



North Carolina Retired School Personnel

**Carteret County Retired School Personnel
Minutes for Meeting on April 12, 2022**

Welcome, Call to Order, and Thought for the Day

Carteret County Retired School Personnel met in person at 11:30 a.m. on April 12, 2022, at Sagebrush Restaurant in Morehead City. Secretary June Merrill called the meeting to order and welcomed those present, including 2 guests. Those in attendance were the following: Kathy Day-Ketel, Ann Hill, Marie Hurst, Becky Lail, June Merrill, Sherrill Moraven, Cathy Neagle, Ardith Propst, Julia Thorn, Supt. Rob Jackson, and School Board member Katie Statler. The Thought for the Day was a reminder to be thankful for everything you have.

Cares and Concerns and Humor

A card for Carrie Campen was passed around for members to sign; she is doing well at 102 and is looking forward to her next birthday in November of 2022. Julia Thorn also asked us to be in prayer for one of her former students facing difficult times.

Becky Lail entertained us with 2 stories, both of which centered around characters of quite different ages being stopped by the police for going either too fast or too slow.

Program

Marie Hurst introduced the speaker for the day, Dr. Rob Jackson, Supt. of the Carteret County Public Schools. Dr. Jackson is truly an ambassador for the school system, pointing to the obstacles posed by a hurricane and the onslaught of COVIC-19 and its variants. Many adjustments had to be made as everyone figured out how to feed children and carry out the learning process whether at school, at home, or a combination of home and school. Surely learning deficiencies were to be expected, but test scores show that scores have come up and the Carteret County schools at every level are meeting and exceeding expectations. Dr. Jackson spoke of the "Greatest Generation," who saw Spanish flu, poverty, and war; he sees a second coming of the greatest generation.

He spoke briefly of his own journey in the education profession. He started at the bottom as a school secretary and summer custodian to become Supt. in one of the best school systems in the state of North Carolina.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

The minutes for the meeting on February 8, 2022, written by Jane Burbella, were accepted as written and posted on the CCRSP website.

The financial report, prepared by treasurer Becky Lail, showed the following balances: checking, \$1,933.14, which includes \$28.00 for Dollars for Scholars; Share Account, \$58.14.

Committee Reports

NCAE Liaison: June Vann was not present for a report.

Legislative: Jackie Wooten was not present; Cathy Neagle reported on what NCRSP Vice President Linda Gunter has spoken about at the Region 7B meeting held the day before. Most of her remarks had been on PAC (Political Action Committee). All members were asked to donate \$10 or more during the NCRSP April campaign and mail the payment to NCRSP, Donation NCAE-PAC, PO Box 25286, Raleigh, NC 27611-5286. This money will belong to NCRSP to be given to candidates friendly to a COLA for us. Any candidate asking for money must answer a questionnaire in order to be considered. If you want your money to go to a particular candidate, you should send the money to the candidate because he/she might not be chosen by PAC. People at the state level will make the decision as to who receives PAC monies. A set amount a candidate will receive was never given; Linda did mention an amount of \$500, which might apply to some but not all candidates.

She praised House Speaker Tim Moore for helping us get the 2% and 3% bonuses; she added that we need to single out the representatives who have not helped us and vote for their opponent if there is one. Senator Don Davis and Representative Brian Farkas have also been friends to the retirees. We need to elect those who are receptive to a COLA for us, rather than a bonus, because the COLA is a permanent increase whereas the bonus is a one-time benefit.

Julia Thorn, our local PAC chair, added comments to give us a more complete picture. We gave our checks to her to mail in one big envelope. She will record how much our unit gives. After April 28, PAC money will be divided 3 ways: NEA national, NCAE-PAC state, and NCRSP locals.

Membership: The state membership report shows that we have 63 members. One of those has dropped her membership. At least we have an approximate number and know that we need to rebuild our membership roll.

Scholarships: Lucy Bond was not present but sent information that we have 2 applications, with one of these being a renewal. She plans to call the committee together after Easter to assess the applications. Scholarship winners will be invited to the June luncheon.

Old Business

June shared that Nancy Ustach was recognized at the Region 7B meeting as 7B Top Volunteer for 2021. She donated 1,195 hours of her time worth \$28.54 per hour for a total value of \$34,105.30. She is of course the CCRSP Top Volunteer for 2021.

The convention will be a virtual event planned for April 27-28, 2022. Meg Bradford, June Merrill, Cathy Neagle, Julia Thorn, and Jackie Wooten have agreed to be delegates (with voting rights).

New Business

Members were most gracious in accepting positions of leadership for the new term 2022-2024. The slate of new officers is as follows:

President – Julia Thorn
Vice President – George Burbella
Secretary – Kathy Day-Ketel
Treasurer – Marie Hurst

Everyone present was so appreciative that the positions were filled and indicated their willingness to help our leaders.

Next Meeting

CCRSP will meet again at 11:30 a.m. on June 14, 2022, for Scholarships and Awards. Members will be informed ahead of time of the details. They will definitely be told of any change of venue.