

# **NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2008 REGULAR SESSION**

**Covington, GA**

**January 15, 2008**

On Tuesday, January 15, 2008, Board Chair Mr. Johnny Smith 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. Smith, Vice Chair Mr. Almond Turner, Dr. C. C. Bates, Ms. Cathy Dobbs, and Mr. Rickie Corley. At 5:30 p.m. the Board went into executive session on a motion by Mr. Turner and seconded by Dr. Bates to discuss appointment, employment and compensation of employees, land acquisition. The Board returned to open session at 7:00 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Dobbs and seconded by Mr. Corley.

### **WELCOME, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Following the welcome by Mr. Smith, Dr. Bates gave the invocation, and Mr. Corley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Marcus Hill, representing the Newton High Band Booster Program, asked the Board to consider funding the purchase of approximately 130 new band uniforms. Mr. Hill did submit to the Board Members a proposal that he had obtained from a band uniform company about what is needed for the band. Many uniforms that the band is currently using are in various stages of disrepair due to age. The Booster Club has used their funds this year to satisfy previous debts and to keep the band program up and running. They do not have the funds to purchase new uniforms which are desperately needed. The Board will consider the proposal but did ask that the group to obtain additional proposals for uniforms and submit these to the Board for review in using midterm funds for the purchase of new uniforms.

### **AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Mr. Corley made a motion to approve the agenda of December 11, 2007 combined meeting as presented; Ms. Dobbs seconded, with all in favor.

Dr. Bates made a motion to approve the minutes of the combined December 11, 2007 meeting as presented; Mr. Turner seconded; with all in favor.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

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

There was no additional information to add to these reports that were given at the Board's work session. Copies are attached.

A presentation to the Board on "Growing Leadership Personnel" was given by Dr. Linda Hayden and Dr. Kathy Reese. This "Rising Stars" program is one step being put into place to groom personnel into leadership positions to provide our county with future leaders.

A presentation by Dr. Dunnigan about the Visiting International Faculty Program was given. This is a program that can be utilized to staff teaching vacancies in our county from different nations. These teachers go through a lengthy process before placement. Several surrounding school systems make use of this program and our system would like to also use this program in the future.

On a motion by Ms. Dobbs, seconded by Dr. Bates, the Superintendent's reports were approved.

## OLD BUSINESS

The following item was discussed under old business:

- **Presentation of Suggested Names for New Schools** After discussion, the Board requested that this item be tabled until February 12<sup>th</sup> in order to have more time and input on the naming of the new elementary school #13 and new middle school #5. Mr. Corley made a motion to table; Ms. Dobbs seconded, all voted in favor.

## NEW BUSINESS

The following five items A-E on the agenda were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Bates, seconded by Ms. Dobbs; all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Agreement with Retriever to Manage Meal Pay Plus** Approval to enter into an agreement with Retriever to manage Meal Pay Plus. This agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Board Attorney, Kent Campbell. There is no cost to the school system to enter into this agreement.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Certificates of Completion – Additions to Clements and Cousins** Acceptance of the Architect's Certificates of Completion for the classroom addition at Clements Middle School and Cousins Middle School.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Proposed 2008-2009 Budget Calendar** Approve timeline for budget process for FY 2009.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Proposals for Custodial Supply and Green Cleaning Program** Approval to award a contract for custodial supply and green cleaning program to Associated Paper, Inc. of Conyers, Georgia. The total estimated annual contract value is \$400,000, including equipment repair and service as well as the purchase of new equipment. The contract is renewable at the end of the contract year.
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Bus Bids and Bus Purchases** Approval of low bids by Nalley Motor Trends of Atlanta, Georgia. The bid on the 72 passenger conventional buses is \$81,908 and on the 48 passenger special needs bus is \$92,250.00; to authorize the purchase of nineteen 72 passenger conventional buses at a cost of \$1,556,252 and four 48 passenger special needs buses at a total cost of \$369,000 – the total purchase for 23 buses is \$1,925,252; to authorize bid financing services for the purchase of these buses to assist in determining the best mechanism for bus purchase payment.

Item F, listed below, was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Corley; seconded by Mr. Turner, all voting in favor:

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Contracting with Speech Pathologist** Approval of agreement between the Newton County School System and Patricia Spratley-Speaks to provide contracted speech/language therapy to students in accordance with the Individualized Education Programs. Funding will be provided by FY08 Federal Title VI-B (IDEA) funds.

Item G, listed below, was reviewed by Dr. Whatley with the Board members; reminding them that once the Board Calendar is set; only one meeting date could be changed. With that information; on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, seconded by Dr. Bates, with all voting in favor; the calendar was approved.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to 2008-2009 Meeting Dates; February 2008 – January 2009**
- **Requested Board Action Relative to Setting Quarterly Planning Meeting** The Quarterly Planning Date was set for March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at the BOE. This item did not require Board action.

- **Requested Board Action Relative to Revised Policies: GBRIB-Illness and GBRID – Military Leave**  
This item, Item I on the agenda, reviewed by Ms. Robertson, requires no action as it will lay on the table for 30 days.

**Executive Session** Dr. Donald Dunnigan, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, presented for Board action the Superintendent’s personnel recommendations that had been discussed in executive session. Mr. Turner made the motion to approve the list of recommendations, seconded by Ms. Dobbs, and all voting in favor. A copy of the personnel report is attached. It was noted that Dr. Donald Dunnigan has resigned from his position in Newton County to accept another position in Cobb County. His release date is pending on finding a suitable replacement for his position. On a motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Dobbs; all voted in favor.

#### **Election of 2008 Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

At the end of the regular monthly meeting in January of each year, it is standard procedure for the Board to elect a new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson who will assume those positions immediately and will serve through the Board’s regularly scheduled meeting in January of the following year. As such, Mr. Smith called for nominations for the two offices with a reminder that the nominations do not require a second. Requesting a point of personal privilege, Mr. Corley nominated Almond Turner, District 4, as 2008 Board Chairman. All voted in favor. Mr. Turner then nominated Mr. Rickie Corley, District 2, to assume the position as Vice Chairman. All voted in favor.

With there being no other matters of business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:46 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Dobbs, seconded by Dr. Bates, and all voting in favor.

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Superintendent, Newton County Schools

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Chair, Newton County Board of Education