



NERSBA Board Work Session, 3:45 PM

Review of Updates/Revisions For NERSBA 6000/7000 Series Board Policies

NERSBA Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

4:30 PM

1. Open Session

1.1 Call to Order/Welcome: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chairman

1.2 Invocation/United States Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Julius Walker

1.3 Roll Call: Mrs. Inga Stotesberry

Present: Benjie Forrest, Brian Busch, Julius Walker, Simon Griffin, Jerry Phelps, Joyce Moore, Kendall Paramore, Steve Lassiter, Gene Scott

Absent: Ethan Lenker, Melva Lilley, Jason Davis, Sherri Gilliam

1.4 Approval of July 15, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chair

Mr. Kendall Paramore moved to approve the July board meeting agenda as presented by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Gene Scott seconded the motion, which was confirmed by a majority vote of the NERSBA board membership.

1.5 Public Comments: None

(Dr. Steve Lassiter introduced Mr. Steven Harrell, the new Chief Financial Officer of Pitt County Schools during the Public Comment Agenda Item)

2. NERSBA Class of 2026 Early College Graduate Perspective: Ms. Liliana Lara Gonzalez

Mr. Davis introduced Ms. Liliana Lara Gonzales, a NERSBA May 2026 graduate, who provided the board a review of her experiences at the NERSBA Early College throughout her enrollment at the school and the reasons why she enrolled at NERSBA.

Ms. Gonzalez provided a unique insight regarding the personal opportunities she took advantage of throughout her five-year association with the school and expressed her gratitude toward her teachers and administrative team.

Mr. Davis referenced her final comments to her teachers, her parents and the audience during the NERSBA Class of 2026 Commencement held in late May.

Liliana will be attending East Carolina University this fall with the career aspiration of becoming a dentist to provide dental care to underserved populations in northeastern North Carolina.

3. **NERSBA 2024-2025 Fiscal Audit Update: Mr. David Templeton, Carr Riggs & Ingram, CPA**
Mr. David Templeton, representing Carr, Riggs & Ingram, CPAs presented the final audit report for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Templeton noted that NERSBA received an unqualified report with no issues found or noted at any place within the audit.

4. **NERSBA Scholastic Report: Mrs. Lisa Smith**

4.1 **2026-2027 Planning for Scholar Success: Mrs. Lisa Smith/Dr. David Jenkins**

Mrs. Smith and Dr. Jenkins noted the following points of reference for our board membership:

- NERSBA plans to welcome faculty and staff back to campus on July 15th (today) and expects forty-four new scholars on the first day of classes which is August 3rd. All students are scheduled to return to campus on August 5th
- The opening staff meeting was held this morning where new procedures, systems, and structures, along with goals for the school year were discussed and developed
- We are implementing (PLT) Professional Learning Teams themed “Let’s Grow” throughout the new scholastic calendar
- Our Scholar Kiosk Check In/Out through Infinite Campus is operational in preparation for the new year
- The Finance Component offered through the Infinite Campus System allowing Campus Payments, is operational
- OLR (online registration) has gone very well for all our new enrollees
- On July 9th, the Boys & Girls Club/Hyster Yale Mentoring Group with about 25 kids visited our campus earlier this summer and had a great experience on our campus. This group also toured Martin Community College having lunch on their campus during their tour.
- Scholar/Parent/Faculty Orientation sessions for the 2026-2027 school year are scheduled for:
July 27th: 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM
July 28th: 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

4.2 **Fire Alarm Installation for Gymnasium/AgriEngineering Lab/Campus Security**

- NERSBA has been working with North Carolina Sound with the installation of a new fire alarm system in the gymnasium and engineering laboratory...this project is nearly completed for campus-wide coverage for all of our campus buildings.
- NERSBA has been in collaboration with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Town of Jamesville for our roadway markings, signs, and crosswalk on Sunset Avenue which have been completed.
- Our school has installed additional intercom speakers for our announcements in areas that were not covered to hear our daily announcements.
- School Safety Grant: Issuance of the remaining \$5,000-7,000.00 (waiting on final figure)
- The Martin County Sheriffs’ Department is providing law enforcement is on campus through the Stronger Connections Grant until September 30th of 2026 when the grant concludes. We hope we

will be able to continue these services in the future, working with the Martin County Sheriff's Department.

- Having continued law enforcement presence on campus is a high priority, and we need to find a way to continue these services in the budget once the Grant ends.
- Mr. Curtis Spencer has installed handrails at specific entrances, facilitating entry and exiting from our campus facilities.

