

NCPTA Spring Meeting 3.16.23

Call to order Marlon Watson at 10:05 AM
Welcome from Guilford County Schools

Roll call by Cynthia Phillips

Minutes read from the last meeting by Lloyd Willis.
Motion to accept Scott Denton and seconded by Marge McGill

Treasurer report read by Brian Littke
Motion was made to accept seconded by Scott Denton

New Business

DMV report by Paul Deloitte.

- He announced current vacancies for driver trainers at 9, then after the school year ends, along with retirement it could possibly jump as high as 17.
- Currently, working with Durham county schools on class A license training program and will likely start involving other counties.
- 5 current counties requesting MOU to help with training for class B license.
- DMV has trained 931 new drivers, 1700 renewal for this school year.
- DMV has reached out asking counties for assistance with driver screening along with help for open DMV positions.

Conference Update

NCPTA Conference update by Cynthia Phillips

- Conference will be held in Wilmington at convention center from June 19 thru June 22, 2023
- If rooms reserved and you cannot attend she requested they be cancelled. All hotels are sold out and you may need to call the Hotel to cancel. This would free up rooms for other attendees.
- Meals provided Monday night. Lunch Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Dinner provided Thursday for the closing ceremony, which is Hawaiian luau themed.
- Monday night, casino night sponsored by Gregory Poole
- Tuesday night, corn hole tournament sponsored by White's International
- Wednesday afternoon, trade show.
- Wednesday night, bingo sponsored by Carolina Thomas
- Early Bird registration before May 1, 2023

- Electric Buses along with Duke energy will be offering classes at conference to discuss infrastructure needs.
- Edulog is sponsoring a TIMS routing competition at the conference. They will be having a class on technology and stop arm violations. They will be meeting with Law enforcement to create a toolkit for loading and unloading zones. The class hopes to build relationships and create a solid process.

DPI Update

- Pay scale updated by state to show extended pay scale but not funded
- 3 bills introduced that would affect state employees.
- HouseBill 46 -eliminates tax on state retirement
- HouseBill 333-restore state retirement health insurance for new employees which was stopped in 2021
- HouseBill 141-offers more pay
- New state contract for new buses is almost ready for this year
- New buses will be equipped with first light on stop signs along with the front and rear school bus signs.
- New expenditure code will be available for software and monitors for next year's budget
- Service truck order was cut down from 80 to 20 by Ford and delivery could be as long as 6 months
- Chevy agreed to supply 20 service trucks maybe more if possible
- We do not have a current fuel truck contract
- No Wrecker deal, will possible have to rebid for contract
- PW paperwork went out to counties to select new buses
- EPA offering a new program that will include a very challenging process
- DPI reposting a Finance position
- The current funding formula will go back to current data, it will NOT use the old data (which is 30%less)
- Second fuel contingency will be available

Marlon- inquired at equipment contingency

Kevin-stated yes it will be available to all districts

Marlon- asked Cynthia Phillips to step out, her contract is expiring for conference coordinator.

He asked if there were any objections to a 2 year renewal? All agreed

Scott Denton made the motion and Marge seconded it.

Cynthia phillips will continue as conference coordinator

Marlon-thanked Gregory Poole for lunch at First Light and refreshments at today's meeting. He also asked vendors to keep their presentation to less than 5 minutes and not use it as sales pitch.

- Gregory Poole on track for bus delivery over summer. New salesperson for West area and excited for casino night at the conference.

- Carolina Thomas is looking good for early bus delivery. Appreciate everyone's business over the year. Realigned some sales positions and hired a new gentleman, Wes for the Eastern part of the state.
- Whites International spoke about EPA grants, glad to help with any request. Have a new mechanic trainer named Carlos Lopez. NexGen buses are coming out with some major changes in the driving area making it more comfortable. Looking forward to sponsoring the corn home tournament at the conference.
- AT&T's Walt Boone spoke about the new classroom on the bus with WIFI and 5G. They have partnered with Great Point for the best possible technology and easy installation for the school buses.
- Ever Driven, a supplemental transportation provider spoke about how they can provide help with transport in county and across district lines. For both EC and regular ed students.

Committee Reports

Marlon- spoke about the Trailblazer. Art was not present. Marlon will reach out to Art about serving and continuing in the position. The Trailblazer award will change to the President award.

Membership-Marge McGill reaching out for member emails to improve communication. Marlon Watson spoke about buying back years of service. You must show proof of service from other counties where you were employed.

State Fair-No discussion. Marlon did speak about a committee to help with coordination of volunteers and staff.

State Rodeo- Marlon spoke that he would like to have DMV help with the state rodeo. He would like to go back to local and district rodeos. The State rodeo would either be in Raleigh or Asheville during the conference next year.

TAG-Marlon updated that Don Burns will no longer be serving on the TAG committee. We will be looking for a new leader. TAG is a very important group and it gives legislature updates and other ways to improve transportation. So if anyone would like to volunteer for that position to reach out to Marlon.

NC ASA- Marlon and Scott Denton spoke about the NC administrator and school administrator group. He would like someone to serve and represent us in the group, as his time is coming to a close. The group is very beneficial and is helpful to connect transportation and other groups within the school system.

New volunteers- Marlon is looking for volunteers across the state and local levels. He feels we need to have better attendance and free up positions if you don't plan on continuing to serve. Please recruit staff and members. The NCPTA is very important. We need better participation. Marlon- Will be teaching a class at conference on job duties of volunteers, by laws and commitments. We have a great organization and need to push for more active members., and keep it strong. Faye from Guilford county has two new members. That will help serve.

Scott Denton - gave prayer at lunch and made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Faye. Conclusion of the Spring meeting.