. In the spring after 19 years, the Board adopted a new logo, which is a navy blue, orange and chartreuse graphic that highlights the figure of a graduate reaching for the stars with an open-faced book as the background. On July 1, the Communications Department began disseminating updated Brand Guidelines, the district's tagline and the new logo.

### **Superintendent's Update**

Superintendent Dr. Connelly shared the following update with the Board:

- Approximately 445 yellow school bus will soon be rolling through our streets soon as our schools open their doors to more than 50,000 students. The Year-Round and Early-Start High Schools are in session while educators and support staff at the Traditional Schools are preparing for the arrival of students on August 26. Plans this school year are to move forward with implementing the new Strategic Plan. With the four strategic priorities as a guide, the Implementation Team will work to ensure the district's goals are reached.
- Each Board member was given 10 CCS' official challenge coins, which represent the district's commitment to the success of all students. The coins are to be given away to individuals they encounter who are working to support the vision and mission of the CCS. The "challenge" is to keep the coin with you at all times and be able to present it at any time as a token of appreciation and as an expression of commitment and loyalty to the district.
- Dr. Connelly's comments ended with the showing of a brief video that highlights the work that is being done to welcome back students and the appreciation many teachers have expressed for the \$300 for classroom supplies.

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