

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on December 1, 2008, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Dottie Darsie, Chairman
Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, Vice-Chairman
Mike LaBrose
Linda Coffey
Tim Hawkins
Dr. Helen Hall
Ed Blair, School Board Attorney

Chris Becker was absent.

The following administrative staff were present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent
Dr. Jeff Church, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services
Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services
Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services
Libby Brown, School-Community Relations Director

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

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Robert M. Brady, Chief Judge, 25th District, administered the Oath of Office to board members-elect Linda Coffey, Mike LaBrose and Dr. Sharon S. Pennell.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

OPENING CEREMONIES

Amy Bradley, AP Biology and Forensic Science Teacher, Hibriten High School, gave the invocation. Tiffany Davis, Junior, Hibriten High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

In the election for the position of Chairman of the Board, Mike LaBrose and Tim Hawkins voted for Mike LaBrose. Dottie Darsie, Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, Linda Coffey and Dr. Helen Hall voted for Dr. Sharon S. Pennell. Dr. Sharon S. Pennell was elected Chairman.

In the election for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Board, Linda Coffey voted for Linda Coffey, Dr. Sharon S. Pennell voted for Tim Hawkins, Dr. Helen Hall, Dottie Darsie, Mike LaBrose, and Tim Hawkins voted for Dr. Helen Hall. Dr. Helen Hall was elected Vice-Chairman.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following addition: An addendum was added to Item VII, A. 1, Student Transfers, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the November 3, 2008, regular board meeting.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone presented the Caldwell County Board of Education with a certificate from the North Carolina School Boards Association for achieving the NCSBA Special Achievement Award for successful completion of the 12-Hour training requirement by all members of the board.

Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to Amy Bradley, Science Teacher, Hibriten High School, in recognition for her selection as the District Seven High School Outstanding Science Teacher by the North Carolina Science Teachers' Association.

Tim Hawkins presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following recipients of the South Caldwell High School's Model UN Competition: Alyssa Bouchard, Austria, 1st Place BEST Award in Economic and Social Committee; Joel Pitman and Aaron Bentley, Austria, 1st Place BEST Award in European Union; Sarah Haas, Belgium, Superior Award in General Assembly 2nd Committee; Hannah Bouchard, Netherlands, Honorable Mention in Economic and Social Committee and Miriah Childers, Belgium, Honorable Mention in Security Council.

INFORMATION – UPDATE ON ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PRESENTATION

Jamie Ingle, ESL Coordinator for the Caldwell County Schools, gave the board a thorough report regarding the state of the ESL Program in Caldwell County. There are 738 ESL students in the county of which 517 are Limited English Proficiency, representing 18 different languages. Davenport A+ School has the most ESL students and South Caldwell High School has the highest population of the high schools. We have nine full time ESL teachers, one part-time, five bilingual teacher assistants and one literacy assistant. Ms. Ingle also reviewed the services provided, tests scores that were comparable or above surrounding counties, and noted that the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction was so impressed with our ESL Strategic Plan they asked to use it as a model.

ACTION-BUDGET AMENDMENTS-STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND, LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND AND FEDERAL GRANTS FUND

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund and Federal Grants Fund as presented by Interim Finance Officer, Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICIES 3830-STUDENT SEX OFFENDERS, 9140-REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS AND 8410-LIMITED CLAIM SETTLEMENT

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dr. Helen Hall the board unanimously approved new Board Policy 3830, Student Sex Offenders, as attached, following a one-month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall the board unanimously approved new Board Policy 9140, Registered Sex Offenders, as attached, following a one-month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell the board unanimously approved new Board Policy 8410, Limited Claim Settlement, as attached, following a one-month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED REVISED BOARD POLICY 3300-STUDENT CONDUCT

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached revision to Board Policy 3300, Student Conduct, following a one-month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION-GRADUATION DATES

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, Linda Coffey and Dottie Darsie, the board approved the graduation date for the three high schools as June 12, 2009, and the graduation date for the Caldwell Career Center Middle College to coincide with the Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute as May 28, 2009. Mike LaBrose and Tim Hawkins opposed the motion.

ACTION-ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved Roxanne Morse as the Director of Exceptional Children as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dr. Helen Hall the board unanimously approved Karla Miller as the Finance Officer for Caldwell County Schools as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resources Trish Johnson.

ACTION-2008-2009 STUDENT TRANSFERS

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached 2008-2009 Student Transfers as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl B. Burns.

**ACTION-LOCAL OPTION ABCS GOALS FOR GATEWAY AND HORIZONS
SCHOOL**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached local option ABCs for Gateway and Horizons Schools as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl B. Burns.

ACTION – CHILD NUTRITION PROCUREMENT PLAN

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached Child Nutrition Procurement Plan as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Helen Hall reported on the NCSBA Board Development Conference and discussed the Encouraging Cultural Responsiveness in Education Seminar she attended. It focused on students with cultural backgrounds and looked at race, ethnicity, cultural and political issues surrounding them. She also attended a LearnNC Seminar, a program developed through UNC-Chapel Hill, which addresses virtual mentoring. Many of our teachers are involved in this program and utilizing these strategies in the classroom. She also attended the Schoolwide Positive Behavior Project that has been instituted at Gamewell Middle School. Gamewell Middle School was recognized by the state as a very successful model using these positive discipline strategies.

Chairman Dottie Darsie reported on the seminars she attended at the NCSBA Board Development Conference. The NCCIS, Gangs in Schools, had an excellent speaker that focused on subtle ways gangs make gang affiliations known to each other. She also attended a clinic session of 25 non-profit foundations that focused on the needs of education in North Carolina and provided information on grants being awarded to various counties. She also attended the delegate assembly that reviewed the legislative agenda and state schoolwide construction bond.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no board information/possible action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the next regular board meeting on Monday, January 12, 2009, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board and upon motion of Chairman Dottie Darsie and 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