

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

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on May 12, 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  
Linda Coffey  
Dr. Helen Hall  
Tim Hawkins  
Mike LaBrose

The following administrative staff was present:

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

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell 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**

Judy Morrison, 2008 Bus Driver of the Year, gave the invocation and Josh Sheehan, 5th Grade, Kings Creek School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ACTION - AGENDA**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda 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 April 14, 2008, Regular Board Meeting, the April 28, 2008, Closed Session and the April 28, 2008, Community Board Meeting.

### **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Chris Becker presented a certificate and lapel pins to the following Caldwell County Schools 2008 Honor recipients: Associate of the Year, Patty Clonch, Valmead Elementary School; Bus Driver of the Year, Judy Morrison, Oak Hill School and Volunteer of the Year, Lynn Dillard, Kings Creek School.

## **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Linda Coffey presented a certificate and lapel pin to Josh Sheehan, 5th Grade, Kings Creek School, in recognition for his selection as winner of the Caldwell County Soil and Water Conservation Poster Competition and placing 2nd in the Northwest District Competition.

Chairman Dottie Darsie presented a certificate and lapel pins to the South Caldwell High School Junior Varsity and Varsity Cheerleading Squads in recognition for placing 1st at the National Competition for Spirit Sports.

Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to the Gamewell Elementary WrapAround Program in recognition for obtaining their 5-Star Program rating from the NC Division of Child Development.

Tim Hawkins presented certificates and lapel pins to the following prize recipients at the State FBLA Conference: Jonah Farris, 1st Place, Impromptu Speaking; Brooke Gardner, Lauren Hazard and Ashley Laws, 2nd Place, Community Service Project Report.

Mike LaBrose presented certificates and lapel pins to the following North Carolina Teaching Fellow recipients: Tabitha DeGuzman and Anthony Sparks, Hibriten High School; Whitney Allred, Dominic Dibernardi, Michael Jenkins, Joseph Moore, Mara Richards and Sabrina Bumgarner, South Caldwell High School; and Shane Brown, Jeffrey Rouselle, Ethan Smith and Ashley Carrigan, West Caldwell High School.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell presented certificates and lapel pins to the following ASU Model United Nations Competition winners from South Caldwell High School: Allyson Taylor and Joanna Rogerson, 1st Place, China, Hanna Doll and Kayla Isbell, 2nd Place, United States, Sabrina Bumgarner and Megan McNeil, 2nd Place, Russia I, Josh Adams and Miriah Childers, 3rd Place, Italy II, Katrina Rich, Brandon Kirby and Lyndsay Mahaffey, 3rd Place, France and Elizabeth Yount and Kelsey Richards, 3rd Place, Burkina Faso.

Chris Becker presented certificates and lapel pins to the following 2008 Governor's School award recipients: Wynne Lok, South Caldwell High School; Kate Warlick, Katherine Martin and Sidney Johnson, Hibriten High School and Hillary Bush, West Caldwell High School.

Linda Coffey presented certificates and lapel pins to the following North Carolina Middle and High School Choral Competition winners: Granite Falls Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Choruses, Superior Rating; Happy Valley Chorus, Superior Rating; Hudson Middle School 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Choruses, Superior Rating; William Lenoir Middle School 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Choruses, Superior Rating; Destiny Malone, Christine Voris and Caitlin Phillips, Gamewell Middle School, selected to participate in the All-State Chorus; Hibriten High School Small Ensemble, Superior Rating; Hibriten High School Beginning Chorus, Superior Rating, Amber Clark, Kristen Gragg and Kimberly Moore, Hibriten High School, Solo, Superior Rating; Hibriten High School Advanced Chorus/Large Ensemble, Excellent Rating; South Caldwell High School Beginning Chorus, Superior Rating; South Caldwell High School Women's Chorus, Superior Rating; South Caldwell High School Vocal Ensemble, Superior Rating; South Caldwell High School Small Ensemble, Superior Rating; and Amber Clark, Kimberly Moore and Ray Younce, Hibriten High School, selected to participate in the Mars Hill Choral Festival.

## **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Chairman Dottie Darsie presented certificates and lapel pins to the following Northwest District Bandmasters Middle and High School Band Concert Festival winners: Granite Falls Middle School Band, Excellent Rating; Hudson Middle School 8th Grade Band, Superior Rating; William Lenoir Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Bands, Superior Rating; William Lenoir Middle School 8th Grade Jazz Band, Superior Rating; Hibriten High School Symphonic Band, Superior Rating; South Caldwell High School Concert Band, Superior Rating and West Caldwell High School Symphonic Band, Superior Rating.

