

ECU Community School Advisory Board

November 14, 2024

9:00-11:00 a.m.

**HYBRID meeting: Speight 203 or via Teams
Minutes**

Call to Order 9:00 am

In attendance:

Officers: Andre Green, Chair; Elizabeth Swaggerty, Vice-Chair, Rita Soulen, Secretary

Members: Kimberly Anderson; Karson Hallow; Vanessa Irvin; Steve Lassiter; Robert Moore

ECUCS Affiliates: Al Barnhill; CJ Click-Kimber; Tracy Cole; Jo Melnyk

Meagan Thornton

Members not in attendance: Mr. Jeff Roberts

Approval of the Minutes

Karson Hallow moved to approve minutes. Mr. Moore seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Approval of the Agenda

Karson Hallow moved to approve agenda. Mr. Moore seconded. Agenda was unanimously approved.

Public Expression

There were no requests for public expression.

Updates to the Board

1. Financial Update

Meagan Thornton reviewed the remaining budget funds. The total budget funding is approximately \$2.1 million. She indicated that state and local funds are about the same as previous years and the school is on track with spending. She noted additional funding from the UNC systems office from base funding which has been \$290,000 increased this

year to \$350,000 with an incentive bonus of \$20,000 from the UNC system. Dr. Swaggerty asked whether all Community Schools received additional funding? Ms. Thornton responded that yes, incentive dollars base funding came from the legislature. Ms. Thornton continued to report that the \$478,898 UNC systems office money was increased from last year. And we are on pace to spend funds for this fiscal year. Mr. Moore questioned, if there is a surplus, is there a chance to spend the money in other ways? Ms. Thornton assured him that we will spend the federal funds this year.

ECU Community School Budget Report - November 2024

Funding Source	Budget	Budget/Revenue Collected to Date	Expenses Year to Date
State and Local ADM	\$1,170,398	\$281,527	\$482,015
Federal Funds	\$107,905	\$45,006	\$45,006
UNC System Office	\$478,898	\$0	\$72,221
ECU Recurring	\$155,552	\$155,552	\$7,043
ECU Recurring (LI)	\$69,906	\$28,435	\$40,779
ECU Non-Recurring	\$144,050	\$90,749	\$90,749
Total Funding	\$2,126,709	\$601,269	\$737,813

2. Legal Update

CJ Click-Kimber indicated that there was no legal update.

3. Operational Update

Personnel Update

Dr. Green reported on the current search for an executive director. Board members received an email invitation from Dr. Hodge inviting members to the first round of interviews. There are three candidates. Interviews start next week. Dr. Soulen will follow

up to be sure that meeting links are sent to the board. Also there are plans to hire staff for what was previously Mr. Scott Gomez's position.

Principal's Update

ECUCS Background Check Task Force. Ms. Cole reminded the board that the task force is working with Human Resources to align requirements of background checks with the lab school legislation. Currently they have developed a draft policy and draft standard operating procedures. Information has been forwarded to legal counsel, awaiting feedback. This will impact visiting faculty, student interns, and practicum students as well as members of the Advisory Board who will be required to undergo fingerprinting.

The fall inspection by Greenville Fire and Rescue occurred on September 26. There were no findings.

The UNC system office visit occurred on October 10. Visitors were Dr. Ashton Clemmons, Vice Chancellor of K-12 Policies and Dr. Clay Smith, Assistant Director of Teacher Education Preparation and Lab Schools who commented on high student engagement. Dr. Lassiter's presence at the visit was also appreciated.

There was a consolidated federal programs monitoring visit on October 31. Two representatives from NC DPI had conversations with parents, teachers, Dr. Green, Ms. Thornton, and Mr. Gomez about use and monitoring of federal funds, including Title I, Title II, and Title IV. An outcomes report is expected within 30 business days.

The ECU CS was selected for an ESSER III review by NC DPI regarding COVID funds, to assure that 20% of funding are set aside for learning loss. We are waiting to hear the results of this review.

Infinite Campus will be the new student data management system to replace PowerSchool. Ms. Cole will meet every two weeks to establish Infinite Campus for the school. This is a year long planning process. Implementation will take place for SY 2025-2026.