5. Finance Report: Mr. Hal Davis

5.1 2025-2026 Fiscal Budget Review/Finance Committee: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed the board that we are currently working under the Interim Budget Resolution for our NERSBA Early College finances. The North Carolina state budget was ratified by the General Assembly last week. We hope to have formal budget allotments in the very near future.

Current Fiscal Reports Include:

- Fund Balance \$986,426.00
- NERSBA appropriated \$230,000.00 from our fund balance last year
- \$781,000.00 is invested in the North Carolina Capital Management Trust Fund, which generated about \$27,000.00 in added revenue last year. (Copy of this investment provided).

(A current printout of NERSBA's Southern Bank checking account is provided for \$30,514.00)

5.2 Accounting Protocols for 26/27: Mrs. Lisa Smith

Mrs. Lisa Smith reported to the board that our Infinite Campus Payment Process allowing parents to access their student fees through their Parent Portal was now operational. Parents can log in and pay respective scholastic fees and charges online by check, cash, credit card, or pay in-house. This system will greatly facilitate our payment process and minimize the handling of cash by students, teachers and administrative office on-campus.

6. NERSBA Early College Informational Items: Mr. Hal Davis/Dr. David Jenkins

6.1 Roofing Project: Dr. David Jenkins

Dr. Jenkins informed the board that our roof-cleaning project has gone well as facilitated by the Garland Company...Dr. Jenkins shared before and after photographs of the project which shows great overall improvement with the overall appearance of the campus facilities.

6.2 Scholar/Parent/Faculty Orientation Sessions: Mrs. Lisa Smith

(This information was presented during an earlier agenda item)

6.3 Legislative Update: Mr. Benjie Forrest

Chairman Forrest presented the following informational items regarding legislative updates:

- NC General Assembly ratified the budget bill which included legislation effecting NERSBA
- We are going from 4 to 18 counties with respect to our NERSBA service area
- No further local student responsibility for student funding to NERSBA
- Transportation will now be a responsibility of NERSBA

- The North Carolina General Assembly believes in this school
- Mr. Jamie Norment, our board attorney, will attend our August board meeting to review the new legislation effecting our school
- New governance of board members starting July 2027
- We are excited to continue our partnership with Pitt County Schools Finance and their leadership team.

6.4 Safer Schools Conference: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed the board that he will be attending the North Carolina Safer Schools Conference scheduled for Greenville, NC on August 4th-7th. This statewide event will be held at the Greenville Convention Center.

7. NERSBA Board Action Items: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chair

7.1 June 10 Board Meeting Minutes Approval: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chair

Mrs. Joyce Moore moved to approve the July board meeting minutes as presented by Mr. Davis. Mr. Jerry Phelps seconded the motion, which was confirmed by a majority vote of the board membership.

7.2 Approval Of The NERSBA 4000 & 5000 Series Policies: Dr. David Jenkins

Mr. Kendall Paramore moved to approve the new policies as presented. Mr. Simon Griffin seconded the motion, which was confirmed by a majority vote of the board membership.

7.3 FFA Chapter Request for Overnight Travel/National FFA Convention: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis asked for the board to approve for Mrs. Maria Jackson and two students to attend the National FFA Convention scheduled in late October which will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Simon Griffin moved to approve the request as presented. Dr. Brian Busch seconded the motion which was confirmed by a majority vote of the board membership.

7.4 Request to Authorize Mr. Hal Davis to Employ Personnel until August 19, 2026: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Kendall Paramore moved to allow Mr. Hal Davis to make necessary personnel decisions between now and the August board of directors meeting as requested. Dr. Brian Busch seconded the motion, which was confirmed by a majority vote of the board membership.

8. Announcements: Mrs. Lisa Smith

Mrs. Lisa Smith provided the following calendar updates for our board membership:

8.1 July 15th: Begin Employment of Eleven-Month Faculty & Staff

8.2 July 27th-28th: Scholar Orientation Sessions

8.3 July 30th: NERSBA Active Shooter Training

8.4 August 3rd: First Day for New Scholars

8.5 August 3rd-7th: North Carolina Safer Schools Conference

8.6 August 6th: NERSBA Classes of 2026 & 2027 Meetings

8.7 August 17th: Begin Martin Community College Fall Semester

**8.8 August 19th: NERSBA Board of Directors Work Session @ 3:45 PM
NERSBA Board of Directors Board Meeting @ 4:30 PM**

9. Motion to Adjourn:

Mrs. Joyce Moore moved to adjourn the board meeting at 5:45 PM. Mr. Julius Walker seconded the motion which was confirmed by a majority vote of the board membership.

Submitted by: Mr. Hal Davis, Executive Director

Hallet S. Davis Jr., Director/NERSBA