Dr. Helen Hall presented certificates and lapel pins to the following North Carolina SkillsUSA State Competition winners: Ross Minton, 2nd Place, Graphics Communications, Cody Spicer, 3rd Place Graphics Communications and Anthony Staton, 3rd Place, Precision Machining, Hibriten High School; Erin Holman, 1st Place, Masonry Posterboard, Heather Keller, 1st Place, Current Events, Richie Watson, 2nd Place, Drafting 1, Johnna Creech, 2nd Place, Masonry PowerPoint, Kasey Hatley, 2nd Place, Spelling, Jeff Hall, 2nd Place, Masonry Estimating, Shane Calloway, 2nd Place, Masonry/Bricklaying 1, Corey Kincaid, 2nd Place, Masonry/Bricklaying, Northwest Region and Ryan Schneider, 3rd Place, Masonry/Bricklaying, Northwest Region; Tyler Collier, 2nd Place, SkillsUSA Pledge and John Mahaffey, elected as one of six state officers for the 2008 NC SkillsUSA; Kendra Milhorne, 1st Place, Customer Service, Zachary Ferguson, 1st Place, Extemporaneous Speaking, Jordan Hoyle, 3rd Place, Customer Service, Patrick Brittain, Lauren Gragg, Jimmy Hilton and Cody Silvers, 3rd Place, Quiz Bowl and Cameron Chandler, 3rd Place, Extemporaneous Speaking.

### **ACTION – PROPOSED POLICY REVISION-3630-TRANSPORTATION/SAFETY**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached board policy, 3630-Transportation/Safety following a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

### **ACTION – PROPOSED POLICY REVISION-5200-EMPLOYMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached board policy, 5200-Employment of Administrators following a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

### **ACTION – ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, the board unanimously approved the following recommendations for administrative positions for the 2008-2009 school year as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone: Reassignment of Stephen Martin, Principal, Granite Falls Elementary School, to Director of Elementary Education, Shawn Clemmons, Assistant Principal, Bunker Hill High School, Claremont, NC, to Director of Middle Education and the reassignment of Lesa Widener, Instructional Facilitator to Director of Title I beginning July 1, 2008.

### **ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson. Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone regrettably announced the retirement of Donnie Bassinger, Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services, effective 6/30/08, from 32.5 years of service to public education.

## **ACTION – 2008-2009 BUDGET REQUEST**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached 2008-2009 budget request as presented by Finance Officer Bob Query.

## **ACTION – BUDGET AMENDMENTS – STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND, LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND, FEDERAL GRANTS FUND AND CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND**

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached budget amendments to the State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund, Federal Grants Fund and Capital Outlay Fund as presented by Finance Officer Bob Query.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell gave a brief report on the Board of Education/County Commissioner Liaison Committee meeting where the board thanked the County Commissioners for their support in the success of the Caldwell Reads program. The budget was discussed and is still in the preliminary stages. The school system submitted a very lean request of \$782,000 to maintain current services. It was also noted that the school system will absorb approximately 1/3 of the furniture costs for the Early College High School. The state bond was discussed and the slim probability that it will pass, and the upcoming meeting by the Golden Leaf Foundation will be held on June 5.

Chairman Dottie Darsie updated the board on the NCSBA President's Invitational Conference, which focused on "Community Engagement with the Schools." She attended breakout sessions regarding ways to engage the community in the schools, a presentation by Richmond County, a cyber-bullying session, and an innovative program called "Drop Back In." "Drop Back In" is a program whereby ADM monies are used to target students between the ages of 16-21 who have dropped out of school and provide an alternative setting in which to encourage them to finish their education and graduate. Information is being forwarded to Chairman Darsie for further review.

## **BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced a revision to the 2008-2009 Schedule of Board Meetings as attached noting that the October community board meeting was rescheduled to October 20, 2008, since October 27, 2008, is a Planning/Vacation day.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the next regular board meeting on Monday, June 9, 2008, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Upon motion of Chris Becker and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved to go into Closed Session at 7:45 PM to discuss a student issue pursuant to N.C.G.S. Sect. 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 and return to Open Session at 8:10 PM.

**ACTION – SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously agreed to approve the settlement of a disputed claim for damages by a student who was injured in February 2005, on the premises of one of the Caldwell County Schools in the amount of \$8,750 as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell, second by Linda Coffey, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Signed:

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Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

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Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education