

## **OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 6:00 PM on February 14, 2011, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Chairman Chris Becker	Dottie Darsie
Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins	Dr. Helen Hall
Teresa Branch	Darrell Pennell
Linda Coffey	

The following administrative staff members were present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent  
Dr. Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services  
Dr. Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Program 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 Chris Becker called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Dale Fisher, Executive Director, Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc. gave the invocation. Linda Coffey introduced Landon Biddix and Kaitlyn Lipps, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students, Baton Elementary School, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Coffey also thanked the students for being the ushers for the board meeting and recognized their parents.

### **ACTION – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Darrell Pennell, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone and the minutes of the January 31, 2011, Regular Board Meeting and the January 31, 2011, Community Board Meeting.

### **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

School Community Services Director Libby Brown announced the first "Student Spotlight" recipient, Kierston Matheson, 11<sup>th</sup> grade student at the Career Center Middle College. A video was viewed by the board and audience outlining Kierston's accomplishments and a certificate and lapel pin were presented to Kierston by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone and the members of the Caldwell County Board of Education.

School Community Services Director Libby Brown announced the Honors and Recognitions recipients for the month of February and Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone and the members of the Caldwell County Board of Education presented certificates and lapel pins to the following individuals/groups:

- Dean Norman, Technology Director, Caldwell County Schools, graduated from the 2010 Certified Education Chief Technology Officers Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Government.
- Student Artwork Selections for the Education Center Art Gallery: Zoe Sain, Alexis McGee, Stephen Burchette, Alyssa Wright, Dakota Duncan and Jordyn Roberts, Margaret Martine, Art Instructor, Hibriten High School; Megan Moffitt, Morgan Hartley, Jesse Spillars and Tory Thomas, Kevin Abee, Art Instructor, West Caldwell High School; Gentry Sanders, Jenni Canterbury, Lindsey Brewer, Chesla Miller, Whitney Earles and Jose Zapata, Natalee Gwaltney and Jamie Clark, Art Instructors, South Caldwell High School.

## **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Lieutenant Sam Smith, Lenoir Fire Department Fire Educator, presented a special recognition to the Hibriten High School SAFE Program: Students Assisting Fire Educators. Lenoir Fire Department Chief Ken Briscoe was unable to attend the meeting.

Dr. Steve Stone and the members of the board presented two plaques awarded to Libby Brown from the North Carolina School Public Relations Association in recognition for two Blue Ribbon Awards she received for the Caldwell County Schools Annual Report and the Caldwell County School Business Partnership Identity Image Package.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Chris Becker opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

## **INFORMATION – UPDATE – NEW SCHOOLS PROJECT LEARNING LAB INITIATIVE**

Dr. John Parker, Director, New Schools Project Learning Lab Initiative, updated the board regarding the success of the Caldwell Early College High School. The Caldwell Early College High School is one of four schools in the state to launch this initiative through funding from the Gates Foundation. The program provides support geared toward high school reform where students learn their subject matter in depth and can apply it to the "real world." The Caldwell Early College High School will begin hosting study visits for teams of educational personnel who will tour the school to learn from staff and students. Dr. Parker noted that last year's celebration ceremony was one of his personal highlights because the Early College staff received a spontaneous standing ovation from parents and students.

## **INFORMATION – CAREER AND TECHNICAL UPDATE**

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone announced that February is Career Technical Education month and introduced Kathy Jo Eckerd, Director, Caldwell County Career Center, to the board. Mrs. Eckerd noted that 93% of last year's students taking concentrated classes graduated. Susan Pope, Career Development Coordinator, Hibriten High School, introduced Alexandra "Allie" Lipsky, Senior at Hibriten High School, who told the board about her internship in the medical curriculum and how it helped her to know what she wanted to pursue once she went to college. Connie Root, Bio Medical Instructor, Project Lead the Way, presented a hollow mannequin to board members and described how students would "fill-in" the different organs with colored clay to complete the internal portion of the mannequin. She introduced student Kayleigh Huneycutt who expressed that taking the bio-medical classes opened her eyes to the various medical fields and helped her know which field she wanted to pursue as a nurse after she graduates. She noted she looked forward to coming to school and the classes had taught her critical thinking skills and team building skills.

## **INFORMATION – PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Dr. Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services, presented the attached personnel matters to the board for information only.

## **ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Dr. Trish Johnson.

**ACTION – STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR 2010-2011**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Darrell Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached revised student transfer requests for 2010-2011, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Trish Johnson.

**ACTION – ABATEMENT DESIGN BIDS**

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Teresa Branch, the board unanimously approved the attached asbestos abatement design bid awarded to Allied Consulting and Environmental, Shelby, NC, as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Dottie Darsie gave a report on the NSBA Federal Regulations Network Conference she attended in Washington, DC. More than 800 school board members attended to learn about the most current issues in Congress and spend a day meeting with their representatives on Capitol Hill. Mrs. Darsie noted that IDEA funding is covered at 18.5%, which is much less than the 40% originally promised. Members also asked legislators to give LEAs spending flexibility with funds to best serve students within individual school districts. They also reminded legislators that we are three years behind on reauthorizing ESEA (No Child Left Behind) and requested that the costly sanctions placed on LEAs be removed. Senator Kay Hagan, who is a great supporter of public education, was also a featured speaker.

Teresa Branch gave a report on NCSBA's School Board 101 workshop that she and Darrell Pennell attended noting it was a very informative conference. Ed Dunlap presented a workshop on "Now You're a Board Member, What's Next?" and there were many other topics being offered. She also learned about a board member's role as a legislative advocate and enjoyed meeting and networking with other board members from across the state. Darrell Pennell reported that he also enjoyed the conference and not only learned what to do as a board member, but also what not to do.

**BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

There was no board information/possible action.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Chris Becker announced the Board of Education Spring Board Retreat on March 7, 2011, 4:00 PM in the Staff Development Room, the National Board Certified Teacher Reception, March 14, 2011, 5:30 PM and the next regular board meeting on Monday, March 14, 2011, 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board and upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins, second by Linda Coffey, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Signed:

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Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

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Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education