

HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, September 23, 2013

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met in regular session on Monday, September 23, 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at Hickory City Hall.

Members present included: Vice Chair Reginald Hamilton; Board members Charlotte Williams, Sallie Johnson, Margaret Pope, Rev. T. Anthony Spearman, and Amy Monroe; and acting Board Attorney Stephen Palmer. Absent were Board Chair Angela Beaver Simmons and Board Attorney Jeffrey T. Mackie.

Also present at the meeting were the following individuals: Dr. Walter H. Hart, Superintendent; Dr. Denise Patterson, Chief Academic Officer; Adam Steele, Finance Officer; Timothy Sims, Director of Federal Programs; Tracy Sigmon, Personnel Officer; Shawn Clemons, Director of Accountability; Adam Huckabee, Facilities Director; Jeff Tice, Technology Director; Beverly Snowden, Public Information Officer; student and teacher representatives from Hickory High School; and Mary Duquette, Clerk to the Board.

Agenda Items I. and II. (Call to Order and Quorum Determination)

Vice Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order and stated that a quorum was present, noting that Board Chair Beaver Simmons was out of town.

Agenda Item III. (Pledge of Allegiance and Adoption of the Agenda)

Cadet Dalton Teague from the Hickory High JROTC lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the Hickory High chorus performed the National Anthem.

Rev. Spearman made a motion that the Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pope and the Board's vote was 6-0

Agenda Item IV. (Minutes)

Ms. Williams made a motion that the Board approve minutes from the August 12 and August 26 meetings of the Board. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion and the Board's vote was 6-0.

Agenda Item V. (Public Hearing)

During the Public Hearing, Ms. Caroline Lovette, Assistant Principal at Hickory High School and Athletic Director for the Hickory Public Schools, requested permission to address the Board. Ms. Lovette announced that she had accepted a position with Asheville City Schools but wanted to publicly thank the Board for the opportunity to serve the students and staff at Hickory High School. Dr. Hart stated that Hickory High is fortunate to have had Ms. Lovette as a part of its administrative team and wished her well in her new endeavor.

Agenda Item VI. (Programs/Special Recognitions)

Dr. Hart stated that teachers from Hickory High were present at tonight's meeting to share with the Board how they are integrating technology into classroom instruction. Dr. Hart turned the program over to Ms. Terri Hall, Technology Specialist.

Ms. Hall stated that Dr. Hart has invited her to share information about the eLeaders program at Board meetings. She introduced Ms. Rachael Moyer and Mr. Chris Rice, teachers from Hickory High, who were present to share information about how they are incorporating the use of technology in the day to day instruction of students. They shared information about the use of Twitter, Cloud Technology, Google Drive and Drop Box. They talked about flipping their classrooms as well as the ability to engage their learners and create collaboratively. They thanked the Board for its support of the eLeaders program stating that it has generated excitement with teachers which trickles down to the students. As a result, they have witnessed among their students a positive reinforcement from peers, a deeper understanding of the subject, and a change in student engagement in the classroom.

Vice Chair Hamilton thanked Ms. Moyer and Mr. Rice for their presentation.

Dr. Hart and Vice Chair Hamilton recognized the following individuals:

1. Jeff Hodakowski, Principal, Viewmont Elementary School
Viewmont Elementary Schools was named as a Title I Reward School – in the top 10% of Title I schools across the State of North Carolina.
2. Hickory High School – Dr. Ann Stalnaker, Principal, and Ms. Caroline Lovette, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director
2012-13 Wells Fargo Cup recognizes high schools that achieve the best overall interscholastic athletic performance within their respective classification. Points are determined by a system based on performance in state competition. Hickory High scored a total of 282.5 points, placing the school as the 7th best in North Carolina for the 3A classification.
3. Best of Catawba Valley contest sponsored by the Hickory Daily Record
*Helen Devlin – Finest high school teacher in the county
Tracy Stilwell – Best elementary school teacher in the county
Kyle Osteen – Best middle school teacher in the county
Dr. Ann Stalnaker – Best high school principal in the county
Dr. Vanessa Howerton – Best middle school principal in the county
Hickory High School – Best high school in the county*
4. Adam Steele, Finance Officer
*ASBO Bridges to the Future Scholarship Recipient
\$2,000 scholarship to attend the ASBO International Annual Meeting and Expo*
5. Mary West
Retiring after 24 years of service with the Hickory Public Schools

