

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2009 REGULAR SESSION

Covington, GA

November 17, 2009

The monthly work session of the Newton County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009. The following board members were present: Board Chair Dr. C. C. Bates; Vice Chair, Ms. Cathy Dobbs; Mr. Eddie Johnson; Mr. Almond Turner; and Mr. Johnny Smith. At 5:30 p.m. the Board went into executive session on a motion by Mr. Smith and second by Mr. Turner, with all voting in favor to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of employees.

Dr. Bates had to leave the Executive Session due to personal reasons, but returned later in the evening to the public session; Vice Chair, Ms. Cathy Dobbs, conducted the remainder of the meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Turner, the Board voted 4-0 to return to open session.

WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Dobbs gave the welcome and the invocation and also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Dobbs welcomed members of Leadership Newton County, who were in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one request for public participation. Ms. Wendy Lowe presented her concern with possible upcoming grade changes at the theme schools.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Vice Chair Ms. Dobbs called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented by the Superintendent for the November 2009 meetings. Mr. Turner made a motion for approval, Mr. Smith seconded and all voted in favor.

Vice Chair Ms. Dobbs called for a motion to approve the minutes as presented by the Superintendent for the November 2009 meetings. Mr. Turner made a motion for approval, Mr. Smith seconded, and all voted in favor.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

Operations Report

Dr. Carpenter had one additional item to add to the Operations Report, under Business and Finance. As part of the official record and notification to the public, on April 30, 2009, the BOE approved the purchase of 80.97 acres located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Airport Road and Ga. Highway 142. The closing on the property was November 5, 2009. The price per acre was \$14,000 for a total purchase price of \$1,133,580. A new elementary school, similar in design to the ones constructed at South Salem Elementary and Live Oak Elementary is planned for this site. It is anticipated that we will be ready to let a contract on this school in the spring of 2010, with the school opening scheduled for the 2011-2012 school year.

Dr. Bates returned to the meeting at approximately 7:20 p.m.; however, Ms. Dobbs continued to preside over the meeting.

Mr. Bob Cunningham, architect with Cunningham, Forehand, Matthews and Moore, gave a presentation to the Board in regard to the new elementary school #15. Mr. Ray Moore, also with this firm, was in attendance as well. Architectural drawings for this school were reviewed and questions from the Board members were answered.

Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Report Associate Superintendent, Dr. Linda Hayden, had no additions to the Curriculum/Instruction, Technology and Enrollment Reports.

Dr. Hayden introduced Dr. Ken Proctor, Director of Elementary Schools, who then presented a Power Point presentation on Elementary Assessment for our school system.

On a motion by Dr. Bates and a second by Mr. Turner, the Superintendent's Reports were approved, with all board members voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, was approved on a motion by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. Turner, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revisions of the Petition and Bylaws for Charter for Career Academy** Approval recommended for the revisions/amendments to the NCAA Charter Petition. Revisions were made to the original Charter for Career Academy based on the recommendations by the GADOE. These revisions must be signed and submitted to the DOE prior to December 1, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

The following item, Item A, was approved on a motion by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. Johnson, and 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 methods.

The following item, Item B, was approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Mr. Turner, with a 3-2 vote; with Dr. Bates and Mr. Smith voting against:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contract Renewal for Uniform Rentals** Approval recommended for the renewal of the contract awarded to Unifirst Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia, for uniform rentals for selected custodial, maintenance, and transportation staff. The effective date of the renewal will be November 28, 2009, and the expiration date will be November 27, 2010. There was no price increase and the pricing and terms of the contract remain competitive. The estimated value of the contract is \$55,000.

The following item, Item C, was presented by Dr. Carpenter and will lie on the table for one month with action requested at the next meeting.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Policy KG-Use of Facilities**

The following items, Item D and Item E, were approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Mr. Smith, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Agreement with the Marcus Institute** Approval recommended of the agreement between the Newton County Schools and the Marcus Autism Center, Inc. This agreement is a continuation of the agreement under the name of the Marcus Institute for Development and Learning, Inc. Services are provided by the Center in accordance with the services noted in the Individual Education Program (IEP) for one of our high school students with disabilities at the rate of \$400 per day. The GDOE grant for Residential and Reintegration Services will be applied for in March 2010, to offset the cost of these services. Funding for these services is from the IDEA Flow-Through Grant.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Approval of Net Trekker** Approval recommended for the purchase of an annual subscription to Net Trekker, an instructional website management program, in the amount of \$31,897. This program is a website management product that lists websites that have been aligned to the Georgia Performance Standards and is age appropriate. It also provides safe and effective use of the Internet by

teachers and students. The cost will be distributed between the Title IID program funds and the Technology Department's budget.

The following item, Item F, was approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Mr. Turner, and all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to 2010 Legislative Priorities** Approval recommended on the 2010 Legislative Priorities as presented. The Board members have attended the Georgia School Boards Association summer and fall meetings and have reviewed issues that affect the policies, procedures, and funding of public schools, as determined through legislative action. The priorities presented are a means of communicating to our legislative delegation those issues of major importance for which the state, through legislature, supports the achievement and success of public school students and maintenance and operation of the school district. The priorities will be disseminated to the parents via students (elementary) and mail (secondary). The priorities will also be placed on the school system website. The parent may view and print the priorities from the website. A school messenger call will be scheduled to inform parents that the information is forthcoming either by their student or via mail. The document will provide the parents with contact information for members of our legislative delegation.

The following item, Item G, died due to the lack of a motion:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Theme School** Further planning is recommended for the possible relocating of the fourth and fifth graders of the Clements Theme School to Fairview Theme School effective for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Executive Session Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, presented for Board action, the Superintendent's personnel recommendations that had been discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Turner made a motion to approve the list of recommendations regarding personnel, Mr. Johnson seconded that motion, and all voted in favor. A copy of the personnel report is attached.

Dr. Bates reminded those in attendance of the upcoming football game on November 20, 2009, which is a second playoff game for Eastside High versus Carrollton.

With there being no other matters for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m., on a motion by Dr. Bates, second by Mr. Smith, and all voting in favor.

Superintendent, Newton County Schools

Chair, Newton County Board of Education