

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 6:00 PM on August 11, 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 were present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent
Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services
Dr. Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services
Dr. Jeff Church, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services
Libby Brown, School-Community Relations Director
Ed Blair, School Board Attorney, Groome, Tuttle, Pike and Blair

Chairman Dottie Darsie called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to N.C.G.S. Sect. 143-318.11 (A) (1).

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the closed session at 6:45 PM and return to open session at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

OPENING CEREMONIES

Steve Rich, SRO Officer, South Caldwell High School, gave the invocation and Branden and Brittney Prestwood, Baton Elementary WrapAround students, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following changes: Number IX, Honors and Recognitions, Item B, presented by Mike LaBrose instead of Chris Becker, Item D, presented by Tim Hawkins instead of Chairman Dottie Darsie and Item F, presented by Chairman Dottie Darsie instead of Tim Hawkins; an addendum was added to Number XII, Item A, 2008-2009 Student Transfers and the Review of the Superintendent's Evaluation and the Contract Extension for the Superintendent were added to Number XIV, Board Information/Possible Action, as presented by Chairman Dottie Darsie.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the July 14, 2008, regular board meeting.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell presented a certificate and lapel pin to Steve Rich, SRO Officer, South Caldwell High School, in recognition for being selected as the 2008 North Carolina School Resource Officer by the North Carolina Association of School Resource Officers.

Mike LaBrose presented a certificate and lapel pin to Baton, Lower Creek, and Hudson Elementary School WrapAround Programs in recognition for earning their five-star license rating through the North Carolina Division of Child Development.

Linda Coffey presented a certificate and lapel pin to Thomas Perry, South Caldwell High School, in recognition for his selection as the Gilder Lehman Preserve American History North Carolina Teacher of the Year.

Tim Hawkins presented a certificate and lapel pin to the Lenoir American League All Stars in recognition for winning the North Carolina District VII title and placing fifth in the State Championship Tournament.

Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to Amanda Goble, South Caldwell High School Graduate, in recognition for placing first in the Science Competition at the National Beta Club Convention held in June.

Chairman Dottie Darsie presented a certificate and lapel pin to Zachary Ferguson, Career Center Middle College Graduate, in recognition for his selection as the National Post-Secondary SkillsUSA Secretary and placing sixth in the nation in Extemporaneous Speaking during the SkillsUSA Competition.

Mike LaBrose presented a certificate and lapel pin to Kendra Milhorne, rising Senior, Caldwell Career Center Middle College, in recognition for placing fifth in the nation in Customer Service at the SkillsUSA Competition.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell presented a certificate and lapel pin to the West Caldwell High School Chess Team in recognition for winning the 2AA North Carolina High School Chess Championship.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Chris Becker presented a certificate and lapel pin to Matt Embler, rising Junior, West Caldwell High School, in recognition for winning the 2AA Overall Individual State High School Chess Championship.

INFORMATION – INTRODUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATORS IN CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone recognized and introduced the board to the following new administrators in the Caldwell County Schools: Dr. Jeff Church, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services; Gwyn Roop, Principal, Horizons Elementary School; Andrew Miller, Principal, Granite Falls Elementary School; Lesa Widener, Title I Director; Susan Walker, Title I Instructional Facilitator/Parent Trainer; Stephen Martin, Elementary Curriculum Consultant; Shawn Clemons, Middle School Curriculum Consultant; Katrina Watson, High School Curriculum Consultant, and Robert Semple, Lead School Psychologist. He also announced two new associate staff at the Education Center: Debby Penland, NCWise Project Manager and Bobbie Dancy, Accounts Payable.

INFORMATION – REPORT ON FUTURE FOR KIDS

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone gave a brief report regarding a new state based program entitled “Future for Kids” that will be available to students in Caldwell County. This is a web-based program that provides career counseling and exploration to middle school students and connects them to a mentor within the community. This free service will help students discover their career choices and assist in planning for their futures.

ACTION – REVISED 2008-2009 CALDWELL CAREER CENTER MIDDLE COLLEGE AND EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached 2008-2009 Caldwell Career Center Middle College and Early College High School calendar as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – DONATION

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached donation from Caldwell Memorial Hospital of one Full Body Argo Tank with Whirlpool to be used in the Exceptional Children’s Program at a value of \$24,000, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED WRAPAROUND PROGRAM SITE CHANGES

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved to close the WrapAround morning program at Happy Valley School, the Collettsville afternoon program, the Gamewell Middle School morning program and eliminate the four afternoon contract option as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED POLICY REVISION – POLICY 3100 – ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved to place the attached Board Policy 3100, Enrollment of Students, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICY 5430 – ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION RETENTION

Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the revisions to the attached Board Policy 5430, Electronically Stored Information Retention, following a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED REVISED POLICY 8400 – WORKER’S COMPENSATION STUDENT INSURANCE

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the revisions to the attached Board Policy 8400, Worker’s Compensation Student Insurance, following a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the following administrative recommendations for a two-year contract term beginning with the 2008-2009 school year: Bill Griffin, Principal, Hudson Middle School, Kathy Hobbs, Assistant Principal, South Caldwell High School, and Leigh Anne Frye and Ed Fasold, Assistant Principals, Hibriten High School, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

ACTION – STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR 2008-2009

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2008-2009, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl Burns.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell gave a brief update regarding the NCCOSA Summer Law Conference she attended. The following items were discussed: “Fruit Cakes for Breakfast–What Would Jimmy Buffett Do About Ethics?,” review of policies regarding admission to schools, a case law update and a summary of bills to pass, including cutting the ABC funds for teachers. Dr. Pennell noted this was a state mandated decision to cut the funding and the board was not in favor of this latest piece of legislation.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Chairman Dottie Darsie gave an explanation and shared results from the recent evaluation of Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone. She expressed that Dr. Stone has good communication with the board and actively solicits input from board members on personnel, policy and other issues; he maintains good communication with community, business and government leaders, as well as the larger educational community, both regional and statewide. He is also seen as a strong and knowledgeable leader in our community. He is strong in the area of finance, is well informed and supervises the school system's finances carefully. He is a frequent visitor to schools, classrooms and extra curricular activities. "He obviously loves his job and we love having him here."

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved to extend Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone's contract for two years, ending June 30, 2012, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson's contract for two years, ending June 30, 2012, and Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl Burn's contract ending June 30, 2012.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the next regular board meeting on Monday, September 8, 2008, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Chris Becker, second by Tim Hawkins, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education