Agenda Item VII.A. (Consent Agenda)

Dr. Hart presented the following items under the consent agenda:

1. Various donations;
2. Fund raiser request from the Hickory High Beta Club

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Agenda Item VII.B. (Contract – New Beginnings Pediatric Therapy, LLC)

Dr. Hart reminded Board members that this contract was discussed at the recent work session and recommended its approval by the Board.

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the contract with New Beginnings Pediatric Therapy as presented.

Agenda Item VII.C. (Contract – Hearing Services and Hearing Aid Center)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the contract with Hearing Services and Hearing Aid Center as presented.

Agenda Item VII.D. (Lease Agreement – Mr. Joey Vance)

Dr. Hart reminded the Board that this lease agreement, which was reviewed at the recent work session, is with Mr. Joey Vance and is for the lease of the lot on Highway 127 adjacent to Viewmont Elementary School for the purpose of selling Christmas trees. Dr. Hart recommended its approval by the Board.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the lease agreement with Mr. Vance as presented.

Agenda Item VIII.A. (Unfinished Business)

There were no items to discuss under unfinished business.

Agenda Item VII.B. (Chairperson's Report)

Vice Chair Hamilton reminded Board members of upcoming meetings which included:

1. Monday, October 14, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
2. Monday, October 28, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall;
3. Monday, November 4, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
4. Monday, December 2, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall.

Agenda Item VIII.C. (Superintendent's Report)

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Hart shared the following information with the Board:

- The Hickory High School band is hosting the Marching Band Preview show at the Hickory High School Stadium on September 24 beginning at 6:15 p.m.

- Hickory High School will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly renovated media center on October 15 at 6:30 p.m.
- Congratulations to Oakwood Elementary School for its participation in the 5K Do the Unthinkable Race over the weekend. For the second year in a row, Oakwood tied for first place.
- Welcome to new Oakwood Principal Ryan McCreary who will be officially joining the staff on October 15 and special thanks to Dr. Sherry Willis for serving as Interim Principal at Oakwood during this transition period.

Agenda Item IX. (Closed Session)

Ms. Johnson made a motion that the Board of Education go into closed session for the following reasons: to consider candidates recommended for employment by the administration as provided for in G.S.143.318.11 and in accordance with the North Carolina Personnel Act. Rev. Spearman seconded the motion and the Board's vote was 6-0.

Agenda Item X. (Action Items from Closed Session)

Upon return to open session, Ms. Pope made a motion that the Board approve Personnel List No. 6. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and the Board's vote was 6-0.

Agenda Item XI. (Announcements)

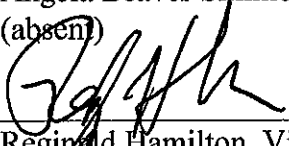
There were no special announcements.

Agenda Item XII. (Adjournment)

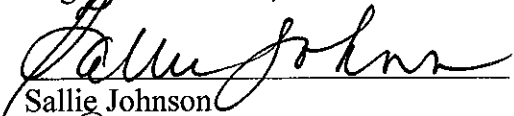
There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Ms. Monroe, the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

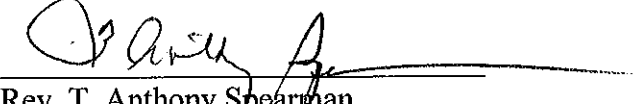
Angela Beaver Simmons, Chairperson
(absent)



Reginald Hamilton, Vice Chair




Sallie Johnson



Rev. T. Anthony Spearman



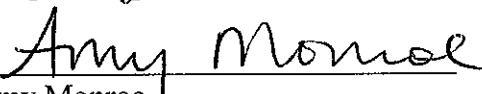
Walter H. Hart, Secretary



Charlotte Williams



Margaret Pope



Amy Monroe