

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 6:45 PM on January 12, 2009, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

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

The following administrative staff was present:

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

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Mary Beth Benfield, Granite Falls Middle School, gave the invocation and Brett Parrish, Abigail Parrish, Dylan Mathewson and Taylor Randolph, 7th Grade Students, Granite Falls Middle School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following addition: a student transfer addendum was added to Item X, A2, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 1, 2008, Regular Board Meeting, and the January 7, 2009, Board Retreat.

SPECIAL HONOR

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone and the members of the Caldwell County Board of Education presented a plaque to Dottie Darsie in appreciation for her past service as Chairman of the Board of Education.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the Caldwell County Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following 2008 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certified Teachers: Elizabeth Grogan, Caldwell Early College High School; Elizabeth Davis and Kim Huffman, Collettsville School; David Marshall, Gamewell Middle School; Mary Collins Hardy, Granite Falls Elementary School; Dawn Carpenter, Mary Berth Benfield, Keith Atkins and Braley Speagle, Granite Falls Middle School; Shawna Greeno-Bridges, Leta Hartley and Rosalie Simmons, Hibriten High School; Allison Brown and Cindy Smith, Hudson Elementary School; Misty Key, Hudson Middle School; Beth Reeves, Lower Creek Elementary School; Jan Hinson, Oak Hill School; Brad Wright, Sawmills Elementary School; Moira Brookshire, Kenny Ellison, Yvonne Lewis, Robbie Powers and Janet Stiles, South Caldwell High School; and Leslie Barger, Joy Martin, Jennifer Miller and Tericia Summers, West Caldwell High School.

Mike LaBrose presented a certificate and lapel pin to John Spicer, Hibriten High School, in recognition for his selection as the North Carolina Economics Education Teacher of the Year.

Chris Becker presented a certificate and lapel pin to Cindy Bennett, Whitnel Elementary School, in recognition for her selection as the Caldwell County Teacher of Excellence for the Education of Exceptional Children recognized by the State of NC and the Department of Public Instruction at the Conference for Exceptional Children.

Linda Coffey presented a certificate and lapel pin to Hibriten High School Sophomores Herc Ingels, Dillon Smart and Justin Sanders in recognition for placing second in the NC Western District Stock Market Game sponsored by the NC Council on Economic Education.

Linda Coffey presented a certificate and lapel pin to the South Caldwell High School Quiz Bowl in recognition for winning the 2008 Catawba Valley Quiz Bowl Classic.

Dottie Darsie presented a certificate and lapel pin to the 2008-09 Bright Ideas Grant Winners: Sara Maney, Baton Elementary; Tracey Holton, Granite Falls Elementary; Charles Bogle, Whitnel Elementary; Ingrid Houck, Hudson Middle School and Sharon Everhardt, William Lenoir Middle School.

INFORMATION –TEEN TOBACCO PREVENTION REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone introduced Jessica Cowart, Director for Teen Tobacco Prevention with Healthy Caldwellians, to the board. Ms. Cowart gave a report on the Teen Tobacco Prevention Program in Caldwell County Schools and introduced student representatives from the three high schools. They reported on the programs success, the lower percentage rates of student tobacco users, the Peer Education and Mentor Programs and their efforts in cleaning up park areas and meeting with community restaurants to encourage them to become “smoke-free” facilities. Jan Pritchard, Executive Director with Healthy Caldwellians, was also introduced and advised the board she was retiring as of December 31, 2009. She introduced her successor, Ms. Cameron Barlowe, gave some background information, and assured the board that Ms. Barlowe would be an excellent Executive Director for Healthy Caldwellians.

INFORMATION – NCLB-21ST CENTURY CORE CURRICULUM UPDATE

Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services, Dr. Caryl Burns, gave the board an update on the ABCs Program and the No Child Left Behind 21st Century Core Curriculum. She gave an overview of the Adequate Yearly Progress procedures, staff development requirements, Future Ready Core and the Graduation Project.

INFORMATION – SENIOR PROJECT

Maihlee Chue, a Career Center Early College student, gave a demonstration to the board regarding her Graduation Project. Maihlee made a prom dress that her cousin modeled and gave a report on the process.

ACTION-REVISION TO BOARD POLICIES 1600, CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS STRATEGIC PLAN, 3810, DESTRUCTION OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S RECORDS AND 3610, STUDENT WELFARE-ONE MONTH COMMENT PERIOD

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to Board Policy 1600, Caldwell County Schools Strategic Plan, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to Board Policy 3810, Destruction of Exceptional Children's Records, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to Board Policy 3610, Student Welfare, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION-PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICY 4260 - NAMING OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved to place the attached new Board Policy 4260, Naming of School Facilities, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – NC NEW SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached NC New Schools Partnership Agreement as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall 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 2008-2009

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2008-2009, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

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

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

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall gave a report regarding the last meeting of the Board of Education/County Commissioner Liaison Committee meeting. The board advised the commissioners that the school system returned 516K dollars to the state in December forcing the school system to pull from local fund balance. The school system's 5 year plan and goals were shared. The commissioners asked that an "Education Orientation" for the County Commissioners be scheduled. County Manager Bobby White and Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone will establish a date in the near future. The 14 million dollar local budget was reviewed and commissioners were provided with a breakdown of how the funds are spent. A request was made to develop a similar breakdown for other funds. County Manager Bobby White shared that the County Commissioners received an 85K dollar grant from the banking bailout package to be used for school projects and requested that we present a plan at the next County Commissioners meeting for these funds. The school system is going to move forward with project development just in case the county or state receives funding from the Obama Stimulus Plan. The next meeting was scheduled for January 29, 2009, 6:00 PM, at the Education Center.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell cited the 2009-2010 Board Committee Assignments that were included in board members board packets.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell announced the next regular board meeting on Monday, February 9, 2009, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center and the Community Board Meeting, Monday, February 23, 2009, at West Caldwell High School.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education