LEXINGTON CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD REVIEW for May 3, 2016

The Lexington City Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on May 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Office located at 1010 Fair St., Lexington, NC. At that time they considered the following items:

I. Spotlight on People & Programs
   A. City Council
      The board recognized Councilman Jim Myers.
   B. Be Somebody Recognition
      • The teacher recognized was Rebekah Macon, an EC teacher at South Lexington Developmental Center
      • The student recognized was Glory Robinson, a student at Charles England Elementary School.
      • The classified staff person recognized was Faye Peebles, an EC Assistant at Pickett Elementary School.
   C. Teaching Cadet Presentation
      Craig Allen Cook, a junior at Lexington Senior High School presented the Teaching Cadets program. The Teaching Cadets are high school students who will work with middle school students in grades 6-8 who show the potential to become great leaders. They are not looking for necessarily the straight A students, but rather those students who demonstrate an ability to lead. Students who participate in the program will be taken to the high school once per month for breakfast and to attend a class on how to be a great leader. The class will last from 1½ hours to 2 class periods.

      LexConnect, another program idea, will start on May 17th. LexConnect will go to area business leaders to invite them to LSHS for a meal. This will allow business leaders to see the great things that are going on in the high school and with the Teacher Cadets. The hope is to form more of a partnership between the Teaching Cadet program and the business community.

   D. Elementary Geography Bee
      Charles England Elementary School’s Team 1 was the winner of the first Geography Bee competition that was held on March 24th. Team members included Keven Bahena, Brooks Calderone, Bertha Jernigan, Jayden Moore, Luke Staten, and Addie Walser. The team won after competing in five rounds of competition ranging from identifying states and capitals, labeling continents and oceans, and answering random geography questions.

      Each school had two teams represented at the Geo Bee. Each team consisted of 2 third graders, 2 fourth graders, and 2 fifth graders. Each participant received a Geography Book and a gift certificate to Golden
Corral. The winning team also received medals and a check from the Jacket Academic Boosters.

E. Lexington City Schools’ 2016-17 Teacher of the Year
Fernando Solano, an ESL Teacher at South Lexington School is the LCS teacher of the year. Mr. Solano will go on to compete in regional competition.

II. Consent Agenda
The consent agenda was approved.
A. Out of District Request 2016-2017
B. Released from Lexington City Schools 2016-2017
C. Vocational Rehabilitation Services Contract

III. Appearance by Citizen(s)
Three people spoke about the balanced calendar.

IV. City Council
No school related business was discussed in either of the April meetings of the city council.

V. Policy
A. Approval Items
   The policies were approved.
   3.15 Drug-Free Workplace
   3.9 Separation from the Lexington City School System

VI. Business & Finance
A. April Financial Summary
   Shelly Gentle presented the April financial summary. The summary was approved.
B. Preliminary Budget 2016-17
   Ms. Gentle presented the preliminary budget for 2016-17. The preliminary budget was approved.

VII. Curriculum & Instruction
A. EOG Countdown
   Emy Garrett, along with her team of curriculum specialists from each elementary school presented the EOG Countdown. The time preceding EOGs is always a stressful time in which teachers try to ensure that students have learned what they need to pass the EOG tests. The EOG countdown this year was aimed at providing the information needed in a way that was effective, but not stressful. The countdown kickoff was an EOG Fiesta, where teachers enjoyed Mexican snacks while they learned the details of the countdown. The teachers did not have to create their own lesson plans. Instead, plans were created by the curriculum specialists and uploaded into Google docs. Thanks to Google docs and Twitter, teachers are able to work together. QR codes were created that parents can scan with their phones for help when their child has a problem with homework. The code will link to a video of their teacher teaching that section or to additional information the child may need to understand what he or she needs to do. Some teachers have a theme for the EOG Countdown section in their class to make it fun for the students.
are based on TV shows such as EOG Survivor, American Idol and So You Think You Can Dance. Parents and students have given great feedback. Instruction is targeted and the students are having a lot of fun as they become prepared for the EOGs.

VIII. Board of Education
A. Reminder of dates for Board Retreat – May 25-26, 2016
B. Calendar Committee Recommendations
Dave Fairall and Judy Dorety presented the 2016-2017 school calendar. The calendar was approved.
C. Technology
Celia Gossett presented virtual reality glasses, a new teaching tool that will be used in the classroom. In reading passages, students often come upon terms they do not understand. In one class, it was about the roaring of the ocean. Students who have never been to the ocean have no way of understanding what this means. By using virtual reality, teachers are able to show the students what the passage refers to in a way students can immediately understand. The technology is very inexpensive and is a very effective teaching tool that students love.

IX. Closed Session
X. Personnel