

Sherri Davis-Viniard

From: Newton County School System Office of Public Relations [viniard.sherri@newton.k12.ga.us]
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 10:31 AM
To: Sherri Davis-Viniard
Subject: NCSS Board Briefs: September 2010

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Newton County School System
Gary S. Mathews, Ph.D., Superintendent

BOARD NOTES...

"Our mission is to provide educational excellence for *all* students. Our non-negotiable goals are increased student achievement and more effective teaching."

A MONTHLY RECAP
OF SCHOOL BOARD
ACTIONS
SEPTEMBER 2010

Greetings!

Welcome to Newton County School System's *BOARD NOTES*, a monthly recap of actions taken by the Newton County Board of Education. Official minutes of school board meetings are approved the following month and then posted on the Newton County School System website located at www.newtoncountyschools.org.

This issue recaps the the Newton County Board of Education's September 14, 2010 Work Session and the September 21, 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting.

In This Issue: September 2010 Board Action Items

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Old Business

- **REVISIONS OF POLICY JCDAE-WEAPONS; POLICY JD-DISCIPLINE; POLICY JDD(1)JDE(1)-STUDENT SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

Revisions of policies JDD(1)JDE(1) Student Suspension and Expulsion; JD Discipline; and JCDAE Weapons, had on the table for

Welcome to NCSS!



2109 Newton Drive NE
Covington, GA 30014

Board Chair and
District 3



[Cathy Dobbs](#)

review for a 30-day period before a final vote of approval on September 21, 2010. The policies were revised to be in compliance with the district's move from a Hearing Tribunal Panel to a Hearing Officer(s).

APPROVED: 5-0 Vote

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- **21st CENTURY PROGRAM 2009-2010 RESULTS**

Ms. Deena Sams, School/Parent/Community Collaboration Coordinator presented an overview of the 21st Century Community Center's ASAP Program's goals, objectives, and results for the 2009-2010 school year. The program is designed to provide a variety of activities to enrich the lives of the school district's neediest students to help them achieve academic success. It was offered at Porterdale Elementary, Middle Ridge Elementary, Liberty Middle, Challenge Charter Academy, and the Washington Street Community Center. By and large the program met and/or exceeded its goals during its first year in operation.



CLICK ON IMAGE TO REVIEW POWER POINT PRESENTATION

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

- **CONSTRUCTION BID FOR NEWTON COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY**

MEJA Construction, Inc. submitted the low bid of \$13,747,000 (which included the base bid and selected alternates) for construction of the Newton College and Career Academy. The school is on schedule to be completed in December, 2011 for an anticipated opening date of January, 2012.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **FISCAL YEAR 2012 CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT APPLICATION FOR REPLACEMENT HIGH SCHOOL**

The school system will submit with board approval, a funding application of \$29,169,232 to the Georgia Department of Education for the construction of a replacement facility for Newton High School, as identified in the district's five-year facility plan. All 2012 capital outlay applications will be funded by the state using Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB), authorized by the federal government through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

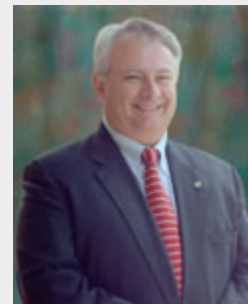
Total cost for the construction and equipping of the new school is estimated to be \$43,000,000. Funds from the sale of QSCB's, Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) III, and other local sources of revenue will be required to fully fund the project. NCSS anticipates beginning construction on this project by April 1, 2011 and completion by July 1, 2012.

Vice Chair and District 4



[Almond Turner](#)

District 1



[Johnny Smith](#)

District 2



[Eddie Johnson](#)

District 5



[Greg Proffitt](#)

APPROVED: 5-0

- **SURPLUS ITEMS**

Recommendation declaring numerous items of surplus equipment as no longer serviceable to the school system and authorizing the appropriate disposal of the items through a salvage company or other proper disposal method. The items listed cannot be repaired or the cost of repair is more than to replace, or the items are outdated to the extent that they no longer serves a purpose. All technology equipment is stripped of usable parts and all data has been removed. If approved, all surplus, excluding technology, will be posted and advertised for sale on www.govdeals.com. Technology surplus is recycled through Creative Recycling.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **ACCELERATED READER AND STAR LICENSES**

