

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on April 14, 2008, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Chairman Dottie Darsie
Vice Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell
Chris Becker
Linda Coffey
Dr. Helen Hall
Tim Hawkins
Mike LaBrose

The following administrative staff was present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent
Donnie Bassinger, Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services
Dr. Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services
Libby Brown, School-Community Relations Director
Ed Blair, School Board Attorney, Groome, Tuttle, Pike and Blair

Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services, was absent.

Chairman Dottie Darsie called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Dottie Darsie opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Dr. Jeff Church, Principal, Hudson Middle School, gave the invocation and Katie Church, 6th Grade, Hudson Middle School, and Emily Church, Sophomore, West Caldwell High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following change: Item X, Article A, Number 2, DOT Purchase of Property-Collettsville School, was removed as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 10, 2008, Regular Board Meeting, the March 17, 2008, Board Retreat and the March 17, 2008 Closed Session.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Chairman Dottie Darsie recognized the Egyptian educators who were visiting Appalachian State University and the Caldwell County Schools for a curriculum reform study project. One of the educators addressed the board and community via an interpreter regarding their visit thus far. Chairman Darsie presented them with a Caldwell County Schools lapel pin as a token of the Caldwell County Board of Education's appreciation.

Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and a lapel pin to Granite Falls Elementary School in recognition for 1st Runner Up for the 2008 Exemplary Reading Award by the North Carolina Reading Association.

Tim Hawkins presented certificates and lapel pins to the following 2008 State High School and Junior BETA Club Winners: South Caldwell High School – BETA Club Quiz Bowl Team, State BETA Club Quiz Bowl Championship; Amanda Goble, 1st Place, Science; Elaine Tolbert, 1st Place, Fine Arts; Ethan Holshouser, 2nd Place, Math; Rae Miller, 2nd Place, Spanish; and Rachel Conner, 2nd Place, Painting; Hibriten High School – Ashleigh Patterson, State BETA Club Vice-President; Janice Tse, 3rd Place, Pencil Drawing; Lindsey Davis, Rebecca Smith and Bethany Vines, 3rd Place, Special Talent Competition; William Lenoir Middle School – Rebecca Manual, 3rd Place, Arts and Crafts, Jenny Luong, Aubrey Harmon, Maggie Nelson, Elizabeth Baker, Josh McMenemy, Megan Campbell, Liliana Landeros, Emily Gilbert, Chelsie Jackson and Tiffany Watkins, 3rd Place, Tee Shirt Design and LeeAnna Gill, Diana Moore, MaKayla Farthing and Haley Mitchell, 3rd Place, Poster Competition.

Mike LaBrose presented certificates and lapel pins to the following recipients of Advanced Educational Degrees: Jeff Church, Hudson Middle School, Doctorate of Education with a concentration in Educational Leadership, Garner-Webb University; Kathleen Toothman, Hudson Middle School, Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership, Western Carolina University; Lee Ann Luman, Sawmills Elementary School, Master's Degree, Instructional Technologist Specialist/Computer Education, Appalachian State University and Karon Hughes, West Caldwell High School, Master's Degree, Instructional Technologist Specialist/Computer Education, Appalachian State University.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell presented certificates and lapel pins to the following winners of the North Carolina Economics Challenge: Caitlin Bush, Chris Clark, Evan Stapleton and Cliff Swanson, 1st Place; Jesse Hagan, Wesley Hollar and Emilie Wester, 2nd Place; Emily Carter, Virginia Edwards, Alisha Robbins and Frankie Vierela, 3rd Place; and Caitlin Bush, Highest Individual Score Overall.

ACTION – PROPOSED POLICY REVISIONS

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved to place the attached board policies, 3400-Student Due Process, 3630-Transportation/Safety, and 5200-Employment of Administrators, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – CALDWELL COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER MIDDLE COLLEGE 2008-2009 SCHOOL CALENDARS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached Caldwell County Early College and Career Center Middle College 2008-2009 school calendars as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – NOTIFICATION OF TEACHERS ELIGIBLE FOR CAREER STATUS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved the attached Notification of Teachers Eligible for Career Status as presented by Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger in the absence of Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger in the absence of Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

ACTION – SURPLUS SALE

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached items to be sold, with other items to be added, at the Surplus Sale, May 14, 2008, as presented by Associate Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger.

ACTION – BIDS FOR BOILER AND A/C REPLACEMENTS

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached bids for boiler and A/C replacements as presented by Associate Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger.

ACTION – ADM APPLICATIONS FOR BOILER AND A/C REPLACEMENTS

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved the attached ADM Applications for boiler and A/C replacements as presented by Associate Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger.

ACTION – STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR 2007-2008

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2007-2008, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl B. Burns.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Helen Hall, Tim Hawkins and Mike LaBrose gave reports regarding their attendance to the National School Boards Association Conference in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Hall gave an overview of the four workshops she attended: Apple Classrooms of Tomorrow Today, Response to Intervention –Realistic Approach for Helping All Students Succeed, Enhancing Achievement with Humor and a workshop on changes to No Child Left Behind. Tim Hawkins attended the Standards and Assessment Track where changes to No Child Left Behind were discussed. He also reported on the General Session speakers that included: Sandra Day O'Connor, Sidney Poitier, Garrison Keillor and Jim Lehr. Mike LaBrose attended the Accountability Track attending Leading Change: From Good to Great, From Board Policy to Classroom Practice, The Continuous Improvement Planning and the No Child Left Behind workshop.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Helen Hall updated the board regarding the last Board Budget/Finance Committee meeting. She noted that the planning allotments for 2008-09 have been received and there was not much increase. The budget from the state has not been released yet; however, a 7% increase for teachers, a 4.4% increase for administrators and a 4% increase for all other staff is expected. There is also a 5% increase expected in electricity and a recommendation to place one, full-time School Resource Officer at each middle school next year. The Child Nutrition budget regarding pricing for meals is also being reviewed. The local budget is expected to be approved by the board at the May 12, 2008, board meeting and will be placed before the County Commissioners at their May 13, 2008 meeting.

Chairman Dottie Darsie reported on the Golden Leaf Presentation she and Student Support Services Director Ervil Anderson attended. They met with Attorney Billy Clark, Program Chair for the foundation and presented Project Lead the Way and the ASAP Program. The foundation appeared to be positive about both projects and optimistic regarding funding. Full proposals are due by May 9 and will be considered by the foundation at their Golden Leaf board meeting on June 4th and 5th.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no board information and/or possible action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the Community Board Meeting on Monday, April 28, 2008, 7:00 PM at Hibriten High School and the next regular board meeting on Monday, May 12, 2008, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone announced that renovations to the Hibriten High School Leslie Hagaman Field at Wilson Park had been completed. He thanked the Wilson Family Foundation and all those responsible for contributing to this first-class upgrade and encouraged the community to visit.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Tim Hawkins, second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education