

Halifax County Board of Education
March 1, 2010

MINUTES

The Halifax County Board of Education met in session on Monday, March 1, 2010. The meeting was held at the central office administrative building located on Hwy. 301 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, Assistant Superintendent, MiShawna Moore, Finance Officer, Carrie Neal, Human Resource Director, Dr. Farrell Young, Public Relations Officer, Keith Hoggard, Representative from DPI: Dr. Pat Ashley and Catherine Brooks, and Board Attorney, Larry Armstrong.

Mrs. Hardy, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Hawkins moved to go into closed session at 5:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing information that is privileged, confidential or not a public record under N. C. General Statute § 143-318.11 (a) (1). Mrs. Walden moved in second. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hardy called the open session at 7:00 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Percy Davis – Hobgood Outreach CDC – Is here tonight because he is interested in purchasing Bakers Elementary School.
- Arjonah Bullock-Balmer representing the Enfield-Roanoke Rapids Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is here tonight to share accurate 2010 Census information. There will be over \$400 billion dollars available for various community projects. We need the assistance from Halifax County Schools to get the information out to students and their families. There will be a Census Awareness Day on April 1, 2010. Census forms will be mailed out in March and people will come door-to-door in May - July. You can visit the website www.2010census.gov/schools for forms that can be duplicated for principals (kits), teachers (resources), etc.
- Mrs. Margaret Parrish – Committee to Save Education in Halifax County Schools - Is here tonight regarding the proposal presented at your board on February 8th. She indicated that she had read with great interest the article “Close Scrutiny of School District’s Future” in the Sunday February 14, 2010 Daily Herald. She proudly presented the first 100 signed letters. She left us with the words from Dr. James E. Sheppard (Nov. 1939), “there is no economy in education.....”
- Mrs. West (Parent representing Eastman Middle School’s Tax Paying Community) She is here tonight to share concerns. Since Eastman school was closed, test scores are dropping, children’s hair being cut in the classroom and no one knows

who's doing it, students are not interested, and children are being caught with drugs, guns, etc.

Mrs. Walden moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Hawkins moved in second. Motion carried.

- Minutes from February 8, 2010, and
- Personnel recommendations, as presented in closed session.

Mr. Williams requested to add IV. B. – School Consolidation Feasibility Study as proposed by the Committee to Save Education. Mrs. Walden moved in second. Motion carried.

Mrs. Walden moved to remove IV.A. Budget Amendment from the agenda. Mr. Williams moved in second. Motion carried.

Mr. Charles Chambliss, Assistant Superintendent, introduced the School Resource Officers:

NAME	SCHOOL
Diyrone Solomon	Enfield Middle School
Rodney Williams	William R. Davie Middle
Daniel Jones	Northwest Halifax High School
Clarence Carmon	Southeast Halifax High School

Ms. MiShawna Moore, Assistant Superintendent presented a Power Point presentation to give the board an update on Curriculum and Instruction, which included:

- **Three ways to improve student learning**
- **Setting expectations at the school level**
- **Responding to student needs begins by asking**
- **How do pacing guides help?**
- **ClassScape District Assessment**
- **Impact of Curriculum Alignment and Pacing Guides**
- **Alignment of Resources**
- **Overall Educational Benefits of Aligning Resources**
- **Next Steps**

Board members recognized Dequasia Tillery, a 4th grade student at Aurelian Springs Elementary School as Halifax County Schools' Student of the Month for February 2010.

Mrs. Catherine Brooks, DPI District Transformation Coach provided board members with a list of on-going services being provided to Halifax County Schools through the partnership. Mrs. Brooks introduced members of the transition team here tonight: Dr. Pat Ashley, Loretta Riddick, and Anne Brown. Susan Frazier and James Ellerbe were unable to be here tonight.

Board members receive the following board policies to be placed on the table for review for thirty (30) days:

- #2000 – **Operational Goals of the Board** (*Replaces 1800 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992*)
- #2010 – **Board and Superintendent Relations** (*Replaces 1040 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992*)
- #2100 – **Board Member Legal Status** (*New*)
- #2110 – **Board Member Elections** (*Replaces 1000, 1010, and 1020 – adopted Feb. 3, 1993*)

- #2115 – Unexpired Term Fulfillment *(Replaces 1010 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992)*
- #2116 – Removal from Office *(New)*
- #2120 – Code of Ethics for School Board Members *(Replaces 1050 – adopted Feb. 6, 1989)*
- #2121 – Board Member Conflict of Interest *(Replaces 1050 – adopted Feb. 6, 1989)*
- #2122 – Role of Members in Handling Complaints *(New)*
- #2123 – Board Member Opportunities for Development *(Replaces 1500 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992)*
- #2125-7315 – Confidential Information *(Replaces 3310 – adopted May 6, 1991)*
- #2130 – Board Member Compensation and Expenses *(Replaces 1031 and 1510 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992)*
- #2400 – Board Policies *(Replaces 1400, 1410, 1411, 1420, 1421, 1430, 1440, 1450 and 1451 – adopted Feb. 3, 1992)*
- #2470 – Administrative Procedures *(Replaces 2600 and 2700 – adopted June 1, 1992)*
- #2475 – School Rules *(Replaces 2700 – adopted June 1, 1992)*

