

THE HALIFAX COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Halifax County Administration Building

9525 Hwy 301 South

Halifax, North Carolina 27839

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Monday, December 7, 2015

The Halifax County Board of Education met in open session on Monday, December 7, 2015. The meeting was held at the Halifax County Administration Building, located at 9525 Hwy 301 South, Halifax, North Carolina 27839.

Present: Mrs. Debbie Hardy, Chair, Mr. Claude Cooper, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Susie L. Evans, Mrs. Joyce Lashley, Mr. Charles Hedgepeth, Ms. Carolyn Hawkins, and Dr. Donna Hunter.

Others present: Superintendent, Dr. Elease Frederick, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Mrs. Tyrana Battle, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Personnel, Mrs. Linda Bulluck, and Finance Officer, Ms. Charlene Jones, Representatives from DPI: Dr. Nancy Barbour, Dr. Keith Eades, Dr. Meta Phelps-Hodges, and Attorney Larry Armstrong.

Mrs. Debbie Hardy welcomed everyone to the December Board meeting. Mrs. Hardy, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

The Mission Statement and the Goals of the Halifax County Board of Education were repeated in unison.

Mrs. Hardy asked for the approval of the Board Agenda with the following change; to move the Superintendent Search to an Action Item (f).

Mr. C. Cooper moved to approve the board agenda with the said change. Dr. D. Hunter moved in second. (Oppose: Hedgepeth)

No Public Comments.

Mrs. D. Hardy asked if any board member had a Conflict of Interest to the matters on the board agenda. All other board members responded that there was no conflict of interest to the matters on the board agenda.

Mrs. D. Hardy asked for the approval of the Consent Agenda with modifications in the minutes. In the minutes of November 2, 2015 Mrs. Hardy broke the tie, in favor of Claude Cooper as the Vice-Chair. Also, in the minutes of November 2, 2015 Mrs. Hardy broke the tie, in favor of the Board Agenda.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the consent agenda with the modifications in the minutes. Mr. C. Cooper moved in second.

Mrs. S. Evans asked when we talk in discussion does the secretary have to put the responses.

Attorney Armstrong stated that the secretary only has to record the actions of the Board, not word for word statements.

Consent Agenda vote: (Approve: Hunter-Cooper-Evans-Hawkins) (Oppose: Hedgepeth-Lashley)

Mrs. D. Hardy asked for the approval of the Minutes.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the minutes. Ms. C. Hawkins moved in second. *(Approve: Hunter-Hawkins-Cooper) (Oppose: Hedgepeth-Lashley-Evans) Mrs. D. Hardy voted to break the tie to approve the minutes.*

Mr. C. Hedgepeth stated that his reason for opposing was that the minutes were edited and not recorded correctly.

Mrs. D. Hardy asked for the approval of Personnel not including three items as discussed in closed session. Mr. C. Cooper moved to approve the personnel as discussed in closed session. Mrs. S. Evans moved in second. Motioned carried. *(Approve: Cooper-Hunter-Hawkins-Evans) (Oppose: Lashley-Hedgepeth)*

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Accounts Payable and Assistant Principal positions as discussed in closed session. Mr. C. Cooper moved in second.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to amend the motion for the Accounts Payable and Assistant Principal position to be voted on separately. Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Accounts Payable position. Mr. C. Cooper moved in second. *(Approve: Hunter-Cooper-Hawkins) (Oppose: Hedgepeth-Evans-Lashley)* Mrs. D. Hardy broke the tie by voting in favor of the Accounts Payable personnel as discussed in closed session. Mr. C. Hedgepeth stated that his reason for opposing is that we have laid off a lot of other capable employees that can do the job without hiring from the outside.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Assistant Principal position as discussed in closed session. Ms. C. Hawkins moved in second. *(Approve: Cooper-Evans-Hunter-Hawkins) (Oppose: Hedgepeth-Lashley)* Mr. C. Hedgepeth stated his reason for opposing was that too many employees can be shifted around without hiring from outside.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Superintendents' bonus as stated in her contract. Ms. C. Hawkins moved in second. *(Approve: Hunter-Hawkins-Evans-Cooper) (Oppose: Hedgepeth-Lashley)* Mr. Hedgepeth stated that his reason for opposing was that the principals' contract and superintendent bonus were hidden from the Board. Don't Agree.

Personnel Recommendations as presented in Closed Session:

CERTIFIED: Brant Becker, Patience Adams, Marcus Jones (Principal-Aurelian Springs), Marvette Speller (Assistant Principal – Southeast Halifax High), Benedict Fagbeyiro, Mazine Lowe, Braxton Peterson, Nehemiah Williams.

RESIGNATIONS: Derrick Stevenson, Hannah Allen, Shadae Jackson, Dennis Knight, Dr. James Hunter.

SERVICE AGREEMENT: Linda Golden.

