

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011 REGULAR MONTHLY SESSION

Covington, GA

November 15, 2011

The regular monthly session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. The following board members were present: Chairman 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 Mr. Johnson to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of employees.

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

WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Oak Hill Elementary first grade student, Ms. Madison Gonzales, was recognized for recently receiving statewide recognition for her poster created for the 2011 Statewide Fire Safety Poster Contest. Madison was also recently recognized by Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph T. Hudgens at the 19th Annual Life, Fire and Safety Awards Luncheon at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia. Mr. Calvester Graham, art teacher at Oak Hill Elementary, was also recognized.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

Mr. Turner called for a motion to approve the minutes in the November 2011 meeting as presented. Ms. Coggin made a motion for approval, Mr. Meadors seconded the motion, 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 November 8, 2011 work session. A copy of the report is attached.

Dr. Carpenter introduced Mr. Ray Moore, architect with the Cunningham, Forehand, Moore and Matthews firm, who provided an update on the construction progress of the Newton College and Career Academy.

The Financial Report was approved on a motion by Mr. Meadors, a second by Mr. Johnson, with all voting in favor.

Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Enrollments Reports No additional information was added by Dr. Ken Proctor to the Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Report and Enrollment Report as presented at the November 8, 2011, work session. A copy of the reports is attached.

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

OLD BUSINESS

There were three items, Item A – Item C, of Old Business and were presented by Dr. Proctor. After being on the table for review and one month; the items were approved on a motion by Mr. Meadors, with a second by Ms. Henderson-Baker and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revision of NCSS Policy JAA – Equal Educational Opportunity of the NCBOE Policy Manual** Approval recommended for Policy JAA – Equal Educational Opportunity as presented. This policy has been on the table for one month for review as required. Revisions include the provision of complaints procedures and the revised policy has been reviewed by legal counsel.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Adoption of NCSS Policy JCAC – Harassment** Approval recommended for Policy JCAC –Harassment - as presented. This policy has been on the table for one month for review as required. This policy has been designed to reflect necessary requirements to meet the law and the guidance documents. The revised policy has been reviewed by legal counsel.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Rescinding of NCSS Policy JCDA and Adoption of NCSS Policy JCDAG – both related to bullying** Approval recommended for Policy JCDA and Adoption of NCSS Policy JCDAG – both related to bullying- as presented. This policy has been on the table for one month for review as required. Legal counsel has advised that NCSS Policy JCDA has outdated language and no longer meet the requirements outlined in Georgia law and the Georgia State BOE and should be rescinded and replaced by NCSS Policy JCDAG. Policy JCDAG has been designed to reflect necessary requirements to meet the law.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Certification of Completion – Flint Hill Elementary** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the Architect's Certificate of Completion for the construction of the Flint Hill Elementary School. The final construction contract for the construction of Flint Hill Elementary School was \$13,257,000.00; of which the state contributed \$4,955,169.00. The local portion of \$8,301,831.00 was paid with funds from SPLOST III. The Certificate of Completion is attached along with the Architect's certificate.
- **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.

The following item, Item C, was presented by Ms. Samantha Fuhrey, Director of Secondary Education and will remain on the table for one month for review and action will be requested on the December 13, 2011 meeting;

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Adoption of NCSS Policy JQKA – Foreign Exchange Students**

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

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract for Erate Consultant** Approval recommended for the contract with Manning Enterprises, Inc., dab K12 Consultants to handle all Erate processes and applications for the 2012-2013 school year. This company has an established track record of increasing system funding by 6% to 7% by increasing each school's discount level significantly. The NCSS is not obligated to pay this consultant

until the funding from Erate has been approved and the Board decides not to do an Erate funded project. Modifications to the original contract as per Board attorney have been made and also reviewed by the NCSS financial office.

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. Mr. Meadors made the motion to approve the list of recommendations, Ms. Henderson-Baker 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 7:45 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, with all voting in favor.

Superintendent, Newton County Schools

Chair, Newton County Board of Education