

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on May 11, 2009, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Chris Becker
Linda Coffey
Dottie Darsie
Tim Hawkins
Mike LaBrose

Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and Vice-Chairman Dr. Helen Hall were absent.

The following administrative staff members were 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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

OPENING CEREMONIES

Bill Schreiber, Principal, Career Center Middle College, gave the invocation and Brian Mitcham, Andrea Smith, Kierston Matheson and Sara Holgerson, Career Center Middle College students led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following change: Number IX, Item A.2, Teachers Eligible for Career Status, was deleted for board action in June 2009, as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 20, 2009, Regular Board Meeting.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Chris Becker presented a certificate and lapel pin to Angela Shoonover, Baton Elementary School, for her selection as the 2009 Lorraine S. Mummert Volunteer of the Year.

Linda Coffey presented certificates and lapel pins to the following winners at the North Carolina SkillsUSA State Competition: Brian Mitcham and Andrea Smith, 1st Place, Promotional Bulletin Board, Kierston Matheson and Sara Holgerson, 2nd Place, Promotional Bulletin Board, Career Center Middle College; Sean Braswell, 1st Place, Precision Machining Technology and Taylor Bree Nidds, 3rd Place, Job Interview Skills, Hibriten High School; and Jeff Hall, 2nd Place Masonry Estimating, South Caldwell High School.

Dottie Darsie presented a certificate to the West Caldwell High School ASTRA Club in recognition for receiving first place in the Lucille Spillers Alexander ASTRA Service Project for the 2008-2009 school year. Sharon Green, Advisor.

Tim Hawkins presented a certificate to Dudley Shoals Elementary School's winners of the regional Battle of the Books competition. Beth Triplett, Media Coordinator.

Mike LaBrose presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following winners at the State FBLS Conference from Granite Falls Middle School: Brooke Gardner and Ashley Laws, 1st Place, American Enterprise Project, Jana LaBrose and Danielle Arney, 2nd Place, Roy Allen Community Service Project, Lauren Hazard, 2nd Place, Impromptu Speaking, Danielle Arney, 3rd Place, Business Communication and Brooke Gardner, 3rd Place, Public Speaking, Stacy Shell, Advisor.

INFORMATION – LETTERLAND UPDATE

Dr. Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Letterland. Letterland is a “fictional” place where the 26 letters of the alphabet become characters and children from K-2 learn the alphabet, vowels, etc., to become better readers. The program is currently in 100 countries. The program uses synthetic phonics instruction and was piloted in the Caldwell County Schools in 2008-2009. Learning is accomplished through stories and approximately 40 songs. Each school has a “Letterland Coach” and “Fidelity Checks” are performed to ensure teachers are training the students correctly. The program has been very successful in teaching students the sounds of the letters, helping them retain what is learned and participating and listening better in class. The program has also proven to be very successful with ESL students. Caldwell County Schools is expanding the program to second grade classes in 2009-2010.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins 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 2008-2009

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2008-2009, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

ACTION – BIDS FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS – VARIOUS SCHOOLS

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved the attached bid for roof replacements at Davenport A+ School, Granite Falls Middle School, Hudson Middle School, Sawmills Elementary School and Baton Elementary School, as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

ACTION – ADM APPLICATIONS FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS – VARIOUS SCHOOLS

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached ADM Application for roof replacements at Davenport A+ School, Granite Falls Middle School, Hudson Middle School, Sawmills Elementary School and Baton Elementary School, as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

ACTION – LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE 2009-2010 BUDGET REQUEST

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached Local Current Expense 2009-2010 Budget Request as presented by Finance Officer Karla Miller.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Linda Coffey gave a report regarding the NCDPI Raising the Achievement and Closing the Gap Conference she attended. Ms. Coffey noted that over 4,000 people attended the conference and reported on speaker Travis Corpening, Outreach Work in Hanover County, who spoke about the importance of mentoring students. He was a former gang member and potential high school dropout until his coach came into his life and made a positive impact. Through that mentor he graduated from college and now works with “at-risk” students. She also reported on speaker Dr. Willard Daggart who spoke about the importance of technology and how it would be impacting our students.

Dottie Darsie reported on the recent Board/Budget Finance Committee meeting. With the 4.5 billion dollar deficit in the budget, she reported that Caldwell County is committed to preserving jobs and protecting the integrity of the classroom. She noted that the school system would be presenting our budget needs to the County Commissioners on Monday, May 18 and is hopeful that the Federal Stimulus money for Title I and Exceptional Children would be coming soon.

Linda Coffey reported on the recent Facilities Committee meeting held on May 4, 2009. The projected plan for 2009 through 2014 was reviewed and construction needs, building and grounds, etc., were discussed. Dr. Jeff Church, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services, reported on the new middle school and items for the upcoming board retreat.

BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no board information or possible action items discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dottie Darsie announced the Caldwell County Board of Education Retreat on May 26, 2009, 3:00 PM in the Staff Development Room of the Education Center and the next regular board meeting on Monday, June 8, 2009, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education