

# NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MINUTES OF WORK SESSION JUNE 7, 2011

Covington, GA

June 7, 2011

The monthly work session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mr. Almond Turner, and the following Board members were present: Vice Chair Mr. Eddie Johnson, Ms. Shakila Henderson-Baker, Ms. Abigail Coggin, and Mr. Jeff Meadors. At 6:00 p.m., the Board went into Executive Session on a motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Coggin to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation of employees and legal matters.

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

### WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the welcome by Mr. Turner, Mr. Meadors also gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no requests for public participation.

### SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

**Operations Reports** Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, reviewed the Financial Report for the month ending May 31, 2011. With 91.67% of the year complete, total revenues are at 92.07% and total expenditures are at 90.16%.

Newton County School System's April SPLOST III distribution is \$821,957, and a decrease of \$24,447 from our March collection. Total SPLOST III received for the first fourteen months is approximately \$13,362,703, averaging \$835,169 per month. In comparison, SPLOST II averaged \$830,490 per month for the sixty months of those collections.

The Maintenance and Operations team's is working closely with Purchasing to move schools into their new homes.

A project meeting for Flint Hill Elementary was held on May 12, 2011. Representatives from Ricks Construction, Inc. reported that the project is progressing adequately toward the completion deadline. As of May 31, 2011, the project is set for final completion by mid-June.

The average cost for diesel fuel purchased during May was \$3.17 per gallon. Fuel was last purchased in April for an average cost of \$3.30 per gallon. In May 2010, the average cost of fuel was \$2.22.

The Procurement and Maintenance Departments have developed a plan to facilitate all the required school moves for the upcoming school year. The plan includes moving instructional and educational supplies from Palmer Stone and Ficquett Elementary to Flint Hill Elementary; relocating Fairview and Ficquett Elementary; and closing down Sharp Learning Center. Additionally, the plan includes relocating Mainstay Academy, selected special education personnel and all itinerant teachers to the Palmer Stone campus. Finally, the Procurement Department will deliver technology equipment to a number of facilities throughout the school system. The logistics of said moves have been developed, supplies ordered, and temporary personnel retained.

Ms. Donna Vella joined the School Nutrition Staff as the School Nutrition Coordinator. Ms. Vella is a registered dietitian and has 23 years of experience in School Nutrition.

## **Curriculum/Instruction/Technology Report**

Ms. Samantha Fuhrey, Director of Secondary Education, presented the CIT Report due to the absence of Dr. Linda Hayden.

Elementary and Secondary Content specialists and Content Leaders have been working diligently to design curriculum maps and align resources for teachers' use for the 2011-2012 school year. In addition, they have completed the task of identifying the critical vocabulary for each subject area. Teachers will be using these resources in ELA/Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies, Music, Visual Arts and Physical Education when the students return to school in August.

All high schools will host a "Summer Transition Program" for rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students on July 28-29, 2011. During the two day program, students will have an opportunity to meet administrators, counselors, and teachers as well as build relationships with their peers from other middle schools. The purpose of the summer program is to ease the transition from middle school to high school. Parents/students can find brochures and registration information on the system and schools' website.

All middle schools will host a "Summer Day Camp" for rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students during the last week of July. During Day Camp, students will have an opportunity to meet administrators, counselors and teachers as well as build relationships with their peers from other elementary schools. The purpose of the summer program is to ease the transition from elementary school to middle school. Parents/students can find brochures and registration information on the system and schools' website.

On June 22, 2011, the Technology Teacher Leaders of Title I schools will participate in the *BrainPOP* training session. *BrainPOP* is an animated, web-based, curriculum-based instructional tool designed to engage students and support educators. The Technology Teacher Leaders will redeliver the training at their respective schools to teachers in order to engage students in learning.

The Alcovy Healthcare Science Program underwent Industry Certification on May 11, 2011. The site evaluation team included team members representing the Statewide Area Health Education Center Network. In addition, Eastside High Business Education Program underwent Industry Certification on May 23, 2011. The site evaluation team included three team members representing the Society of Human Resource Management. The committee awarded these programs certification based on the program's ability to meet standards related to curriculum, instruction, facilities, equipment, professional development and their respective student organizations – Future Business Leaders Association (FBLA) and Health Occupation Student Association (HOSA).

The results from an Employees' Technology Support Satisfaction Survey have been compiled. All employees were sent the link to this survey and 1,124 responded. Of all who responded, 96% were either "Satisfied" or "Very Satisfied" with the technical support they received this year. Many employees were most appreciative of the quick response time they received from the technology specialists. Of all the responses, 79% indicated that their problems were resolved in two days or less, and another 15% of the employees indicated that their problems were resolved in 3 or 4 days. These numbers corresponded with the Technology Department's internal analysis of work-order tickets which indicate that the average time to resolution for all work orders for this year was three days.

Newton High and Alcovy High Schools have been approved for Title I school-wide status for the 2011-2012 school year. Dr. Sheila Thomas will work with these schools to ensure successful implementation of Title I services.

Many grant awards have been made to NCSS from January 2008 until July 2011. Dr. Kathy Garber works with teachers and schools in securing these funds for the district.

## **Enrollment**

Total enrollment on May 26, 2011, was 19,057 students. A copy of the detailed enrollment report is attached.

## OLD BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, presented by Dr. Ken Proctor, Elementary Director for the NCSS, will remain on the table for review and action will be required at the regular monthly meeting on June 14, 2011:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revisions of Policy IFBG of the NCBOE Policy Manual**

## NEW BUSINESS

The following items, Item A – Item H, were presented, by Dr. Carpenter for review:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract for Beverages for the School Nutrition Program**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Selected Contracts for the School Nutrition Program**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Renewal of Contract for Plumbing Services**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract for Waste Disposal and Recycling**
- **Modifications to the NCSS Retirement Savings Plan**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Use of Facilities of Newton High School by Production Company Reunion Committee, LLC**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revisions of Policy DIB of the NCBOE Policy Manual**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Surplus Items**

The following items, Item I – Item M, were presented for review by Ms. Samantha Fuhrey, Director of Secondary Education, due to the absence of Dr. Linda Hayden:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to 2012 Newton County Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Program Improvement Local Plan**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Purchase of Netbooks and Netbook Carts for Flint Hill Elementary School**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Purchase of Lexmark Laser Printers for Flint Hill Elementary School**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Purchase of Instructional and Educational Supplies for Flint Hill Elementary School**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Social Studies Textbooks for Grades K-5**

An additional item will be added to the agenda for the regular BOE meeting on June 14, 2011 in regards to purchase of Social Studies textbooks for grades 6 – 12. Monetary information was not complete for the item to be added to the Work Session agenda.

**Executive Session** Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, presented for Board action, the Superintendent's personnel recommendations. Mr. Meadors made a motion to approve the list of recommendations, with a second by Ms. Henderson-Baker and with all voting in favor.

Mr. Turner reminded the Board members of the Georgia School Board Association Conference in Savannah, Georgia on June 16 – June 18, 2011.

With there being no other matters for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Coggin, and all voting in favor.

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Superintendent, Newton County Schools

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Chair, Newton County Board of Education