

The Halifax County Board of Education
October 6, 2008

MINUTES

The Halifax County Board of Education met in session on Monday, October 6, 2008. The meeting was held at Enfield Middle School located in Enfield, North Carolina.

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

Others present: Superintendent, Geraldine Middleton, Associate Superintendent, Dr. Elease Frederick, Assistant Superintendent, Charles Chambliss, Public Relations Officer, Keith Hoggard, Personnel Director, Selma Allen, Finance Officer, Andrew Callihan, and Board Attorney, Larry Armstrong.

Chairman, Tyrone Williams called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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

A point of personal privilege for myself and Dr. Hunter during the loss in our families.

I want to thank Debbie Hardy for handling the duties of chairman in my absence so capably.

Mr. Williams read the Conflict of Interest Statement, which refers to Board Policy #1050. The following conflicts were noted:

- Mrs. Walden - Action Item for CADA.
- Mr. Williams a potential conflict with item to be added.

Mrs. Hardy moved to approve the meeting agenda moving Item VI.C. to VII.H. 2008-2009 Activity Bus Cost, VII.I. - Extension to option for CADA Property, and VII.J. - Release from Xerox Contract. Mrs. Young moved in second. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hardy moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held September 2, 2008 with any said corrections. Mrs. Young moved in second. Motion carried.

- Louise Francis presented framed photographs of past principals of Enfield Graded School/Enfield

High/Enfield Middle School. Also presented other donated tokens: Wal-Mart gift card, pencils from ECSU.

- Rev. Glen Silver, Pastor of Tillery Chapel Missionary Baptist Church announced the formal Adoption of Dawson Elementary School, which includes the following:
 - 1 - Partners in Learning
 - 2 - Principal-For-A-Day
 - 3 - Campus Beautification Program
 - 4 - Support of Special Events
 - 5 - Strengthening Families Program
 - 6 - Halifax MATCH Mentoring Program
 - 7 - Use this at our church as a guide

Ms. Middleton informed the board that this is an outgrowth of the community forums. Rev. Silver has worked with us throughout our endeavors. Look forward to every school being adopted.

Mr. Hoggard presented a certification of appreciation to Rev. Glen Silver and Tillery Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.

Rev. Silver thanked Mrs. Walden a member of his church for being instrumental in the Adoption process.

- Vanessa Jefferson - Northwest Band Boosters - shared a concern with the board regarding being charged to use Activity Buses. We are charged for dead time (when no students on board), Band Boosters incur personal expenses for carrying bus drivers to pick up buses. We are requesting the Board for their help with these expenses. The marching band is not only academic but boosts student esteem.
- Officer Clarence Carmon - Southeast Band Boosters - we need help with the cost for activity buses. We have a lot of children at Southeast in the band. These children are doing fundraisers on top of fundraisers. Anything the board can do to help the will be greatly appreciated.
- Lucinda Hunt-Perry, Parent concerned parent of students at Inborden, Enfield Middle and Southeast. This is the first year that there has been a concern regarding their students. (Because there are not enough textbooks for the students to bring home textbooks). What is being done? What can she do as a parent to get support from the community and her job?

Board members recognized Destiny Nicholson, 3rd Grade Student from Pittman Elementary as Halifax County Schools' Student of the Month for October 2008.

Mr. Callihan, Finance Officer gave the board an update regarding the audit. I got in touch with Leonard Creech and Eddie Burke. All information will be delivered by October 30th. Mr. Creech will go through everything by November 10th. Cherry, Beckaert & Holland will be at the central office on November 17, 2008.

Dr. Hunter - When do you see the audit being completed?

There will be a lot of compliance checks this year. Putting the financial information into the system will not take that long. All information will be in boxes (labeled). The auditors will update the Audit Committee By October 20th, Cynthia Wiggs will move into the main office.

Dr. Hunter would like to know how much has been paid so far.

Mr. Callihan - Between \$70,000 and \$80,000 (Creech), and \$14,000 to (Cherry, Beckaert & Holland) for preliminary work only.

Ms. Middleton introduced Ms. Georgia Lynch, Director of the Community Development Center, Inc. located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. She attended Inborden School and has always been involved in helping Halifax County Schools. She has assisted teachers and families in Edgecombe and Nash Counties. She has provided uniforms to students who lost homes due to fires. She has worked with Lynette Webb and Linda Sanders with the homeless and distributed comforters, bedspreads, sheet sets (Bed & Bath and Wassabi) and school supplies (Office Depot). I have always worked to support Halifax County even when people didn't know I was working. She was able to secure the 21st Century Grant for the school system. She recognized Julius Webb who helped her to write this grant. They are about halfway through the process for the after school program. On October 17th there will be an Awareness Program here at Inborden/Enfield School. Senator Edward Jones and Representative Angela Bryant will be there to help kick off this program. I hope all of you will be proud of this 21st Century Grant, which will bring \$1.2 million for the next four years (\$300,000 per year). I have asked Mr. Allen Sledge and Mr. Julius Webb to come up and share what they have been doing.

