

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on February 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
Dr. Helen Hall
Tim Hawkins

Linda Coffey and Mike LaBrose were absent.

The following administrative staff was present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent
Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services
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

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

Patty Ramsey, Information Technology Instructor, Caldwell Career Center Middle College, gave the invocation and Patrick Brittain, Nichole Brandt, Jordan Hoyle and Cory Koontz, Juniors, Caldwell Career Center Middle College, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following changes: Item VII, D, was deleted and Item VIII, B, 2, was moved to follow Item XIV, 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 January 14, 2008, Regular Board Meeting, and the January 14, 2008, Closed Session.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone presented certificates from the North Carolina School Boards Association to the following members of the Caldwell County Board of Education for completion of renewal credit hours: Chris Becker and Dr. Helen Hall, Certificate of Merit; Mike LaBrose, Certificate of Achievement; Chairman Dottie Darsie, Bronze Award and Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, Scholar's Circle.

Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following advanced educational degree recipients: Jan Barnhill, Baton School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Grayson Beane, Kimberly Poole and Patty Ramsey, Caldwell Career Center Middle College, Master's Degree in Instructional Technology, Appalachian State University; Teresa Williams, Caldwell Career Center Middle College, Master's Degree in Business and Marketing, North Carolina State University; Donna Smith, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Mary Beth Price, Gamewell Elementary School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Walden University; Marianne Lore, Granite Falls Elementary School, Master's Degree in Instructional Technology, Appalachian State University; Mimi Starnes, Granite Falls Elementary School, Master's Degree in Reading, Appalachian State University; Shane Dickens, Happy Valley School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Betsy Gevik and April Coffey, Hudson Elementary School, Master's Degree in Special Education, Appalachian State University; Lynn Berry, Hudson Middle School, Master's Degree in Science, Appalachian State University; Chad Parker, Hudson Middle School, Master's Degree in Instructional Technology, Appalachian State University; Mike Peake and Chris Greene, South Caldwell High School, Educational Specialist Degree (Ed S) in Education Administration, Appalachian State University; Ann Lipford, Valmead Elementary School, Master's Degree in Library Science, Appalachian State University; and Jameia Branch, West Caldwell High School, Master's Degree in Instructional Technology, Appalachian State University.

INFORMATION – UPDATE ON STATE FUNDED LITERACY COACHES

Lora Austin, Gamewell Middle School and Cathy Barlow, Hudson Middle School, gave the board a brief overview regarding the NCDPI Literacy Coaching program. The program provides extensive training to the Literacy Coaches through the Teacher's Academy, who in turn train teachers at their respective schools.

INFORMATION-PROPOSED 2008-2009 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The attached proposed 2008-2009 school calendar was placed on a one month comment period with possible approval at the March board meeting as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

INFORMATION-NAMING OF FACILITIES

A proposal to change the name of the baseball park at Hibriten High School from the "Leslie Hagaman Field" to the "Leslie Hagaman Field at Wilson Park" from Hibriten High School and a proposal to name the basketball court at West Caldwell High School as the "Coach A Court" from West Caldwell High School were placed on a one month comment period with possible approval at the March board meeting as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – READ ACROSS AMERICA PROCLAMATION

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached “Read Across America Proclamation” as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

ACTION – STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR 2007-2008

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, 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.

ACTION – SUMMARY OF THE TITLE I LEA IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Upon motion of Chris Becker and Second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached Summary of the Title I LEA Improvement Plans as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl B. Burns.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell gave a brief report regarding the last two meetings of the Board of Education/County Commissioner Liaison Committee. She reported that the committee is strongly advocating for funding to implement “Project Lead the Way,” a Duke University Science, Math and Technology program that is currently being piloted at William Lenoir Middle School. The board wants to place the program in every middle and high school in Caldwell County and has already spoken with representatives from Senator Elizabeth Dole’s office and Congressman Patrick McHenry’s office. Both parties were interested in helping to fund the project. Dr. Pennell also noted that the board had a meeting scheduled at the end of February to talk with our legislative representatives about funding as well.

Chairman Dottie Darsie gave a report on the NSBA’s Federal Relations Network Conference she recently attended. Approximately 900 school board members from across the nation attended this meeting where House Bill 648 regarding changes to the No Child Left Behind legislation were discussed, as well as IDEA funding and the risk of losing Medicaid funding to various local LEAs.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no board information and/or possible action.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously agreed to go into Closed Session at 7:50 PM to discuss a student issue pursuant to N.C.G.S. Section 143-318.11 (a) (7).

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the Closed Session at 8:15 PM and reconvene to Open Session.

ACTION – APPROVAL OF CIVIL SUIT

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved a slip and fall claim, settled by our insurance carrier, as discussed in Closed Session and presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the Community Board Meeting, Monday, February 25, 2008, at South Caldwell High School, the next regular board meeting on Monday, March 10, 2008, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center, and the Board of Education Spring Board Retreat, Thursday, March 20, 2008, 4:00 PM in the Staff Development Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, second by Tim Hawkins, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education