A lockdown drill is scheduled for November 19.

ECUCS is working with Pitt County Schools to improve building cleanliness. New custodial schedules have been put in place. Cleaning checklists have been placed in every classroom. Ms. Cole expressed special thanks to Dr. Lassiter and his team for conversations about building cleanliness. Dr. Green expressed appreciation as well, especially regarding teacher satisfaction.

There have been no resignations or recommendations for hire. All positions are filled.

At this time there are 107 scholars enrolled in ECU CS.

Internships and practicums are ongoing including one full time school counseling CARE Corp intern and on Thursdays the COE McClammy Lab is on campus to provide on site mental health services to scholars and families with four graduate students under the directions of Dr. Jason Perry. There is also one Birth to Kindergarten intern, 2 interns from elementary education, 6 interns from speech and language and 2 interns from psychology.

READ 3501 operates on Friday mornings. 100 students visit weekly in groups of 25-30.

Occupational therapy is completing a practicum with 16 students.

16 students from Pitt Community College in the Early Childhood program are completing literacy observations.

Teachers have conducted beginning of grade reading tests for all third graders to establish a baseline for end of grade test scores.

Teachers have conducted the beginning of year DIBELS literacy assessment for all students K-5.

Open House was held in August, Family Curriculum Night in September and Parent Conference Night is scheduled for November. These events promote family engagement.

A partnership has been established with Dr. Tanya Christ, the Spangler Distinguished Professor of Early Literacy. She has been having conversations with K-2 teachers and assistants to focus on early literacy.

2023-2024 End-of-Grade Test Results indicate that the overall school performance grade improved from a score of 55 to 63. In reading, an improved score from a "D" (51) to a "C" (55). In math, an improved score from a "C" (59) to a "B" (71). Overall, the school exceeds growth. In reading the school met expected growth and in math exceeds growth. ECUCS met 100% of target participation goals in reading. 100% of long-term goals in reading and math were met. Reading proficiency improved from 43.1% in 2022-2023 to 48.4% in 2023-2024. Math proficiency improved from 53.4% in 2022-2023 to 65.6% in 2023-2024. "College and Career Ready" increased from 25.2% in 2022-2023 to 32.7% in 2023-2024. "Grade Level Proficient" increased from 51.2% in 2022-2023 to 61.9% in 2023-2024. ECUCS has experienced growth each of the past 7 years, even

during the pandemic. ECUCS compares favorably to other lab schools in the UNC system. There was discussion highlighting these positive results and further actions to continue improvement.

The ECUCS has identified the need to develop a 2025-2028 AIG Plan. The timeline includes plan writing during SY 2024-2025, a first reading in February 2025, board approval in May 2025, submission to NC DPI in June 2025, and plan implementation for SYs 2025-2028. NC DPI, ECU COE and Pitt County Schools will provide support for plan writing.

Discussion Items

There were no identified discussion items.

Action Items

Ms. Cole presented an Action Item for the 2024-2025 Summer Program to provide small group intense instruction in math, reading and science for 3rd-5th grade scholars who scored Level I or II on the first administration of the end of grade test. Proposed instruction days will be June 16, 17, and 23. Test days will be June 18, 19 and 25. This action item requires Advisory Board Approval for submission to NC DPI Regional Testing and Accountability Division. Karson Hallow motioned to approve the summer program. Mr. Moore seconded. The board voted unanimously to approve.

Closing Comments

Dr. Green commented that the school recognizes a strong relationship with Pitt County Schools with a thank you to Superintendent Lassiter and to recognize hard work at the Community School with strong leadership from Ms. Cole.

Dr. Lassiter thanked Dr. Green for seeing the need and securing funds for the Executive Director position which will bring value and support to the ECUCS. He also expressed appreciation for allowing participation in UNC school system visit and offered to further support the work of the ECUCS.

Mr. Moore motioned to adjourn. Karson Hallow seconded. Meeting adjourned 10:02 am.

Next meeting: February 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Speight 203 and via Teams

