

HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, August 25, 2014

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met in regular session on Monday, August 25, 2014, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at Hickory City Hall.

Members present included: Chairperson Reginald Hamilton; Vice Chair Charlotte Williams; Board members Sallie Johnson, Margaret Pope, Rev. T. Anthony Spearman, Amy Monroe and Julie Correll; 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; Shawn Clemons, Director of Accountability; Tracy Sigmon, Personnel Officer; Adam Huckabee, Facilities Director; Rebecca Allen, Director of Child Nutrition; Jeff Tice, Technology Director; Beverly Snowden, Public Information Officer; invited guests; and Mary Duquette, Clerk to the Board.

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

Chairperson Hamilton called the meeting to order and stated that a quorum was present.

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

Chairperson Hamilton invited those in attendance to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Johnson made a motion that the Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pope and the Board's vote was 7-0.

Agenda Item IV. (Minutes)

There were no minutes presented for approval.

Agenda Item V. (Public Hearing)

No one signed up to address the Board during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Agenda Item VI. (Programs/Special Recognitions)

Chairperson Hamilton and Dr. Hart recognized Finance Director Adam Steele and members of his staff for receiving the Certificate of Recognition in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association.

Board members and Dr. Hart recognized outgoing Board member Rev. T. Anthony Spearman. The Board presented Rev. Spearman with a Certificate of Recognition for his many contributions to the Board while serving as a member since 2011.

Rev. Spearman stated that he enjoyed his time as a member of the Board. He stated that the composition of the Board is quite unique in that it is very diverse in its composition and all members have so much passion and so much to offer. Rev. Spearman further stated that he was

thankful for the time that was afforded to him on the Board of the Hickory City Schools and appreciated the friendships along the way.

Agenda Item VII.A. (Consent Agenda)

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

1. Various donations;
2. Field trip requests;
3. Fund Raising Requests;
4. Second reading and adoption of new Board policies:
 - a. EE (Operation of Student Food Services)
 - b. EEA (Free and Reduced Price Food Services)
 - c. EED (Nutritional Standards for Food Selection)
 - d. EEE (Beverage Vending Sales)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Agenda Item VII.B. (2014-2015 Continuation Budget)

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the 2014-2015 Continuation Budget as presented.

Agenda Item VII.C. (Contract with Aramark)

Dr. Hart reminded the Board of several conversations with Aramark and the possibility of taking over the custodial services of the Hickory Public Schools. Custodians would no longer be employees of the Hickory Public Schools but would interview and become employees of Aramark assuming the employee is in compliance with Aramark's hiring standards. Dr. Hart further reminded the Board of the current budget situation and the arrangement with Aramark would avoid the spending of fund balance or the cutting of other programs or personnel.

Board members expressed concern about the transition of custodians employed by Hickory Public Schools to become employees of Aramark but further stated that they understood that it is a budgetary situation.

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contract with Aramark as presented.

Agenda Item VII.D. (Contracts for Services to the Exceptional Children's Program)

Upon motion made by Ms. Correll and seconded by Ms. Monroe, the Board voted 7-0 to approve two contracts for services to the Exceptional Children's Program (New Beginnings Pediatric Therapy and Equal Eyes Vision Services) as presented.

Agenda Item VIII.A. (Chairperson's Report)

Chairperson Hamilton reminded Board members of upcoming meetings which included:

1. Monday, September 8, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
2. Monday, September 8, 7:00 p.m., (time approximate), Board interviews candidates for Ward 3 seat;
3. Monday, September 22, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall;

4. Wednesday, September 24, 4:00 p.m., NCSBA District Meeting, Elkin High School, Elkin, NC;
5. Monday, October 13, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
6. Monday, October 27, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall.

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

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Hart reported that it was a good first day of school for students. Dr. Hart stated that staff will be monitoring student enrollment and may have to make some adjustments to teacher allotments.

Dr. Hart stated that a recent court ruling found the North Carolina voucher program to be unconstitutional and that he would keep the Board apprised of any appeals that may be filed in this matter.

Agenda Item IX. (Closed Session)

Rev. Spearman made a motion that the Board of Education go into closed session for the following reasons: to hear the appeal of a student dismissed for disciplinary reasons and to preserve the confidentiality of the student's educational records as required by 20 USC Section 1232g; and 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. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion and the Board's vote was 7-0.

Agenda Item X. (Action Items from Closed Session)

Upon return to open session, Ms. Monroe made a motion that the Board approve Personnel List No. 4. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pope and the Board's vote was 6-0. (Rev. Spearman excused himself from the meeting during closed session.)

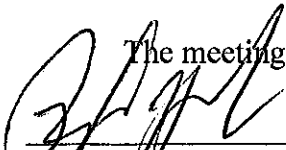
Agenda Item XI. (Announcements)

There were no announcements.

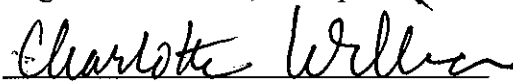
Agenda Item XII. (Adjournment)

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

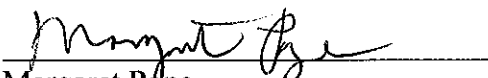
The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



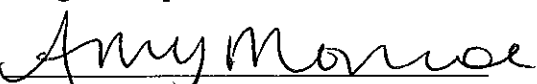
 Reginald Hamilton, Chairperson



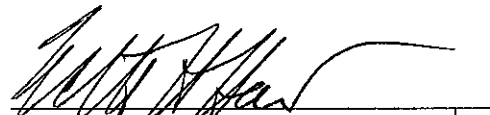
 Charlotte Williams, Vice Chair



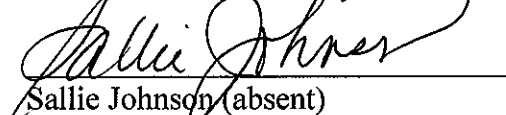
 Margaret Pope



 Amy Monroe



 Walter H. Hart, Secretary



 Sallie Johnson (absent)

 Rev. T. Anthony Spearman



 Julie Correll