Mr. Sledge recognized Ms. Lynch because she was actually utilizing her own personal funds. She is hard working and is all about the students of Halifax County Schools.

Mr. Webb echoes the same sentiments as Mr. Sledge. I stumbled across this lady about four years ago and was shocked to learn that she was using her own funds to provide supplies, uniforms, and services to students within Halifax County Schools. We look forward to getting started on November 4, 2008 and encourage everyone to come out for the Awareness Program on October 17th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Inborden/Enfield Schools.

Mrs. Hawkins shared Board Policy # 2900 - Background Checks/Criminal Record Checks of Candidates for Employment to be placed on the table for thirty (30) days for review and bring it back to the board for approval at the next meeting.

Mrs. Hardy moved to approve the contract for NCSBA to revise the Halifax County Schools Policy Manual. Michael Hawkins moved in second. Motion carried. Dr. Hunter and Carolyn Hawkins were opposed.

Mrs. Hardy moved to approve the letter addressed to legislators regarding the fines and forfeitures litigation on behalf of the board of education to be signed by the total board. Mrs. Young moved in second. Motion carried.

Mr. Armstrong shared that the portion of funds owed to Halifax County Schools is about \$2.3 million.

Mrs. Hawkins moved to approve personnel as discussed in closed session. Mrs. Young moved in second. Motion carried.

CERTIFIED: Kia Settles, Gerson Correa, Peterina Smith

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: Andrea G. Dagnalan, Josephine T. Bustria, Charlotte Silver, Dorcus Shearin, Mamerto T. Fernandez, Jr., Mary Ann Valderrama-Cipriano

CHILD NUTRITION SUBSTITUTES: Tierra Alston

RESIGNATIONS: Patrice High, Erick T. Williams

TRANSFERS: Mattie Hayward, Mary Alston, Mary Harper-McDaniel, Alice Harris

ELIGIBLE TO RETURN TO WORK: Ida Murray

INCREASE PERCENTAGE EMPLOYED: Kimberly Richardson
(Increased from 50% to 75%)

Mrs. Young moved to find \$54,751.00 to fund bus expenses for athletics and bands after the request goes to the Finance Committee. Mr. Hawkins moved in second.

Carolyn Hawkins moved to approve an extension for a six months to option by the board to the county for CADA's option on the Enfield Middle School. Michael Hawkins moved in second. Dr. Hunter opposed. Tyrone Williams and Gladys Walden abstained.

Mrs. Hardy moved to authorize the board to release the Xerox contract. Mrs. Walden moved in second. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:
None

BOARD COMMENTS:

- Dr. Donna Hunter - Thanked Mr. Williams, Mrs. Hardy, Dr. Moore, Mrs. Archibald during the loss of my nephew. Continue to pray for us. When can we expect to see the minutes on the web? Principals forward PTA meeting schedules. Ms. Middleton bring an update on the manual for the November meeting. Now that my health is better I plan to visit schools. Just to come and visit and mingle with kids.
- Michael Hawkins - I've had several phone calls from staff members regarding copies, paper for information to send to students. Several teachers have called and I'm concerned because they do not need to worry about copies and paper.
- Faye Young - On October 20th at 6:00 - 7:30 P.M. The Audit Committee will meet. I recently attended the Regional District Meeting (Take this Job and Love It - Presenter - Ramona Miller)
- Carolyn Hawkins - I still have a concern about some of the Asst. Principals being brought back early. I would like to donate a portion of my stipend to the Student of the Month. The Policy Committee met recently. Tonight the Board voted to accept the NCSBA Contract Policy Manual. Due to the contract, I feel that the Policy Committee does not need to meet until after February 2009.
- Gladys Walden - Announced that Oct. 9 - MATCH Mentor Training will be held at Tillery Chapel Church. Thanked the board for the opportunity to attend the District Meeting.

- Debbie Hardy - One of the 1st things told to us by NCSBA, was that there was a school board in the State of Georgia that the entire school board had been removed due to code of ethics. I'd like to thank the principal, assistant principal and staff, the parent that spoke on behalf of textbooks. I'm committed to doing the very best we can.
- Tyrone Williams - Offered condolences to Ms. Middleton on the loss of her brother. The King of the County Game was just held and Northwest has won four years in a row. I handed out information regarding Superintendent Evaluation (from NCSBA). I would like an ADHOC Committee for the Superintendent Evaluation. I recently met with Catherine Brooks, our district transition coach from DPI. We've had discussion on watching the fuel situation very closely. Our board committees are working really hard. I really appreciate the effort of the chairs and the persons serving on the committees. I attended the NC Caucus of Black School Administrators at Elizabeth City State University. The main focus was for Community Engagement. On October 16th at 6:30 p.m. at Southeast, there will be a Community Forum sponsored by Senator Ed Jones and Rep. Angela Bryant focused on Gangs, Drugs, Youth Violence. Thanked Mrs. Bulluck and Mrs. Umstead.

Mrs. Hawkins moved to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Mrs. Hardy moved in second. Motion carried.

Board Chair

Secretary

November 3, 2008