

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on November 8, 2010, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

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

The following administrative staff was 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 Dr. Helen Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ELECTION RESULTS RECOGNITION

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall congratulated Chris Becker, Dottie Darsie and Darrell Pennell for their re-election to the board and also congratulated Teresa Branch for winning her first term to the Caldwell County Board of Education. Chairman Hall was also congratulated by the other board members on her re-election to the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Carol Sturgis, Principal, Valmead Elementary School, gave the invocation and Cassidy Wilson, Bryan Hatley, 5th Grade Students and Alexander Hatley, 2nd Grade Student, Valmead Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - AGENDA

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following changes: Item IX., A., 1., Update to the New Schools Project Learning Lab Initiative was deleted, and Item IX., B., 3, revision to Board Policy 7532, Shared Accountability Standards, was added for a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - MINUTES

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Darrell Pennell, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 11, 2010, regular board meeting, the October 25, 2010, Board Retreat, the October 25, 2010, Closed Session and the October 25, 2010, Community Board Meeting.

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dottie Darsie presented a certificate and lapel pin to Davenport A+ School in recognition for being selected as one of seven schools in North Carolina eligible for the National Title I Distinguished School Award for closing the achievement gap between subgroups, sponsored by the National Association of State Title I Directors and the United States Department of Education.

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall presented a certificate and lapel pin to Caldwell Early College High School in recognition for the “Caldwell Early College High School: A Middle School Approach to High School” article featured in the Fall 2010 issue of the North Carolina Middle School Journal and for winning the award for the Largest School Group at the 2010 Komen NC Foothills Race for the Cure held on October 16, 2010, at Lenoir Rhyne University.

Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins presented a certificate and lapel pin to Gamewell Middle School in recognition for being recognized by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction as a North Carolina Positive Behavior Support School of Excellence, a distinction through the North Carolina Positive Behavior Support Initiative.

Darrell Pennell presented a certificate and lapel pin to Toby James, Exceptional Children’s Teacher, Davenport A+ School, in recognition for being named the Caldwell County Schools 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year for the program of Exceptional Children. Mr. James will be recognized at the North Carolina Conference on Exceptional Children in Greensboro.

Chris Becker presented a certificate and lapel pin to the following students whose artwork is on display in the Education Center Art Gallery during the month of November: David Cole, Drina Sanders and Ethan Jenkins, Gamewell Elementary School; Azyah Isbell, Connor Hyatt and Hannah Huffman, Davenport A+ School; Taylor Hilton, Scotlyn Jernigan and Caroline Oswald, Hudson Elementary School; Kayla Rutter, Tanner Miller and Ben Dugger, Granite Falls Elementary School; and Delanie Gutierrez, Joshua Crisp and Jemel Witherspoon, Lower Creek Elementary School.

ACTION – RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Upon motion of Darrell Pennell and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the Race to the Top Application submission as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION – PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICY 1420, SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION AND REVISED BOARD POLICY 7532, SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS – ONE MONTH COMMENT PERIOD

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved to place the attached new Board Policy 1420, Superintendent’s Evaluation, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to Board Policy 7532, Shared Accountability Standards, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Mike LaBrose, 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 Mike LaBrose and second by Darrell Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2010-2011, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Trish Johnson.

ACTION – LOCAL OPTION ABCs GOALS FOR GATEWAY AND HORIZONS SCHOOLS

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved the attached Local Option ABCs Goals for Gateway and Horizons Schools as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl Burns.

ACTION – DEBT RETIREMENT – HUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, GAMEWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, COLLETTSVILLE SCHOOL, DUDLEY SHOALS SCHOOL AND SOUTH CALDWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Chris Becker, the board unanimously approved the attached debt retirement applications for Hudson Middle School, Gamewell Elementary School, Collettsville School, Dudley Shoals School and South Caldwell High School as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

ACTION – BIDS – CHILLER AT KINGS CREEK SCHOOL

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Darrell Pennell, the board unanimously approved the attached bids for a chiller at Kings Creek School as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

ACTION – ADM APPLICATION – CHILLER AT KINGS CREEK SCHOOL

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached ADM Application for a chiller at Kings Creek School as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall, Dottie Darsie, Linda Coffey and Chris Becker gave an update to the board on the NCSBA School Law Conference they attended. They cited the following workshops they attended: Reporting of Criminal Offenses, a new law reviewed by Allison Schaeffer with NCSBA; the State Budget Process reviewed by Leanne Winner, NCSBA, noting that next year's budget was very lean; Reflections on Preparing for the Upcoming Elections; topics regarding board members receiving gifts, noting tighter legal restrictions, political speeches, when and where to engage, as well as campaign violations.

BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION

Mike LaBrose submitted his resignation to the Caldwell County Board of Education effective December 6, 2010, to take his seat as a newly elected member to the Caldwell County Board of County Commissioners. Mr. LaBrose noted that his career with the Caldwell County Board of Education began in 1996 when his children were 10, 7 and 1. One daughter is now teaching Spanish in the Caldwell County School System, one daughter is at Appalachian State University and one daughter is a Sophomore at South Caldwell High School. He joined the board of education to serve the students and community and noted that student enrollment had gone from 10,000 students to 13,000 students in the 14 years he has served. He is proud of the clean audits, the healthy fund balance, the conservative spending even in good budget years, and accomplishments like the Career Center Middle College and Caldwell Early College High School that the board of education made during his tenure on the board. He also pledged to do his best for education and the community while serving on the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners.

APPOINTMENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall convened a public vote by the Caldwell County Board of Education members to fill seat left vacant by Mike LaBrose. Chris Becker, Chairman Dr. Helen Hall, Linda Coffey, Dottie Darsie and Darrell Pennell voted for Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins. Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins was elected to fulfill the remainder of the four-year term of resigning Board Member Mike LaBrose through December 3, 2012. Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins abstained from the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Dr. Helen Hall announced a reception for Mike LaBrose, Teresa Branch and Darrell Pennell at 7:00 PM on Monday, December 6, 2010, in the Board Room of the Education Center and the next regular board meeting on Monday, December 6, 2010, 7:30 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Chairman Dr. Helen Hall and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Signed:

Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education