

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

The Caldwell County Board of Education met at 5:00 PM on September 12, 2011, in the Board Room of the Education Center, Lenoir, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

Chairman Darrell Pennell  
Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins  
Teresa Branch  
Linda Coffey  
Dottie Darsie  
Dr. Helen Hall  
Duane Knight

The following administrative staff members were present:

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

Chairman Darrell Pennell called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

### **CALDWELL COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN AND SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS REVIEW**

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will be making an accreditation visit from October 2, 2011, through October 5, 2011, to review our system and make a recommendation to accredit all twenty-six schools within the Caldwell County School System. In order to prepare for that visit, several presentations were made to the board members. Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone gave an executive summary of a Caldwell County Schools PowerPoint presentation developed for the community and school/business partnerships outlining a summary of the school system. Associate Superintendent for Educational Program Services Dr. Caryl B. Burns, Curriculum Directors Stephen Martin, Keith Hindman, and Katrina McEllen, Testing Coordinator Craig Bryson and Title I Director Lesa Widener reviewed the attached summaries of the seven standards required by the Southern Association and rated the Caldwell County School System on each standard.

### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Reverend Dale Fisher, Executive Director, Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc., and member of the Clergy Crisis Support Team gave the invocation. Lyndsey Cooke, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, gave the invocation. Taylor Ingle, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student, Dudley Shoals Elementary School, was unable to attend.

### **ACTION – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Duane Knight, the board unanimously approved the proposed agenda with the following changes: Item VII, Honors and Recognitions, a special presentation to the Caldwell County Board of Education was added as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

### **ACTION – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved the August 8, 2011, Regular Board Meeting minutes.

## **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

School Community Services Director Libby Brown announced the Student Artwork Selections for the Education Center Art Gallery: Peighton Watson, Mackenzie Bentley and Tori Auton, Oak Hill School; Connor Finley and Aaron Nash, Sawmills Elementary School; Montana Coonse, Isaac Andrews and Isaiah Caldwell, Collettsville School and Jenealia Bradshaw and Landrie Wright, Hudson Elementary School.

School Community Services Director Libby Brown recognized Hudson Middle School for successfully implementing Project Lead the Way's Gateway to Technology (GTT) program offered to students in grades 6-8. The primary purposes of the national recognition program are to recognize schools that have successfully demonstrated a commitment to the quality national standards of the Gateway to Technology program.

Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone presented a United States of America Flag to the Caldwell County Board of Education commemorating the ten year anniversary of 9/11 in honor of contributions the Caldwell County School System has made to the efforts of emergency services, the police and fire departments, as well as students who have served, or are serving, in the Armed Forces. Students from the South Caldwell High School JROTC Flag Patrol folded the flag that was presented to the superintendent during a memorial ceremony provided by the Caldwell County Firefighters Association at Hibriten High School on September 11, 2011.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Darrell Pennell opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

## **INFORMATION – CAROLINA COLLEGE ADVISING CORPORATION**

Advisors Rachel Ensing and David Hetrick, Carolina College Advisory Corporation, introduced themselves to the board. Ms. Ensing is replacing previous Advisor Joseph Strader and will be working with students at Hibriten High School and West Caldwell High School. David Hetrick returns to Caldwell County and will continue his work with the students at South Caldwell High School, Caldwell Early College High School and the Career Center Middle College. The purpose of the advisory program is to increase student interest in attending a four-year university after high school. The advisors assist students with SAT registration, college exploration and applications, as well as financial aid. The program is five years old and is currently offered in 14 states.

## **INFORMATION – COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS UPDATE**

Debbie Eller, Director, Communities in Schools, gave an update on the Communities in Schools program, noting that CIS recently received National Accreditation in May 2011 by demonstrating compliance with all Communities in Schools Total Quality System Standards. She advised the board that 468 students were served in grades 6 through 12 and the largest graduating class since the program began graduated last year with sixty percent of all CIS students going on to achieve post-secondary education or technical degrees. CIS also developed a "Reality Store" that helps 8<sup>th</sup> grade students see how their level of education affects their future standard of living. The program has been very successful and approximately 50 individuals from the business community volunteer. Business 101, an entrepreneurial education and service learning program, has also been very successful and empowers CIS students by teaching them financial literacy. There were 30 "lunch buddies" last year who served 438 students, providing students with adult mentors during their lunch period. Ms. Eller thanked the board for their support of Communities in Schools noting that they have seen significant improvement in attendance, behavior, grades and the graduation rate.

**ACTION – PROPOSED NEW BOARD POLICY 3301, AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND POLICY 4620, GFELLER-WALLER CONCUSSION AWARENESS ACT, ONE MONTH COMMENT PERIOD**

Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins and second by Dr. Helen Hall, the board unanimously approved to place the attached new Board Policy 3301, Authority of School Personnel, on a one month comment period for possible approval at the October 10, 2011, board meeting 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 new Board Policy 4520, Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act, on a one month comment period for possible approval at the October 10, 2011, board meeting as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

**ACTION – PROPOSED BOARD POLICY REVISIONS TO 3300, STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND 3310, ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, ONE MONTH COMMENT PERIOD**

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Teresa Branch, the board unanimously approved to place the attached revisions to Board Policy 3300, Student Code of Conduct, on an additional comment period and Board Policy 3310, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, on a one month comment period for possible approval at the October 10, 2011, board meeting as presented by Superintendent Dr. Steve Stone.

**INFORMATION – PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Dr. Trish Johnson presented the attached personnel matters to the board for information only.

**ACTION – PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Upon motion of Dottie Darsie and second by Dr. Helen Hall, 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 2011-2012**

Upon motion of Tim Hawkins and second by Dottie Darsie, the board unanimously approved the attached student transfer requests for 2011-2012, as presented by Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Services Dr. Trish Johnson.

**ACTION – SURPLUS SALE**

Upon motion of Dr. Helen Hall and second by Teresa Branch, the board unanimously approved the attached items for Surplus Sale on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, as presented by Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Jeff Church.

**ACTION – BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND AND LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND**

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

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no board committee reports.

## **BOARD INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

There was no board information and/or possible action.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Darrell Pennell announced the NCSBA District VII meeting, September 28, 2011, 4:00 PM, in Watauga County, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation board meeting on October 5, 2011, 4:00 PM, in the Board Room of the Education Center, the next regular board meeting on Monday, October 10, 2011, 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Education Center, the Community Board Meeting, October 24, 2011, 6:00 PM at West Caldwell High School and the Fall Board Work Session, November 7, 2011, 4:00 PM, in the Staff Development Room at the Education Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board and upon motion of Vice-Chairman Tim Hawkins, second by Teresa Branch, and the unanimous approval of the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Caldwell County Board of Education

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Caldwell County Board of Education