



**August 20, 2025**  
**Massey Conference Room**

## **1.Roll Call**

### ***Present***

Ken Jones

Gary Farmer

Rob Boyette

Dr. Dave Dolman

Kevin Earp

### ***Present***

Sharon Lott

### ***Staff/Guests***

Brian Shaw – Attorney

Cheryl Iannucci – Superintendent

Mandy Armstrong – Notetaker

## **2. Call to Order –**

**Chair:** Ken Jones

- Meeting called to order with opening remarks.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call completed.

## **3. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Mr. Farmer moved to approve the agenda as presented

**Second:** Dr. Dolman

**Vote:** All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

#### **4. Approval of Minutes – June 18, 2025**

**Motion:** Mr. Farmer moved to approve the minutes as presented.

**Second:** Mr. Boyette

**Vote:** All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

#### **5. Celebrations**

- Successful back-to-work week; teachers completed required training
- Welcomed new staff members for the school year
- Open House was well-attended with high excitement from families and students
- Parents and students expressed enthusiasm for living in the Independent Living Center (ILC)

#### **6. Superintendent's Report – Cheryl Iannucci**

**The theme this year is Hornet Strong, and we are growing every day!**

- We opened the school year with 7 new students and could not be more thrilled
  - We have 5 elementary students
  - 1 new middle schooler
  - 1 new high schooler
- We have two more students we are reviewing for admission on Friday.

##### **DPI to DOA transition**

- The transition is nearly complete!
- We tweaked the MOU to more accurately reflect the level of support we will need from DOA going forward
- We do have a couple of positions we need to bring in due to legislation
  - We are required to have an internal auditor, but the legislation does not offer funding for this position, and we do not have the money in our budget for that.
  - We will have to wait to see what the budget looks like when it passes.
- There are still a few things we are waiting to have transitioned

## **Student Life**

- Our students are now living in ILC.
- A lot of time was spent this summer preparing the dorm for our students
- We are working to build a new system for independence levels within the dorm that encourages the independence of our students
- We have purchased new bedding including the pillows which were from the corrections department!

## **Don Davis Visit**

- He visited a high school class and attempted to teach a linear equation to our students. They enjoyed interacting with him.
- He then went to the cafeteria to visit with our elementary and middle school students.
- He was very energetic and seemed to enjoy visiting with our students.
- He is very supportive of our school and our students.

## **ASL community classes**

- Will begin on 9/2/25 for 4 weeks.
- Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings 6 PM - 7 PM in the Hornets' Nest
- One of our ASL community students created a flyer for our ASL classes and has been sharing it around at no cost to us!

## **Human Resources – Simone Leigh**

- New hires
  - Elbert Kent III (Kent) – School Principal
  - Shantell Strickland – HS Math Teacher
  - Marissa (Marie) Mulingbayan – Elementary Teacher
  - John Coble – EDA
  - Sara Thompson – EDA
  - New HR Temp – Stephanie Ray
- We are now at 29 vacancies
- We have not had applicants with ASL skills or those that are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
- The new teachers do qualify for a provisional license for up to 5 years to allow them the time to get DHH certified.
  - We are having issues with UNCG for certification, and we are working towards a resolution to make it possible for our staff to complete this certification process

- Barton College no longer has a program for us to turn to
- We have been trying to promote within the Deaf community; however, we are just not getting the applicants
- We are trying to reallocate to try to find some money for interpreters. We spend a lot of money on contract interpreters. It would be great if we could add interpreters to our staff.
  - It is a difficult position to fill due to pay discrepancies

### **Business Office Report – Susan Pittman**

- We are starting the new school year and the new state fiscal year as well
- The financial chart for where we ended June 30, 2025
- We did spend 96% of the funds that were available to us
- For this new year we do not “officially” have a budget as of yet
- We do have the ability to spend to keep services at the level they were at last year, minus 21 positions salary monies as they may be cut in the new budget. We must be prepared to abolish these 21 positions. We just do not know what will happen with these positions as of yet.
  - Cheryl reached out to Blackwell’s office to express concern and to explain that we are growing and we need to be prepared to add staff as our enrollment increases. Cutting these positions may make it difficult for us to continue to grow.
- Regarding the transition from DPI to DOA we are still working on the transfer and resolving the remaining issues that still need attention. We are working through these remaining processes with the support of DOA.

### **Maintenance Report**

- Improvements through the summer include:
  - repairing the walk-in coolers in McAdams
  - Chilled water pump
  - New sink in the art room
  - Massey Library carpeting
  - Vestal hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor MS hallway new flooring
  - Vestal kitchen cooler was given a coat of paint
  - Woodard superintendent’s office painted
  - Relocated files to a dedicated room
  - Power washed the exterior of Woodard
  - ILC needed some small repairs to make it ready for students to move in.

- New ceiling tiles and flooring in Alford
- Mayfield carpeting replaced
- Steam leak repairs
- We held a pre-construction meeting this past week with Muter (CPC)
  - Vestal roof will be looked at closely to work to get that project going faster due to an increase in the leaks
  - Muter will be doing a campus wide tour to take a look at the conditions of our buildings and compare it to the priority list that Jon Long had been working on.
  - Muter will then make recommendations based on their findings
  - We will be looking at moving the roof project earlier as well for the Massey roof. They will be installing the new chairs and carpet in the auditorium soon and we don't want to have more leaking ruin the new work.
- 9/3/25 an inspector from State construction will be here to look at what our needs are for state construction projects.
  - Muter will be present for the state inspection

## **Technology**

- The transition from DPI to DOA has been particularly taxing on our IT department
- There has been a lot of behind the scenes work that has been required to move our systems from DPI to ENCSD
- The gates needed to have some improvements as well. A couple of the gates did not have badge access

## **7. Public Input**

**Speaker:** none

## **8. New Business**

- **Board Schedule**
  - We would like to establish sometimes in the afternoon one this semester and one second semester to allow staff members to participate in the Board meetings
  - A schedule will be sent out to reflect this
- **Policy Review Team**

- We would like to put together a small team to focus on putting together these policies.
- We do need to focus on getting these policies completed – we may need to work diligently and at first may need to have 2 meetings a month to get these policies written
- Team should be Superintendent, Gary, Dr. Dolman
  - Gary will take the lead on this
- **NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**
  - Gary attended this meeting as a rep for ENCSD
  - The minutes from one of the previous meetings were included in this month's board folders
  - Overall, the meeting was a positive experience, and many members seem eager to see ENCSD and NCSD grow

#### **Additional Remarks**

- Kevin Earp would like to bring to the board's attention that in the previous administration the Deaf Concern team was eliminated. He would like to bring that back. It allows the Deaf community the opportunity to express concerns or needs.

#### **9. Closed Session**

**Purpose:** To consider personnel matters as provided in North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a\_) (6) and 115C-321 and to consult with the Board of Education Attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3)

**Motion:** Mr. Farmer moved to enter Closed Session

**Second:** Dr. Dolman

**Vote:** All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

#### **10. Action Following Closed Session**

- ENCSD will discontinue use of Campbell Shatley Law firm, effective August 31, 2025
- New legal counsel to be discussed at the September 17, 2025 meeting

#### **11. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

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**Minutes submitted by:** Mandy Armstrong

**Date:** August 20, 2025