

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on January 11, 2010, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

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

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell was absent.

The following administrative staff was present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent
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

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall opened the meeting for public comment. Alicia Stanislaw, Joshua Scott, Nancy Crawford and Lillian Goudas addressed board members about the importance of maintaining the original architect's plans to include an auditorium and an auxiliary gymnasium. They asked board members to discuss this at the upcoming board retreat on January 25, 2010, and stated that if these items were cut due to funding we would basically be building a school just like the old William Lenoir Middle School. Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall thanked everyone for their comments and advised that the board would take their comments and concerns into consideration.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Rosa Absher, EC Teacher, Baton Elementary, gave the invocation and Cameron Owens, 5th Grade Student at Granite Falls Elementary School, 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: Item X, A.2, Covenant for Use of Land, was added; Item XV, Closed Session to discuss personnel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (A) (1), was added; and Item VIII, B.2, Administrative Recommendations, was moved to Item XVI, A.1, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 14, 2009, regular board meeting.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone presented a certificate to the Caldwell County Board of Education from the North Carolina School Boards Association for each school board member earning 12 hours of training.

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone and members of the Caldwell County Board of Education presented a plaque to Bob Henson in recognition for 30 years of service to public education and 28 years to Caldwell County Schools, and Pat Pennington in recognition for 38 years of service to public education and 35 years to Caldwell County Schools.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall presented certificates, lapel pins and National Board Certified Teacher Stars to the following 2009 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certified Teachers: Rosa Absher, Janice Barnhill and Christy Owens, Baton School; Sean Hosfield, Collettsville School; Daniel Miller, Early College; Mimi Starnes, Granite Falls Elementary; Hollie Hurst, Granite Falls Middle School; Tim Holland, Hudson Middle; Rebecca Robbins, South Caldwell; and Danielle Duncan, Whitnel. The following recipients of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Teacher Renewals were also recognized: Elizabeth Carswell and Dolores Cupo, South Caldwell High School; Kathryn McRary, West Caldwell High School, Michelle Capen, Whitnel School and Susan Morgan, Retiree.

Dottie Darsie presented a certificate and lapel pin to the William Lenoir Middle School Band in recognition of their selection as one of two middle schools from across the state to perform at the North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference. Terry Reid, Band Director.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following North Carolina Honors Chorus participants: Cameron Owens and Alex Knight, Granite Falls Elementary School, and Tyler Winkler, South Caldwell High School.

Tim Hawkins presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following Model United Nation Winners at South Caldwell High School: Joel Pitman and Andrew Fann, Libya/Security Council, Best Delegation; Hannah and Leah Bouchard, Saudi Arabia/Human Rights Council, Best Delegation; Alyssa Bouchard and Ethan Carwell, Indonesia/Human Rights Council, Superior Delegation; Ruben Dugger and Brandon Bentley, Netherlands/European Union, Excellent Delegation, Seth Green, Saudi Arabia/General Assembly, Excellent Delegation; Sarah Haas, Sudan/World Health Organization, Superior Delegation and Zach Bowen and Abbie Garrison, Sudan/Comm. On Sustainable Development, Superior Delegation.

Mike LaBrose presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following art students whose artwork is on display in the Education Center Art Gallery during the month of January: Hibriten High School, Margaret Martine, Art Teacher; Joey Xie, Joseph Morales, Chris Waters, Murphy Liu, Holly Ferguson; South Caldwell High School, Jamie Clark, Art Teacher, Hollie Carlton, Kristin Swanson, Dax Benfield, Heather Prewitt, James Collette, Ashley Pelfrey; West Caldwell High School, Kevin Abee, Art Teacher, Bryson Rominger, Francisco Diego, Michael Taylor, and Brittany Coeburn.

INFORMATION – DROP OUT PREVENTION GRANT REPORT

Jill Duffy, Student Support Services Director, updated the board on the \$175,000 grant we received for drop out prevention. She noted we already had “A Suspensions Alternative Program (ASAP)” in place since 2007, but lacked the funding to instigate. These funds will implement the ASAP program designed for students who receive out of school suspension. Instead of students staying at home during their suspension period, they will be assigned to a community work site where they will work with a mentor, then complete any homework assignments. If students complete their assignments, they will receive credit for their work. Mrs. Duffy noted that this program has been very successful in Burke County and has decreased their dropout rate significantly.

ACTION – PROPOSED REVISION TO BOARD POLICY 3300, STUDENT CONDUCT, FOLLOWING A ONE MONTH COMMENT PERIOD

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached revisions to Board Policy 3300, Student Conduct, following a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie 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 2009-2010

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2009-2010, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resources Trish Johnson.

ACTION – 2010-2011 TRADITIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved to place the attached proposed 2010-2011 School Calendar on a one month comment period as presented by Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

ACTION – COVENANT OF USE OF LAND

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Mike LaBrose, Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall, Linda Coffey and Dottie Darsie, the board approved the attached Covenant of Use of Land as presented by Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church. Chris Becker opposed the motion.

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

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached budget amendments to the State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund, and Federal Grants Fund as presented by Finance Officer Karla Miller.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no board committee reports.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall advised board members that the 2010 Board Committee assignments had been made and a copy was placed with their board agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall announced the Board Retreat on Monday, January 25, 2010, at 3:00 PM in the Staff Development Room, the next regular board meeting on Monday, February 8, 2010, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center and the Community Board meeting on Monday, February 22, 2010, at Hibriten High School.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Tim Hawkins, the board agreed to go into Closed Session at 8:07 PM pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (A) (1) to discuss personnel items. Action was expected to be taken.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session at 8:20 PM.

ACTION – ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved Keith Dancy as Interim Principal of Gateway School effective January 27, 2010 thru June 30, 2010. Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved Jason Teffeteller as the Assistant Principal at Gamewell Middle School for a two-year term to begin upon his release from the Burke County Schools. Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved Adrienne Dula as an Interim Assistant Principal at West Caldwell High School effective January 27, 2010 thru June 30, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education