Mrs. Carrie Neal, Finance Officer discussed the financial update, which included:

- **Budget Summary & Board Report (Mr. Williams questioned if the percentage encumbered can be added to this report. Mrs. Neal will check on this).**
- **The Local Interim Budget (This is the budget will be brought to you in April for approval to get our numbers to the county for a hold-the-line budget)**
- **Budget Amendments will be coming from DPI where I have asked for line items to be changed.**
- **There will be a very nominal amount for a transportation budget amendment.**
- **Capitol Outlay Budget (will come to you for approval prior to going to the County)**
- **Interim Budget Resolution (which will allow us to operate from July 1 – October 2010)**

Mr. Hawkins asked if the amount indicated for Charter Schools - \$272,000 is a slight increase because I know that our attendance is down.

Dr. Hunter asked where we stand with the audits. Mrs. Neal indicated that the auditors will be here on March 6th beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Williams moved to consider conducting a school consolidation feasibility study (such as the proposal presented by the Committee to Save Education in Halifax County) prior to closing any additional schools. Mr. Hawkins moved in second. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:

- State Tornado Drill is scheduled Friday, March 5
- Updated board members about:
 - Incidents at Davie and Enfield
- Unemployment Claims for substitute teachers
- Attendance Reports (Staff, Principals & Central Office Administrators)
- PTA Meeting dates (List of PTA Presidents, Schedule of Meetings)
- List of All Committees (these lists will be posted to the website)
- Drivers Education Committee (Policy for Behind the Wheel Training) We will be working to get the policy in place
- Figures and Facts 2009-2010
- State Board of Education Meeting Agenda – March 3 & 4, 2010
 - Reception – 5:15 p.m. The public is invited. The State Board selected Halifax County Schools because they are proud of the progress being made through the partnership and want to share with the community.
 - Program (Mrs. Hardy shared)
 - Dinner – Wednesday, March 3rd
 - Debbie Hardy – Welcome
 - Gladys Walden – Recognition of Guests
 - Michael Hawkins – Invocation
 - Remarks

- A Report on America's Choice (will be coming to you as soon as it is completed.
- Thanks to the Central Team, Principals for working together. **“Working Together Works.”**

BOARD COMMENTS:

- Dr. Donna Hunter – Reminded everyone that the Finance Committee will meet March 15th at 3:30 p.m. On Saturday, February 27th I attended a Workshop on Education Rights that was put on at the Town of Enfield by the Committee to Save Education in Halifax County. I was very impressed. Keep up the great work.
- Mr. Michael Hawkins – The Badges. & Grounds Committee met at Hollister Elementary with Mr. Sledge and looked at all of the school needs. The next meeting will be March 18th at Pittman Elementary. I will be unable to attend the meeting Saturday with the Auditors as I have another meeting.
- Mrs. A. Faye Young – I thank Officer Carmon for introducing our new Resource Officers. I thank Ms. Moore for the curriculum updates. I would also like to thank Delta Sigma Theta for encouraging us to do what we need to do for the 2010 Census. Thanks Mrs. Neal for working smarter not harder. The Policy Committee will meet on April 27th at 4:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Carolyn Hawkins – What can I do? I visited W. R. Davie and everything was beautiful. I visited ISS and had a chance to visit with the students. They had very intelligent conversations. I went to Enfield Middle/Inborden Elementary and was able to give one of the substitutes a break. I asked about the cost savings for closing the schools. The cost savings was \$84, 681. My concerns are: have you taken into consideration the cost of electricity, utilities, etc.? How much was saved in fuel expense as far as transportation?
- Mrs. Gladys Walden – I thank all of you for coming. The Curriculum Committee School Visits will be at WR Davie/Everetts on March 9th at 8:30 a.m. There will be a Curriculum Committee Meeting on March 25th at 4:30 p.m. I apologize to Inborden and Enfield, I had a death in my family and could not align schedules; we are working to reschedule your school visits.
- Tyrone Williams – The HCSEF Education Foundation met on February 25th and we are soliciting volunteers. The foundation was incorporated in 1995 and supports teachers, students through grants and scholarships. Since we now have a very organized group of citizens (I ask that the Board Chair look at appointing some of them to the audit, finance, curriculum, committees, etc.)
- Mrs. Debbie Hardy – Congratulations to the Student of the Month. I'd like for you to take a look around, this board is working hard to try to do what is right by participating in Master Board Training. You will notice our board goals are posted. I'd like to say that the Northwest Recognition Banquet was excellent. Inborden's Black History Museum was outstanding. I'd like to reiterate to the board that I thank you for the hard work that you do. I appreciate your support. We all have to work together and keep our focus on student achievement.

Dr. Hunter asked for information regarding the two years of audits prior to Saturday, March 6th.

Board members were recognized for completing Level I of Master Board Training.

Dr. Frederick recognized MiShawna Moore for receiving her doctorate in Education.

Mrs. Walden made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Mrs. Young seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

Board Chair

Secretary

April 12, 2010