

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

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 7:00 PM on October 8, 2007, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Chairman Dottie Darsie  
Dr. Helen Hall  
Mike LaBrose  
Linda Coffey  
Tim Hawkins

Vice-Chairman Dr. Sharon S. Pennell and Chris Becker were absent.

The following administrative staff was present:

Dr. Steve Stone, Superintendent  
Trish Johnson, Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services  
Donnie Bassinger, Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services  
Dr. Caryl Burns, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services  
Bob Query, Finance Officer  
Libby Brown, School-Community Relations Director  
Ed Blair, School Board Attorney, Groome, Tuttle, Pike and Blair

Chairman Dottie Darsie 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**

Susan Neel, 4th Grade Teacher, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, gave the invocation and Megan Laws, Drew Cribbs, Sierra Beane, Lauren Cooke, Seth Ingle, Tyler Cornett and Jessica Mask, 4th Graders; Dudley Shoals Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ACTION - AGENDA**

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

### **ACTION - MINUTES**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 10, 2007, Regular Board Meeting, the September 27, 2007, Board Retreat and the September 27, 2007, Closed Session.

## **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Chairman Dottie Darsie and the Caldwell County Board of Education presented certificates and lapel pins to the following individuals that received advance educational degrees: Linda Andrews, Baton Elementary School, Master's Degree in Library Science, Appalachian State University; Susan Neel, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Traci Smith, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Dawn Carpenter, Granite Falls Middle School, Master's Degree in Curriculum Specialist, Appalachian State University; Shane Dickens, Happy Valley School, Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Appalachian State University; Kelly Roper-Massey, Hudson Middle School, Master's Degree in Instructional Technology Specialist, Appalachian State University; Stephanie Duncan, West Caldwell High School, Master's Degree in Secondary Math, Western Governor's University.

## **INFORMATION – INTRODUCTION – SMART START EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jeri Arledge, newly appointed Executive Director for Smart Start, introduced herself to the board and shared some brief background information. She also expressed her enthusiasm in joining the Smart Start organization.

## **ACTION – ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the two-year appointment of Kathy Jo Eckard as the new CTE Director of the Caldwell County Career Center as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

## **ACTION – PROPOSED CAREER CENTER HIGH SCHOOL NAME CHANGE**

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the proposed name change of the Career Center High School to the Caldwell Career Center Middle College as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

## **ACTION – 2007-2008 BOARD PRIORITIES**

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Mike LaBrose, the board unanimously approved to place the attached 2007-2008 Board Priorities on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

## **ACTION – PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICIES – 3621-STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS, 6315-ONLINE EDUCATION POLICY FOR FACULTY AND STAFF AND 7421-ONLINE EDUCATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Tim Hawkins, the board unanimously approved to place the attached new policies, 3621-Students with Special Health Care Needs, 6315-Online Education Policy for Faculty and Staff, and 7421-Online Education Policy for Students, on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

**ACTION – PROPOSED REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICIES – 3110-  
ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS, 3120-TRANSFER OF STUDENTS, 3300-STUDENT  
CONDUCT AND 4430-TRANSPORATION/TRANSFER OF STUDENTS**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to policies 3110-Assignment of Students, 3120-Transfer of Students, 3300-Student Conduct and 4430-Transporation/Transfer of Students on a one month comment period as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

**ACTION - PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached personnel matters as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Trish Johnson.

**ACTION – SUPRPLUS SALE**

Upon motion of Mike LaBrose and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached items for Surplus Sale on October 17, 2007, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Donnie Bassinger.

**ACTION – 2007-2008 BUDGET RESOLUTION**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Linda Coffey, the board unanimously approved the attached 2007-2008 Budget Resolution as presented by Finance Officer Bob Query.

**ACTION – STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR 2007-2008**

Upon motion of Linda Coffey and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2007-2008, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl Burns.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Tim Hawkins, Chairman, Board/Budget Finance Committee, gave a brief report regarding the recent Board/Budget Finance Committee meeting. The 2006/2007 Audit Report was discussed and will be placed on the board agenda for approval at the November board meeting. Mr. Hawkins advised that our Fund Balance was healthy and thanked Dr. Helen Hall and Chris Becker for serving on the committee. He also thanked the County Commissioners for their assistance with the school system's financial needs for the upcoming year.

Chairman Dottie Darsie gave a report on the recent NCSBA District 7 meeting that was held in Surry County. Leaders from the State Board of Education were in attendance and boards discussed suggestions on how to deal with the recent legislation and budget shortfall at the local level. Mike LaBrose, Dr. Helen Hall and Linda Coffey attended the breakout session on Child Nutrition and Dr. Hall also attended a session regarding legal issues hosted by Allison Schaefer of the NCSBA.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chairman Dottie Darsie gave an update regarding the board retreat held September 27, 2007. Items discussed at the retreat were the Career Center High School name change, ABC/NCLB results, an update on low-performing schools, three new board policies, On Line Course Credit policies for students and staff and Students with Special Health Care Needs, the Middle School Concept, revisions to board policies 3110-Assignment of Students, 3120-Transfer of Students, 3300-Student Conduct and 4430-Transportation/Transfer of Students, a personnel update, allotments, yearly events, update on PTO/PTA and community groups, a MRSA update, buildings and grounds report, a financial update, the 2007-2008 budget, the Board Priority Goals, a legislative update, grant update, New Schools Project information and staff and student meal charges.

## **BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

There were no board information/possible action items discussed.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Dottie Darsie announced the Community Board Meeting, October 29, 2007, 7:00 PM, West Caldwell High School and the next regular board meeting on Monday, November 19, 2007, 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, upon motion of Mike LaBrose, second by Tim Hawkins, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Signed:

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Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

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Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education