

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY SESSION MARCH 15, 2011

Covington, GA

March 15, 2011

The regular monthly session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011. The following board members were present: Chairman Mr. Almond Turner; 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. Meadors and second by Ms. Coggin to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of employees.

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 led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Several students, in a number of areas, were recognized. First grade student from Oak Hill Elementary, Levi Adcox, recently was announced as one of the state winners in the 2010 Statewide Fire Safety Tips Calendar Poster Contest. Mr. Calvester Graham, art teacher from Oak Hill Elementary, was also in attendance and was recognized. Middle Ridge Elementary students, third grader Jared Seals and fifth grader Justin Miracle, have the distinction of having their artwork selected for display at the annual Capitol Art Exhibit, sponsored by the Georgia Art Education Association and the Office of the Secretary of State. The Veterans Memorial Middle School Drama Team took first place honors in the Griffin RESA Literacy Days Competition. These students had to first win their grade level competition at both their school and the county level. The team consists of: Topanga Bailey, Kya Walker, Tanique McDonald, Dora Flynn, Precious Buddington, Madison Beazley, William Bradford, and David Croone. Also earning second place in the 8th Grade Poetry Recitation Contest was David Croone from Veterans Memorial Middle School. Second place honors went to Deborah Boss, student at Cousins Middle School, in the Ready Writing Competition. The NCSS Spelling Bee champion was Courage Ogie, from Sharp Learning Center, who made it to the final rounds of competition.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no requests for public participation.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

Operations Report No additional information was added by Dr. Dennis Carpenter to the Operations Report, which was presented at the March 8, 2011, work session. Copies of the report are attached.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson, and a second by Ms. Coggin, the Operations Reports were approved, with all voting in favor.

Curriculum/Instruction/Technology/Enrollment Report No additional information was added to the Curriculum/Instruction/Technology/Enrollment Reports as presented at the March 8, 2011, work session.

On a motion by Ms. Coggin, and a second by Mr. Meadors, the Curriculum/Instruction/Technology/Enrollment Reports were approved, with all voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The following item of New Business, Item A, was approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Mr. Meadors, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Purchase of Furniture for New Elementary School #15**
Approval recommended for selection of classroom furniture needed for New Elementary School #15 be purchased from the Artco -Bell Corporation, the HON Company, and Ernie Morris Enterprises. The recommendations listed are based on a review of purchasing agreements available for use by the school system. These cooperative purchasing agreements allow government agencies to aggregate purchasing power to realize cost savings. It is recommended for classroom furniture to be purchased from The Artco-Bell Corporation, with a cost of \$163,085; classroom and office furniture to be purchased from the HON Company, with a cost of \$292,000; and classroom, media center and cafeteria furniture from Ernie Morris Enterprises, Inc., with a cost of 148,360; with a total furniture cost of \$603,445.

The following items of New Business, Item B and Item C, were approved on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, with 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 HP SAN Maintenance Agreement** Approval recommended for the renewal of the Maintenance Agreement for the primary and secondary Storage Area Network (SAN) with Hewlett Packard, with a cost of \$27,930.08. This agreement provides warranty of the various components of the SANS, as well as provide support and software updates. The primary SAN is located at the BOE building in the Network Equipment room, with a mirror copy of all data also stored on a backup SAN, which is temporarily located at Middle Ridge Elementary School.

The following item of New Business, Item D, in accordance to Board Policy, will be placed on the table for review for one month. Recommended changes are requested to be acted on by the Board in April 2011.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revisions of NCBOE Policy IFGB – Acceptable Computer Use**

The following item of New Business, Item E, was discussed. Mr. Meadors made a motion to amend the original selection of names, based on the submission of additional names by the PTO and students of Palmer Stone Elementary. With a second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, the motion failed by a 2-3 vote; with Mr. Meadors and Ms. Henderson-Baker voting in favor; and Ms. Coggin, Mr. Turner and Mr. Johnson being the dissenting votes.

The item proceeded for approval of selecting one of two names; Flint Hill Elementary or Airport Elementary, previously approved on March 8, 2011. On a motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker; with a 4-1 vote, with Mr. Johnson being the dissenting vote; the name, Flint Hill Elementary, was chosen for New Elementary School #15.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Naming of New School Elementary #15** Approval recommended from the March 8, 2011 work session for two school names to be considered for New Elementary School #15; those being Airport Elementary and Flint Hill Elementary. Suggested names were received from the community via an online survey posted on the NCSS website. Survey participants were also asked to provide an explanation for their suggested name. The suggested name must meet the criteria set forth in Board Policy FDC: Naming New Facilities.

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

Superintendent, Newton County Schools

Chair, Newton County Board of Education