

THE HALIFAX COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

June 7, 2010

The Halifax County Board of Education met in open session on Monday, June 7, 2010. The meeting was held at the central office administrative building located Hwy 301 South in Halifax, North Carolina.

Present: Debbie Hardy, Chair, Gladys Walden, Vice-Chair, Tyrone Williams, Carolyn Hawkins, Dr. Donna Hunter, Michael Hawkins and A. Faye Young.

Others present; Superintendent, Dr. Elease Frederick, Assistant Superintendent, Charles Chambliss, Personnel Director, Dr. Farrell Young, Public Relation Officer, Keith Hoggard, Interim Finance Officer, Charlene Jones, Representative from DPI, Catherine Brooks and Board Attorney, Larry Armstrong.

Mrs. Debbie Hardy, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The board chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Those present participated in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Reverend Andrew West stated that he had visited schools and was troubled to know we have to find ways to prepare our children to pass a test. It disturbs him to drive by Eastman and there is no school. His request was to open Eastman because there was no money saved in closing the school.
- Ms. Joyce West – Committee to Save Education – stated that our children are being bullied. Their hair is being cut at school. I say to our board members that chose to close our schools, thank you, thank you for a year of troubles.
- Mr. Gary Grant – Concerned Citizens of Tillery - We have no activities for our children to participate in. There are no summer programs. The CCT made a request to the board to open the gyms at Brawley and Eastman sites this summer in order that the children of these communities have somewhere to go.
- Ms. Dollie Burwell – Representative from Rep. G. K. Butterfield Office – On behalf of Rep. Butterfield, she presented to Tyrone Williams a letter on his retirement from the Board of Education.
- Mrs. Margaret Parrish – Committee to Save Education – At the 9th Annual African American Cultural Celebration held at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh, on Saturday, June 5th, Eastman Middle (High) School was captured for the intent of making a

documentary on George Eastman's legacy. She did not see any of the board members there. She also highlighted an article that was printed in the News & Observer on June 6th.

Mrs. Gladys Walden moved to approve consent agenda items. Mr. Tyrone Williams moved in second. Motion carried. Mr. Michael Hawkins abstained.

- Minutes from closed and open session on May 3 and May 17, 2010.
- Personnel recommendations as presented in the closed session.

Board Members recognized Caitlin Jackson, 5th grade student, at Hollister Elementary School as the student of the month for May. Mr. Keith Hoggard presented the student with a bag of goodies. Dr. Frederick and Ms. Carolyn Hawkins gave congratulation remarks and stickers from the board.

Mrs. Debbie Hardy gave special recognition to three board members who will retire from the board in June 30th. Mrs. A. Faye Young, four years of services, Mr. Michael Hawkins, four years of services and Mr. Tyrone Williams, sixteen years of services. Each one was presented with a plaque. They all were very appreciative of the opportunity to serve on the board and to be a part of Halifax County Schools.

Ms. Catherine Brooks gave the update of the DPI Transition Team. Dr. Donna Hunter asked if Ms. Brooks could present to parents letting them know what DPI is actually doing here. If all possible, setup parent meetings in August.

Mrs. A. Faye Young reviewed a list of board policies that will be placed on the table for thirty days.

Ms. Jennifer Whitfield presented the 2010 – 2011 AIG Plan to be reviewed for the month of June. AIG Plan will be placed on the Web for review by the public.

Ms. Charlene Jones presented the financial update.

Dr. Frederick stated the North Carolina School Business Officials were here in the county helping with internal controls and maximizing budgets.

Mr. Tyrone Williams motioned to accept the policies as presented by Mrs. A. Faye Young. Mr. Michael Hawkins moved in seconded. Four in favor. Two Oppose.

Dr. Donna Hunter stated that she was concern that we have policies to fit our fancy. This policy was unfair to Mrs. Hawkins. We are taking this animal policy too far. Mrs. A. Faye Young stated this policy was nothing we came up with ourselves. Mrs. Allison Shaffer asked if we had a policy in place, after reading about the incident that happened on the grounds.

Mr. Charles Chambliss presented the 2010 – 2011 Career Technical Education Plan for approval. This plan offers Marketing Programs at Northwest High and Early Childhood Programs at Southeast. Mr. Michael Hawkins motioned to accept this plan as presented by Mr. Chambliss. Dr. Donna Hunter moved in seconded.

Ms. Jennifer Whitfield presented the contract for a Speech Pathologist for board approval. Mr. Tyrone Williams motioned to approve the contract as presented by Ms. Whitfield. Dr. Donna

Hunter moved in seconded. This contract will only be for the month of June. Mr. Williams stated a new contract is needed for July.

Memorandum of Agreement between Halifax County Schools and the Town of Enfield was presented for approval. Mr. Tyrone Williams motioned to approve the agreement. Mr. Michael Hawkins moved in seconded. Dr. Donna Hunter asked who's held accountable. The Town of Enfield is held accountable. The Town should monitor the site daily. Need more accountability on the towns' part.

Dr. Frederick presented the four-day workweek schedule for board approval. The central office will be open five days a week. Mrs. Gladys Walden motioned to approve the four- day workweek. Mrs. A. Faye Young moved in seconded.

Mr. Ron Alexander presented the Child Nutrition bids for the school year of 2010-2011 for groceries, supplies, snacks, water and juice products. Mrs. A. Faye Young motioned to approve the recommendations as presented by Mr. Alexander. Dr. Donna Hunter moved in seconded.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Frederick shared with the board members: Volunteers Summary, Attendance updates, News Articles, Tutors @ Saint Paul, Dr. Hayes Master Board Training accomplishments and a Teacher Working Conditions Survey notebook. The Swearing in ceremony for the new board will be open to the public at 5:15 p.m. on July 6th.

BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Donna Hunter stated that testing is over for elementary and middle students. We need to say a prayer for our high school students. She has been with Mrs. Georgia Lynch and the 21st Century at Inborden Elementary. That program received an outstanding report from DPI. There will be summer parent involvement; we encourage the parents to come out.

Mr. Michael Hawkins informed us he would be attending conferences for the next few weeks either for school or church. Thank you for everything.

Mrs. A. Faye Young has been attended programs that benefit our children. The senior banquet at Northwest where students who received scholarships were recognized. Attorney Chance Lynch was the speaker. The children who attended Halifax County Schools are our focus. I've enjoyed working with you.

Mr. Tyrone Williams thanked everyone. And I bid you farewell.

Mrs. Gladys Walden thanked those for staying to the end. This has been a stressful year for our teachers. Thank you for the invitation to your closing activities. Fellow board members who are leaving, I had no idea what I stepped into. To the new board members I look forward to working with you.

Ms. Carolyn Hawkins stated that students are learning, we can't teach them how to think. She read an article from the National School Board Association "To Change Her Point of View". Have a good evening.

Mrs. Debbie Hardy thanked everyone for their act of kindness during the passing of her mother. She visited many closing activities. She also recognized our newly elected officials. Thank you for all you've done for the best interest of our children.

Mr. Tyrone Williams made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Mrs. A. Faye Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board Chair

Secretary

July 6, 2010