

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 REGULAR MONTHLY SESSION

Covington, GA

September 20, 2011

The regular monthly session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, September 20, 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 Ms. Coggin and second by Mr. Meadors to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of employees.

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

WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one request for public participation. Mr. Ed Applewhite expressed his concerns to the Board in regards to changing of bus arrival and drop off times for student transportation routes.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

Board Chair Mr. Turner called for a motion to approve the September 2011 minutes as presented by the Superintendent. 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 September 14, 2010 work session. Copies of the report are attached.

Curriculum/Instruction/Technology/Enrollment Report No additional information was added by Dr. Ken Proctor to the Curriculum/Instruction/Technology/Enrollment Reports as presented at the September 14, 2011 work session.

On a motion by Ms. Henderson-Baker and a second by Ms. Coggin, the Superintendent's Reports were approved, with all voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, of Old Business was approved on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Henderson-Baker, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Fuelz Fleet Card by McPherson** Approval recommended for the school system to enter into a contract with McPherson Companies, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia for the utilization of a fleet card system for fueling alternative for the Transportation Department. The effective date will be September 21, 2011 and the expiration date will be September 20, 2012. The school system should realize the following benefits; more efficient fueling system; reduction in extended drive time and overtime costs for

drivers related to refueling; reduced total fuel consumption; real time data that can be generated instantly and viewed online for both driver and vehicle; and provide better fueling options for buses used on extended field trips.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Theme School by Newton Medical** Approval recommended for the use of Newton County Theme School at Ficquett as an alternate care site for Newton Medical Center in the event that patients must be evacuated from the hospital. Newton Medical is required to have an alternative care site in its emergency preparedness plan in the event that patients must be evacuated from the hospital. The Theme School is the closest facility that has sufficient space to handle the patients and staff. NMC will provide an emergency generator and all necessary staff and supplies, including food, in the care of the patients.
- **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 of New Business, Item C, was discussed and approved on a motion by Mr. Meadors, second by Ms. Coggin, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Furniture for NCCA** Approval recommended for selected furniture and equipment needed for the NCCA be purchased from Ernie Morris Enterprises, Inc. and the HON Company. Ernie Morris Enterprises, Inc. will provide under the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance cafeteria, dining and student seating at the cost of \$153,375.27; and will also provide computer tables, work tables, media center, and miscellaneous seating under the State Contract at the cost of \$277,349.65. The HON company will provide classroom and office furniture under the GPA Pricing Contract at the cost of \$405,705.80. The total furniture costs for the NCCA is \$836,430.72.

The following items of New Business, Item D – Item E, were approved on a motion by Ms. Henderson-Baker, second by Ms. Coggin, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action for Acceptance of 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the 21st Century Community Learning Center continuation grant, in the amount of \$330,650 and a new grant for \$350,000, which is being added for the 2011-2012 school year. The total amount of grants received for the 2011-2012 school year is \$680,650. The NCSS received a federal grant in 2009 from the GaDOE to provide funds for operating 21st Century Community Learning Center after school programs for a total of 250 students at four sites: Porterdale Elementary, Middle Ridge Elementary; Liberty Middle; and the Washington Street Center. The programs operate Monday through Friday in the elementary and Washington Street site; and Monday through Thursday at Liberty Middle. The program under the grant will continue under the same guidelines and procedures for 2011-2012.

The second grant was awarded to expand to include three additional schools: West Newton Elementary, Indian Creek Middle and Newton High School. The grant will provide additional opportunities for academic enrichment, remediation and credit recovery, a safe place to spend afterschool hours, provide counseling and instruction in life, work and study skills and opportunities for parents to become more involved in their children's education.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contractual Agreement with Sign Language Interpreter** Approval recommended for the agreement between the NCSS and Celio Best to provide services as a sign language interpreter for students who are deaf/hard of hearing, in accordance with the Individualized Education Program. The interpreter will work a maximum of eight hours per day for 168 days at the rate of \$40.00 per day.

The following item, Item F, will remain on the table for one month for review and will be voted on at the regular session on October 25, 2011:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Board Policy IHA – Student Grading System**

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

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract for Supplemental Educational Services** Approval recommended that the contract presented for supplemental educational services under Title I be approved. Schools that are in year two or more of Needs Improvement provide opportunities for students to have supplemental educational services. Only four schools qualify for offering the service: Ficquett Elementary, Middle Ridge Elementary, Indian Creek Middle School and Cousins Middle School. Supplemental Education Service providers must be approved by the GaDOE and from this list, a district may enter into an agreement for the purpose of paying from Title I funds, those costs associated with providing educational service to eligible students in addition to their regular instruction. The contract calls for the district and provider to enter into an agreement delineating the dates of the service period, responsibilities for specific achievement goals, payment rates and other terms as outlined. All providers are required to sign the contract.

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

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Required Local Board Training Plan 2011** Approval recommended Of the Local Board Training Plan that is required to be submitted to the GADOE. NCSS Board members are required to participate in at least three hours of whole-Board training together with the Superintendent, and another nine hours for each individual Board member. The NCBOE members will gain its required training from Griffin RESA.

Dr. Mathews presented for discussion, at the request of the Board:

- **Discussion of Foreign Exchange Student Regulation**

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. Coggin made a 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 7:40 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