

Next Step

A report on Board action
Cumberland County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
November 12, 2019

Recognition of Ex-Officio Members

Student Government leaders Nyla Travis-Dumas from Seventy-First High School and Aniyah Hair from Cape Fear High School served as ex-officio members of the Cumberland County Board of Education. Ex-officio members are given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and give input on any topic brought before the Board.

Administrative Recommendations

Director of Maintenance
Operations - Phillip Perry

Director of Operations and Planning
Operations - H. Mark Whitley

Principals
Cumberland Polytechnic High School - Chad Barbour
Westover Middle School - Dr. Natasha Brown

Board Adopts 2019 CTE Proclamation

The Board approved proclaiming November 1 – 30 as Career Development Month, November 11 – 15 as Career Development Week and November 13 as Career and Technical Education Facilitator Day in Cumberland County Schools. Ultimately, the proclamation recognizes that “CTE Facilitators support CTE Programming that contributes to increased student attendance and achievement; improves graduation rates; produces college- and career-ready citizens; and contributes to the local economy and community vitality.”

School Improvement Plans Considered for Low-Performing Schools

The Board approved plans geared toward supporting the 23 local schools designated as low performing. Legislation requires that low-performing schools develop a plan that has a minimum of 12 goals with actions on how to reach the goals toward student achievement.

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, shared the following recognitions with the Board:

November's Extra Mile Award Recipient

Caitlin Hunt, a sixth-grade ELA teacher at **South View Middle School**, was recognized as November's Extra Mile Award recipient. Hunt was nominated by Jody Phillips, the media coordinator at South View Middle, who praised her for meeting the needs of 'the whole child' by coordinating efforts to purchase every sixth grader a sweatshirt to wear during cold weather. The Extra Mile Award recognizes the contributions of the district's premier professionals to the overall mission and core values of Strategic Plan 2024.

Recognition of Premier Educational Professionals

The following educators were recognized by the Board for their recent accomplishments:

- **Rebecca Criste** from **Walker Spivey Elementary School** was recently announced as the 2018-2019 North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics' Outstanding Elementary School Mathematics Teacher for Cumberland County.
- **Ryann McKay** from **Terry Sanford High School** was acknowledged by the North Carolina English Teachers Association as its Outstanding English Teacher. McKay will begin a year of service on the Association's Executive Board in an advisory capacity.
- **Henrietta Jutson** from **Jack Britt High School** was announced as a second-place winner in the 2019 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. This honor earned her high school skilled trades program \$50,000.

Superintendent's Update

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

November Celebrations

- More than 1,000 people from across the county attended the Nov. 2 CCS' Choice Fair that took place at E.E. Smith High School.
- The Superintendent's first Teacher Advisory Council meeting, "Conversations with Connelly," was held this month. This gathering gave Dr. Connelly the opportunity to hear directly from teachers about ways to improve the district. He continues to hear directly from students each month during the Superintendent's Student Voices meeting.
- Westover High School recently held a military career exploration day that proved to be a huge success.
- The Exceptional Children's Department recently hosted a Meet-and-Greet session which gave parents an opportunity to talk with staff and have their questions answered.
- Fayetteville State University, in partnership with CCS' CTE Department, recently sponsored a very successful Youth Empowerment Summit for Entrepreneurship. The gathering provided students with real-world experiences to prepare them to be globally competitive.
- Today, which was the 'first day' for T.C. Berrien Elementary School students at W.T. Brown Elementary School, appeared to have run smoothly. The staffs from Berrien, Brown and Central Services worked diligently to make the transition a good one for the students.

November's Observances

During November, the following noteworthy celebrations are being recognized throughout Cumberland County Schools:

~ Month of the Military Family

~ Native American Heritage Month

~ Thanksgiving – This year, schools and district offices will be closed to the public the day before Thanksgiving. Wednesday, November 27 will be an optional teacher workday, which will provide employees with the option to take leave, if they desire. The Thanksgiving holiday will be celebrated on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29, as the district has done in previous years.

The Superintendent concluded his comments with a video that highlighted the Nov. 2 Inaugural Veterans Day Program that honored employees who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

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