TRANSFERS (*For Information Only*): William Perry.

ELIGIBLE TO RETURN TO WORK: Nadine Daniels.

Dr. P. Chamblee introduced a local committee who gave us highlights on the celebration and the accomplishments of Ella Baker, a native of Littleton, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes for civil rights. Ella Baker Day is being planned for April 15, 2016. All materials will be donated by the Ella Baker Committee.

Mrs. T. Battle, Curriculum and Instruction update will highlight the Academically Intellectually Gifted (AIG) and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs. Ms. L. McClain introduced the teachers Yolanda Scott (AIG), Gloria Harris (AIG) and Gerson Correa (ESL).

Mrs. S. Evans updated the board on the Long Range Facility Committee meeting held on November 10, 2015. She stated that nothing has been decided but the committee is looking at closing more schools. We are still moving the play ground equipment to the schools. The next meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2016.

Ms. C. Jones asked for board approval for the State Public School Fund, Capital Outlay Fund and Federal Grants Fund.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Budget Amendments as presented by Ms. Jones. Mr. C. Cooper moved in second. (*Approve:* Cooper-Hunter-Hawkins-Evans) (*Oppose:* Hedgepeth-Lashley)

Mrs. T. Battle is seeking approval to enter into an agreement with VanGuard Educational Institute to render services to William R Davie and Everetts Elementary to support literacy across all disciplines.

Mr. C. Cooper moved to approve VanGuard Educational Institute to render services as discussed. Dr. D. Hunter moved in second. Motion carried.

Mrs. T. Battle is seeking approval to enter into an agreement with Vivian Kellock to render services to Dawson Elementary School.

Mrs. S. Evans moved to approve Vivian Kellock to render services at Dawson Elementary. Dr. D. Hunter moved in second. Motion carried.

Mrs. C. Debreaux is seeking approval to enter an agreement with System of Care Family Resource Center/Families Supporting Families to provide a temporary supportive learning environment for students with disabilities who experience behavioral challenges.

Mr. C. Hedgepeth moved to approve System of Care Family Resource Center Agreement. Mrs. S. Evans moved in second. (*Abstain*: Dr. D. Hunter, is at the Board of the Center)

Mrs. T. Battle is seeking approval to enter into an agreement with From The Heart Educational Services, Inc. to help close the achievement gap and provide educational services for students and adult learners.

Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the contract with From The Heart Educational Services. Mrs. S. Evans moved in second. Motion carried.

Dr. Allison Schafer, NCSBA, was contacted by the chair seeking information about how the association can assist with a superintendent search. As we all know, Dr. Frederick will be retiring at the end of the 2016 school year. It takes about six months. The Board is the decision makers.

Mrs. Hardy stated that some of the Board members have never been through a superintendent's search. Dr. Schafer presented the consulting agreement for approval.

Mr. C. Hedgepeth moved to accept the consulting agreement from the NCSBA for superintendent's search. Dr. D. Hunter moved in second. Motion carried.

Dr. Allison Schafer stated that there are timelines that the association needs Board approval.

- 1) Application Deadline is February 1, 2016. Mrs. S. Evans moved to approve the application deadline of February 1, 2016. Dr. D. Hunter moved in second. Motion carried.
- 2) Superintendent of Schools Sought with corrections. Mrs. J. Lashley moved to approve the superintendent of schools search. Mrs. S. Evans moved in second. Motion carried.

Mr. C. Hedgepeth asked to be excused. Granted.

- 3) Basic Advertising by the American Association of School Administrators for 60 days. Ms. C. Hawkins moved to approve the advertising. Mrs. S. Evans moved in second. Motion carried.
- 4) Approval of the Halifax County Schools Superintendent Application as discussed by the board. Dr. D. Hunter moved to approve the Superintendent Application. Mrs. J. Lashley moved in second. Motion carried.

- 5) Surveys (Edenton-Chowan Superintendent Search) Staff and Community. Mrs. S. Evans moved to approve the survey examples used by Edenton-Chowan for the Superintendent's Search. Mr. C. Cooper moved in second. Motion carried.

The Halifax County School District Profile is needed by Friday.

Superintendent Comments:

Dr. Frederick thanked everyone for their support for the luncheon with the County Commissioners. She thanked the School Nutrition Department for their services.

Announcements:

- Faith-Based Community Meeting on December 10, 2015 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Call Meeting Audit Report on December 16, 2015 @ 4:30 p.m.

The red folder for the Board included:

- U.S. Department of Justice
- ID Photo Session
- Attendance
- Basketball Schedules
- Articles

Board Comments:

The Board wishes that you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your support. Be Safe and Love Your Family.

Mrs. Joyce Lashley made a motion to adjourn at 4:15 p.m. Mrs. Susie Evans moved in second. Motion carried.

Board Chair

Secretary

January 11, 2016