

Randolph County Board of Education
Work Session Minutes
August 21, 2017

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a work session on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Central Services Board Room, located at the 2222-C South Fayetteville Street Office in Asheboro. The following were present: Gary Cook (Chairman), Emily T. Coltrane (Vice Chair), Fred Burgess, Sharon P. Farlow, Dr. Gainey, and Leadership Team members.

The work session started at 4:30 p.m. Dr. Gainey presented an overview of the meeting.

Curriculum & Instruction Division

1. Update on Digital Learning Plan

Catherine Berry, Assistant Superintendent, shared how effectively the Randolph County School System (RCSS) is using the technology that we have along with our textbook adoptions, both in printed and digital format. Ms. Berry shared her appreciation and thanks to Nan York (RCSS Executive Director for Media and Technology) and the technology team for all of their hard work that they provide across the district. The Digital Learning Plan replaces the district Technology Plan. The 2017-2020 RCSS Digital Learning Plan not only reflects the findings in the rubric but also aligns with the RCSS “Path to Pride” and Goal 2019. Ms. Berry shared the importance of the priority for North Carolina and RCSS to ensure all students have equitable access to high-quality digital learning as well as continued student success in the digital age.

2. Update on North Carolina Digital Competencies

Ms. Berry shared that the State Board of Education approved two sets of competencies (NC Digital Learning Competencies for Teachers and NC Digital Learning Competencies for Administrators) in June 2016. Each set of competencies have specific focus areas. The state provided information and planning sessions for Local Education Agency (LEA) teams made up of district administrators, school administrators, district leads, school leads, media specialists, and classroom teachers. The focus for each LEA was the roll out and implementation of the competencies. Nan York shared that the school system determined through the digital team that RCSS would focus on the area of Digital Citizenship in the first year. Ms. Berry believes that our staff will move quickly through this process. The Media and Technology Department will offer professional learning through modules in *Canvas*, our learning management system. Individual principals and directors also may request professional development on the other focus areas within the competencies. The Superintendent shared that he hopes staff will be allowed to move at their own pace. Some staff are more comfortable moving quicker than others. The State has a module plan and RCSS has a personalized approach.

3. Update on North Carolina Check-Ins Assessments

Ms. Berry shared an update on North Carolina Check-Ins (NC Check-Ins), formally known as the Proof of Concepts. NC Check-Ins are interim assessments provided by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) that offer immediate feedback. During the 2015-2016 school year, Ramseur Elementary School was randomly selected to participate in the Grade 5 Math. NC Check-In (Proof of Concept at that time). The Randolph County School System opted to participate in the NC Check-Ins process for the 2016-2017 school year in grades 5-6. This decision was based on positive feedback during the pilot year. The Superintendent shared that NC Check-Ins is a positive result from all of the testing. Beth Davis, Director for Testing and Accountability/PowerSchool, shared that NC Check-Ins is teacher friendly and one can very quickly see where the student or class is excelling in order to work on areas of need. RCSS will continue to participate in

Randolph County Board of Education
Work Session Minutes
August 21, 2017

the NC Check-Ins Assessment process during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years. The NC Check-Ins Assessments will replace local benchmark testing for the grade levels involved in this process.

4. Update on PowerTeacher Pro implementation

Catherine Berry shared how parent portal is an efficient system and the means of how we schedule and keep grades. The state is moving toward more of a high-tech version.

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the district will participate with other Local Education Agencies (LEAs) across North Carolina to pilot the implementation of the PowerTeacher Pro gradebook. The state-wide roll out of the new gradebook system is slated for the 2018-2019 school year. RCSS staff have attended numerous trainings, and hosted PowerTeacher Pro workshops for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. The Testing and Accountability/PowerSchool Department has hosted two training sessions for designated school staff who will serve as their school's PowerTeacher Pro trainers. Beth Davis shared PowerTeacher Pro is user friendly, a better tool for teachers and still interfaces with parent portal.

Operations Division

1. 2017-2018 alternative education option for students who are long-term suspended

Marty Trotter, Assistant Superintendent, presented and reviewed the 2017-2018 alternative education option for elementary, middle, and high school students who are long-term suspended and how the plan applies to students who are removed from classes and are not eligible for In-School Suspension (ISS), Intervention Center (IC), or Intervention Center Aggression Replacement Training (ICART). This plan was first presented to the Board in 2015 and based on General Statute 115C-390.9, there is a requirement to present to the Board each year. The Board discussed additional individuals being added to the signature page and the possibility of at least adding the social worker's signature.

2. 2017-2018 STEP Center program and high school/middle school intervention

Mr. Trotter presented the STEP Center/Randolph County ICART Proposal. Mr. Trotter stated that by sometime in October, the school system should have the final confirmation to know if we would be able to move forward with this program.

Superintendent's Office

1. Overview of upcoming Board of Education and staff events/issues

Dr. Gainey reviewed the list of events and referenced that all dates were set for the end of the year.

The work session ended at 5:55 p.m.

Board Chair

Board Secretary