

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2008 REGULAR SESSION

Covington, GA

MAY 20, 2008

On Tuesday, May 20, 2008, Board Chair Mr. Almond Turner called to order the regular monthly session of the Newton County Board of Education in the Central Office Administrative Board Room. The following board members were present: Mr. Turner, Chairman; Vice Chair Mr. Rickie Corley, Dr. C. C. Bates, and Ms. Cathy Dobbs. At 5:30 p.m. the Board went into executive session on a motion by Ms. Dobbs and second by Dr. Bates to discuss appointment, employment, compensation of employees, land acquisition and potential litigation. The Board returned to open session at 7:00 p.m. on a motion by Dr. Bates and seconded by Mr. Corley.

WELCOME, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the welcome by Mr. Turner, Dr. Bates gave the invocation, and Ms. Dobbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mr. Turner recognized several students from the Alcovy High School Broadcast Class. This class earned third place recognition for their video entry in the State Nutrition and Wellness Video Competition. Videos were required to highlight a school's efforts for healthy nutrition and better wellness. This video was filmed by the Broadcast class at Alcovy High School and will be available for use by other high schools. After viewing the video, students recognized were Chris Artis, Darrell Clark, Russell Dennis, Austin Greenway, Josh Hardge, Alanna Harris, De'Ton McElroy, Alex Reis, Brandi Seybold, and Daniel Thompson. Also recognized was Ms. Kim Newhouse, the teacher of the Broadcast class. The class was presented a \$50.00 check by Ms. Jan Loomans from the School Nutrition Program.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were two requests for public participation. Ms. Katy King asked the Board to consider their easement agreement request between the Newton County BOE and Suburban Home Sales. The second request from Ms. Becky Johnson asked the Board to review student recognition at Honor's Day Programs at the high schools.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Ms. Dobbs made a motion to approve the agenda of the April 22, 2008 meeting as presented; second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor.

Mr. Corley made a motion to approve the minutes of April 22, 2008 meeting as presented; second by Ms. Dobbs, with all voting in favor.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

Administrative Services Report, Curriculum/Instruction/Technology and Enrollment Reports

No additional information was added to reports that were given at the Board's work session on May 13, 2008. Copies are attached.

Ms. Connie Waller, from the Newton County Clean and Beautiful Program, gave a presentation on a program that is being used in another school district on recycling foam cafeteria trays. Ms. Waller, Ms. Dobbs, and Bill Rosser NCSS Director of Maintenance, visited a school system that is currently participating in this recycling program. The start-up fee would be approximately \$73,000, if implemented in our schools, but the savings on garbage fees would offset this cost, and also decrease tremendously the amount of foam being disposed of in our county landfill. Ms. Waller will check

with other businesses to see if they are interested in participation. There also may be grant funds that can be applied for to help in implementing the program.

Ms. Kathy Garber provided the second part of the power point presentation on Career Academies.

Mr. Dennis Carpenter, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, introduced Dr. Pamela Bouie, who represents Global Teachers Research and Resources. Dr. Bouie's presentation provided information on their program that provides teachers in needed subject areas. These experienced international teachers make a long term commitment to teach in the United States.

On a motion by Mr. Corley and a second by Ms. Dobbs, the Superintendents' Reports were approved, with all voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, was discussed and is to remain on the table for further review:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Section F of Secondary Program Planning Guide** This item was placed under review for future action.

The following policy, which has been on the table for 30 days, was reviewed and approved accordingly:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revision of Policy KI – Free Material Distribution** On a motion by Dr. Bates, second by Mr. Corley and all voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

The following items, Items A –B, were approved on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids on Alcovy High School Track Improvements**
Approval recommended for the acceptance of low bid of \$102,500 by Sports Turf, out of Whitesburg, Georgia to install the ½" rubberized latex resilient surface on the track at Alcovy High School. The company will also install an 8' wide concrete sidewalk along the west side of the track encompassing the catch basins. This sidewalk will assist in containing the water.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids on Alcovy High School Site Work** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the low bid of \$449,000 from Kevin Price General Contractors for the site work at Alcovy High. This project consists of realignment of the service drive and relocation of fire and domestic water lines to prepare the site for the construction of the 50-classroom addition. The substantial completion date for this work is July 15, 2008.

The following items, Items C and D, were approved on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, second by Mr. Corley, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids on Newton High School Renovation** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the low bid of \$657,000 from Kevin Price General Contractors for the renovations at Newton High School. The scope of this work will be done in two phases. The first phase is the work that will be done this summer. Renovations include; in the Administration Area – new carpet/tile and painting, door and hardware modifications; in the Commons Area – new ceiling tile and replacement of obsolete light fixtures; in the Gym/Commons area – new ceilings, replacement of obsolete light fixtures and installation of handicap grab bars in restrooms, installation of new railings, including stairwells, to meet code; removal of the main gym ceiling; cleaning and painting of the structure; replacing obsolete lighting and installing new ceiling tiles, installing new treads on all interior stairs in the gym and stairwells; in the Choral Area – replace ceilings and obsolete lighting, painting and replacing the carpet; repairing the choral risers; replacing the floor covering in the 9th grade wing; replacing the floor covering in the Science wing and replacing the floor covering in the Media Center.

