

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011 REGULAR SESSION

Covington, GA

February 15, 2011

The regular monthly session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011. The following board members were present: Board Chair Mr. Almond Turner; Vice Chair Mr. Eddie Johnson, Mr. Jeff Meadors, Ms. Abigail Coggin and Ms. Shakila Henderson-Baker. At 6:00 p.m. the Board went into executive session on a motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, with all voting in favor, to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of employees.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, the Board voted 5-0 to return to open session.

WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the welcome by Mr. Turner, Ms. Henderson-Baker gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Turner welcomed members of Newton County Youth Leadership to the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Board Chair Mr. Turner called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented by the Superintendent of the January 2011 meetings as presented. Ms. Henderson-Baker made a motion for approval, Mr. Meadors seconded and all voted in favor.

Board Chair Mr. Turner called for a motion to approve the minutes as presented by the Superintendent of the January 2011 meetings as presented. Mr. Johnson made a motion for approval, Mr. Meadors seconded and all voted in favor.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

Operations Report Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, was not in attendance due to a prior commitment. Dr. Mathews had no additions to the Operations Report.

Curriculum/ Instruction, Technology and Enrollment Report Dr. Linda Hayden, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, was not in attendance due to illness in her family. Dr. Mathews had no additions to the Curriculum/Instruction, Technology and Enrollment Reports.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson and a second by Mr. Meadors, the Superintendent's Reports were approved, with all voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, of New Business, was approved on a motion by Ms. Henderson-Baker, second by Ms. Coggin, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Diesel Fuel Renewal** Approval recommended for the annually renewable contract to be awarded for an additional contract period to Indigo Energy Partners, LLC of Alpharetta, Georgia, for diesel fuel. The effective date of the renewal will be February 16, 2011 and the expiration date will be February 15, 2012. The contractor has performed satisfactorily and has not requested a price increase during the entire life of the contract. This year, the contractor has agreed to reduce its markup by 10 percent. Additionally, the contractor electronically monitors the school system's fuel tanks and uses the data gathered to play the market and thus buy fuel at the lowest price possible, while simultaneously maintaining a constant supply of fuel in the tanks. This service is provided at no charge to the system. The estimated annual value of this contract is \$1,300,000.

The following item, Item B, was approved on a motion by Ms. Coggin, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Three Tiered Pupil Transportation** Approval recommended for the implementation of a three-tier pupil transportation system for the school year 2011-2012. Implementation of this system will require a change to school day beginning and ending times and other related changes as presented to the BOE on January 18, 2011. These changes will result in a decreased need for personnel, buses, and fuel, which will provide a significant cost savings to the school system. Proposed beginning/ending times are: elementary – 7:40 a.m./2:10 p.m.; high school – 8:15 a.m./3:15 p.m.; and middle school – 9:00 a.m./4:15 p.m.

The following items, Item C – Item E, were approved on a motion by Ms. Coggin, second by Mr. Meadors, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Surplus Items** Approval recommended for declaring items as presented as surplus as they are no longer serviceable to the school system. The motion also authorized the appropriate disposal of these items through a salvage company or other proper disposal method.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Telecommunications Services** Approval recommended for the annually renewable contract for telecommunications services offered by AT&T, AT&T Mobility and Sprint. These services include Primary Rate Interface lines- these are trunk lines that handle all of the systems incoming and outgoing phone calls and desktop fax messages; analog lines – these lines are used for fire and burglar alarms, for the 911 emergency phone, for elevator phones and a few old style fax lines; long distance service and cell phone service. Following the bid process and considering costs for various plans, AT&T, AT&T Mobility and Sprint is the recommended service.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Approval for Promethean Products** Approval recommended for the annually renewable contract of Promethean products be awarded to Logical Choice Technologies, based on results of the pricing component of the bids being equal and a large disparity in company references.

The following item, Item F, was approved on a motion by Ms. Henderson-Baker, second by Mr. Meadors, with a 4-1 vote; with Mr. Johnson being the dissenting vote;

- **Requested Board Action Relative to 2011 NCSS BOE Legislative Positions** Approval recommended on the 2011 Legislative Priorities as presented. In keeping with past practices, the NCBOE should communicate its legislative positions to the Newton County state legislative delegation, the media and to the public-at-large. These positions will be communicated to the local state delegation, via letter, and posted on the NCSS website for the public.

Executive Session Dr. Mathews presented for Board action, the Superintendent's personnel recommendations that had been discussed in Executive Session. Ms. Coggin made a motion to approve the list of recommendations regarding personnel, Mr. Johnson seconded, and all voted in favor. A copy of the report is attached.

With there being no other matters for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, and all voting in favor.

Superintendent, Newton County Schools

Chair, Newton County Board of Education