



**September 17, 2025
Massey Conference Room**

1.Roll Call

The Board of Trustees at Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf met in regular session. The following members were present:

Ken Jones

Gary Farmer

Rob Boyette

The following members were absent:

Dr. Dave Dolman

Sharon Lott

Kevin Earp

Also present were:

Rachel Hitch - 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 not approve the agenda in order to give the Board Chairman flexibility due to the lack of attendance of board members.

Second:

Vote:

4. Approval of Minutes – August 20, 2025

Motion: Mr. Boyette moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Mr. Farmer

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

5. Legal Counsel Contract 2025-2026

Motion: Mr. Jones moved to approve Rachel Hitch as School Attorney for the 2025-2026 school year

Second: Mr. Boyette

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

Mr. Boyette would like a copy of the contract be sent to all Board members.

6. Celebrations

Superintendent Iannucci reported that the school year is off to a wonderful start. The new principal is settling in well, and both staff and students appear to be enjoying his leadership.

7. Superintendent's report

- **Enrollment**

- Enrollment is currently at 40 students.
- Two applications for new students are pending.
- A total of 8 new students have enrolled this year.
- Postcards were sent to audiologist in the 54 counties we serve.
- In October, the Superintendent will attend the EC conference with the EC coordinator.

- **Visitors to Campus**

- Our Disability Rights advocate continues monthly visits with students. The latest visit brought glowing feedback from students regarding campus improvements.

- Congressman Don Davis visited campus, “taught” a math class, and spoke with elementary and middle school students. He also delivered a one-minute speech about ENCSD on the U.S. House floor. The video has been uploaded to our social media.
- Rocky Mounty Mayor and Congressional Candidate Sandy Roberson visited, participating in an elementary ASL class.
- ASL classes are underway. Melissa White has joined Rich Magazzino as instructor. Sessions are currently held every Tuesday in September, with plans to add an additional night in the next session.
- **HR – Simone Leigh**
 - Promotions: Ron Mainor to Maintenance Tech III; Mandy Armstrong to Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.
 - Two new RLTs will begin on 9/29.
 - Three bus driver interviews conducted; an offer is pending.
 - Data Manager interviews ongoing.
 - Retirements: Geri Jackson and Debra Pierce effective 10/1.
 - Recruitment: Simone will represent ENCSD at the OSHR career expo on November 10th with on-site interviews available.
 - Several positions remain on hold until the state budget passes.
- **Business and Finance Report**
 - No significant updates until the state budget is passed.
- **Maintenance Update**
 - State Construction Inspectors visited campus. Their F-Cap report is expected within a month.
 - Superintendent to meet with CPC from Muter to review priorities.
 - McAdams dorm showers identified as an urgent need to accommodate student growth.
 - Massey auditorium renovation is nearing completion.
 - Vestal roof and Williamson Gym projects pending, with hopes to complete before basketball season.
- **School Safety Plan**
 - Campus gates are operational.
 - Work is underway on an emergency communication system to integrate with existing technology.
 - Emergency plans are being revised, including updated evacuation maps and procedures.
 - Staff training and drills will follow plan completion.
 - Efforts continue to secure SRO funding and possible guard house staffing.

8. Public Input

Speaker: none

9. New Business

- **Board Meeting Schedule**

- The November meeting will be rescheduled to November 12, 2025, at 4:00 PM in Massey Auditorium to accommodate the Superintendent's attendance at the EC conference.

- **Public Comment Time Allotment**

- Proposal to increase time for public comment from 3 minutes to 5 minutes to accommodate interpreting needs.
- Discussion included whether to move public comment to the end of the agenda.
- Attorney Hitch advised flexibility in adjusting agendas as needed.

Motion: Mr. Farmer moved to allow 5 minutes for public comment

Second: Mr. Boykin

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

- **Policy Review Team**

- A Policy Review Committee will be established, composed of Board members Gary Farmer and Dr. Dave Dolman, the Superintendent, and selected staff. Committee appointments to be made by the Chair, Mr. Ken Jones.

Motion: Mr. Farmer moved to establish a Policy Review Committee under the guidance of the Superintendent

Second: Mr. Boykin

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

- **Capital Project Priorities**

- Superintendent will update the Board on priorities after consultation with Muter and review of the F-Cap Report.

- **MOU with DPI and DOA**

- Attorney Hitch reported communication with Mr. Shaw regarding revisions. A response is pending.

10. 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: Mr. Boykin

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

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Mandy Armstrong

Date: September 17, 2025