Phase II of the Newton High renovations will be bid at a later date and is scheduled for 2009 as follows; making selected kitchen improvements; painting in selected areas; replacing remaining ceilings and obsolete lighting; and rewiring as needed to update.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids on East Newton/Heard Mixon Canopies and Improvements at Sharp Stadium** Approval recommended of the acceptance of the low bid of \$224,000 from Kevin Price General Contractors for improvements to Sharp Stadium and the installation of canopies at East Newton Elementary and Heard Mixon Elementary. The Sharp Stadium project consists of installation of new intermediate stop risers along with new aisle handrails at the existing precast concrete home grandstands at Sharp Stadium. At East Newton and Heard Mixon, aluminum walk canopies are to be installed at the car rider pickup. Some concrete walk improvements will be required at Heard Mixon. At East Newton, demolition of asphalt will be required along with installation of a new concrete walk.

The following items, Item E – I, were approved on a motion by Mr. Corley, second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract Renewals for School Nutrition Program** Approval recommended for the renewal of the following contracts, effective July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009: U.S. Food Service for food items; SaniTech Systems, Inc. for the kitchen safety and sanitation program; Coca-Cola Enterprises for non-carbonated beverages; and Royal Food Service for produce and fresh eggs. U. S. Food Service was the only bidder for our food items. The estimated value of this contract is \$2,500,000. SaniTech Systems is a renewable contract with no price increase for the 08-09 school year. This contract provides cleaning chemicals, detergents, soap and safety equipment as required; on-site training, system training, and training reference materials; and they will also monitor safety and sanitation practices and provide reporting. The estimated value of the contract is \$62,000.

Coca-Cola Enterprises was the only bidder for non-carbonated beverages when bids were received last year. There is no price increase on the renewal of this contract. The estimated value of this contract is \$41,000.

Royal Food Service was the low bidder for produce and fresh eggs. The estimated value of the contract is \$358,000; there is no increase in the amount of markup above the index cost.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bread Bids** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the contract for bread for the School Nutrition Program. Bids were publicly opened on May 2, 2008, with Sara Lee Food and Beverage submitting the only bid. The estimated annual value of this contract is \$300,000.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Milk Bids** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the contract for milk bids for the School Nutrition Program. Bids for milk were publicly opened on May 2, 2008. It was determined that Mayfield Dairy Farms LLC was the lowest bidder based on the estimated usage. The estimated annual value of this contract is \$747,962.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids on HVAC Contracted Services** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the contract for heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) contractor services from Beam Enterprise LLC. Bids were evaluated based on average hourly labor rates and cost of parts. After review, it was determined the bid submitted by Beam Enterprise, LLC offered the lowest combined cost to the school system. The estimated annual value of this contract is \$300,000.
- **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 J, was approved on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Adoption of FY 2009 Tentative Budget** Approval recommended for declaring the adoption of the FY 2009 Tentative Budget.

The following items, Items K – L, were approved on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, second by Mr. Corley; with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Establishing Special Called Budget Work Session (Suggested Date May 21, 2008 – 4:00 p.m.)** Approval recommended for the suggested date of May 21, 2008 at 4 p.m. for the special called budget work session.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Setting Dates for Public Hearings on FY 2009 Budget (June 10, 2008 @ 6:45 p.m.; June 17, 2008 @ 9 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.)** Approval recommended for the same public hearing schedule as the Board has adopted the past several years. This recommendation sets these three public hearings as follows: Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 6:45 p.m.; Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. and Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 6:45 p.m.

The following items, Items M-Q, were approved on a motion by Dr. Bates, second by Ms. Dobbs, with all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract Renewal for DIBELS Reading** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the renewal of the contract for electronics DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). The total cost for renewal will be \$67,000 and will be provided by the sole source vendor Wireless Generation. Funding will be provided from FY 09 Curriculum and Instruction General Funds.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract for DIBELS mClass Math** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the contract for mClass Math at a total cost of \$50,000 from the FY 09 budget. The equipment will be provided from the sole source vendor Wireless Generation.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bids for Graphing Calculators for HS-T184** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the low bid of \$67,225.20 from Scantex Business Systems for Texas Instruments graphing calculators TI-84 for the high schools. The bid included 630 graphing calculators, 21 view screen packages for overhead presentation and 21 cases.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Renewal and Additional Nova Net Licenses** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the renewal of the 50 NovaNet Subscription Licenses from FY 07-08 funds at a cost of \$54,500, and the purchase of an additional 50 NovaNet Subscription Licenses plus additional training at a cost of \$57,900 on July 1. These purchases are dependent upon approval of the FY 08-09 budget. The total cost of this purchase is \$112,400. Funding will be provided by general instructional funds designated for grade 9-12 curriculum and instruction initiatives. The additional licenses will give all high schools access to NovaNet throughout the school day, whereas with the initial 50 licenses, each high school had to schedule the licenses to be shared among the high schools during the day.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Vocational Rehabilitation Agreement** Approval recommended for the acceptance of the agreement between the Newton County Schools and the Department of Rehabilitation Services of the Georgia Department of Human Resources. This agreement is a continuation of the agreement for services approved during the 2007-08 school year. The cost of our system's portion of the agreement is \$13,000, which will be included in the FY 09 local budget.

Executive Session Mr. Dennis Carpenter, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, presented for Board action the Superintendent's personnel recommendations that had been discussed in executive session. Mr. Corley made a motion to approve the list of recommendations, second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor. A copy of the personnel report is attached.

Mr. Turner reminded the Board members of the upcoming Discipline Hearing Appeal and Board Planning Session on May 21, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Turner also reminded the Board members of the upcoming high school graduations scheduled on May 24, 2008, as follows; Newton High ceremony at Newton High Gym at 9:00 a.m.; Eastside High at The Church In The Now at 11:30 a.m.; and Alcovy High at Alcovy High Gym at 2:00 p.m.

With there being no other matters for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, second by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor.

Superintendent, Newton County Schools

Chair, Newton County Board of Education