Recommendation for approval of bid of \$63,484.84 from Renaissance Learning for the renewal of licenses for Accelerated Reader and STAR testing. Students now have access to the reading comprehension tests for all AR books as opposed to the previously used site-based licenses. In addition, the STAR test program assesses students' reading comprehension level and can be used for RTI placement and for progress monitoring so schools can determine which students need intervention strategies.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **3COM VCX P HONE SYSTEM**

Recommendation for approval of Infinity Network Solutions' bid of \$36,359.60 for a maintenance and service agreement for the 3Com VCX phone system and accessory equipment. The district annually purchases a maintenance and service agreement for its phone system, which includes 648 phones, 25 branch phone servers, and 19 V7111 Gateways. Infinity Network Solutions is one of only four companies in Georgia that is certified to provide service and maintenance work on the 3Com VCX phone system.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **RENEWAL OF netTREKKER LICENSES**

Recommendation for approval of \$31,897 bid from netTrekker for the renewal of licenses for netTrekker educational search engine. This search engine ensures that all search results are safe for children to use. In addition, websites listed are categorized for reading level, content, grade level, and Georgia Performance Standards. It also allows for searches for websites in foreign languages; has a dictionary tool that allows any user to highlight a word found and then receive a definition. The program also has a read aloud function that allows teachers to set up portfolios for specific groups of students, thus allowing differentiation of instruction in ways impossible with a non-education search engine such as Google.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **BIDS TO PROVIDE DATA, VIDEO, VOICE AND WIRELESS CABLING AND EQUIPMENT FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #15**

Recommendation for approval of Infinity Network Solutions' bid of \$497,179.64 for the technology infrastructure for Elementary School #15 to provide data, video, voice, and wireless cabling and networking equipment. The information from this bid was submitted to the National Computer Association (NCA) in

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DEPARTMENT
770-784-2909**

February 2010 for consideration for an Erate grant. Should that get approved by Erate, the school system would be reimbursed 78% of the cost of the project.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH TEACHER OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND SPEECH/LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST**

Recommendation for approval of agreements between NCSS a teacher of the visually impaired and a speech/language pathologist for services to students with disabilities in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Outside services are needed due to current system vacancies.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **CONTRACT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

Recommendation for approval of contract for supplemental educational services under Title I. The Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance Act of 1965 requires that schools in year two or more of Needs Improvement provide opportunities for students to have supplemental education services. Currently four Newton County schools qualify for offering the service: Ficquett Elementary, Middle Ridge Elementary, Indian Creek Middle, and Cousins Middle. Providers must be approved by the Georgia Department of Education. All providers will be required to sign the NCSS contract for Supplemental Educational Services that includes among other requirements, a maximum allowed amount of \$1,350 per student, per school year.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **ACCEPTANCE OF 21st CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER GRANT**

Recommendation for acceptance of the 21st Century Community Learning Center continuation grant in the amount of \$372,495. The school district received a federal grant in 2009 from the Georgia Department of Education to provide funds for operating 21st Century Community Learning Center after-school programs for a total of 250 students at five sites in the school district: Porterdale Elementary, Middle Ridge Elementary, Liberty Middle, Challenge Charter Academy (CCA), and the Washington Street Center. The program will no longer be offered at CCA in 2010 due to low participation.

APPROVED: 5-0

- **NON-NEGOTIABLE GOALS FOR NCSS**

Recommendation for Board adoption of two "non-negotiable" goals for the Newton County School System: **(1) increased student achievement**, and **(2) more effective teaching**.

Click link to read [NCSS Non-Negotiable Goals](#) in their entirety.

APPROVED: 5-0

NCSS SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT
770-788-3120

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IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 8, 2010
END OF 1ST NINE WEEKS

OCTOBER 14, 2010
REPORT CARDS ISSUED

OCTOBER 18-22, 2010
FALL BREAK

NOVEMBER 18, 2010
SECONDARY STUDENT PROGRESS REPORTS ISSUED

NOVEMBER 24-26, 2010
THANKSGIVING BREAK

DECEMBER 17, 2010-
JANUARY 3, 2011
SEMESTER BREAK

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Upcoming Meetings

October 12, 2010
October 19, 2010

located at 2109 Newton Drive NE, Covington, Georgia. Meetings start promptly at 7 PM.

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