

HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, June 23, 2014

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 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. Pope made a motion that the Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and the Board's vote was 7-0.

Agenda Item IV. (Minutes)

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Monroe, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the minutes from the April 14 and April 28 meetings of the Board.

Agenda Item V. (Public Hearing)

During the Public Hearing, Ms. Susan Stulpin addressed the Board. Ms. Stulpin shared her concerns about the IB program at Hickory High School which included the lack of STEM classes in the IB program, the high cost of supporting the program compared to the cost of the AP program, and the fact that students in the IB program are less likely to receive college credit. She questioned how the Board could justify offering a program that is more costly and which provides fewer benefits for students. She requested that the Board budget funds to maximize benefits to all students.

Chairperson Hamilton thanked Ms. Stulpin for her comments.

Agenda Item VI. (Programs/Special Recognitions)

Chairperson Hamilton and Dr. Hart recognized members of the Hickory Public Schools eLeaders, thanking them for their leadership in helping to build capacity in our schools for technology integration.

Agenda Item VII.A. (Consent Agenda)

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

1. Donations;
2. Field trip requests;
3. A fund raiser request;
4. The destruction of obsolete records; and
5. The sale of surplus property.

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

Agenda Item VII.B. (Budget Amendments)

Mr. Steele reviewed budget amendments with the Board.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the budget amendments as presented.

Agenda Item VII.C. (Continuation Budget)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Johnson, the Board voted 7-0 to approve a continuation budget for the 2014-2015 school year equal to 1/12 of the district's operating budget pending final allocations from the State.

Agenda Item VII.D. (Agreement – City of Hickory Police Department/School Resource Officers)

Dr. Hart reminded the Board that this contract was presented at its recent work session and provides for four (4) school resource officers at a cost of \$90,000 which reflects no increase from the previous contract. He recommended the Board approve the contract as presented.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contract with the City of Hickory Police Department /School Resource Officers as presented.

Agenda Item VII.E. (Agreement – Communities in Schools)

Dr. Hart reminded the Board that at its recent work session Mr. Billy Marsh presented information about the Communities in Schools program and recommended the Board approve as presented.

Upon motion made by Rev. Spearman and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the agreement with Communities in Schools as presented.

Agenda Item VII.F. (Contract – Catawba County Public Health/School Nurses)

Dr. Hart stated that Catawba County Public Health provides the district with three (3) nurses which are utilized in our schools at a cost of \$60,347. He recommended that the Board continue with the contract for nurses as presented.

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Correll, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contract with Catawba County Public Health for school nurses as presented.

Agenda Item VII.G. (Contracts with Catawba County Department of Social Services)

Dr. Hart presented contracts with the Department of Social Services for the following services: three social workers to serve the elementary schools at a cost of \$93,943; a half-time social worker at Hickory High School at a cost of \$25,000; a half-time social worker at HCAM at a cost of \$21,230; and a half-time mental health therapist at HCAM at a cost of \$18,293. Dr. Hart recommended the Board's approval of all contracts presented.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contracts with the Department of Social Services as presented.

Agenda Item VII.H. (Agreement – Western Piedmont Symphony)

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contract with Western Piedmont Symphony which provides for five string quartet concerts (one at each elementary school) and one chamber orchestra concert at a cost of \$5,600.

Agenda Item VII.I. (Agreement – Hickory Museum of Art)

Upon motion made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the contract with the Hickory Museum of Art targeting all Hickory Public Schools 3rd grade students to visit the museum during the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$750.

Agenda Item VII.J. (Contract Renewal – North Carolina Driving School)

Upon motion made by Rev. Spearman and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the renewal of the contract with the North Carolina Driving School as presented.

Agenda Item VII.K. (Appointment of Charles Snipes to CVCC Board of Trustees)

Upon motion made by Rev. Spearman and seconded by Ms. Monroe, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Charles Snipes as the representative of the three boards of education in Catawba County to the Board of Trustees of Catawba Valley Community College to serve a four year term beginning July 1, 2014.

Agenda Item VII.L. (Child Nutrition – Milk Bids)

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve Maola as the milk vendor to serve the Hickory Public Schools for the 2014-2015 school year.

Agenda Item VII.M. (Child Nutrition – Small Wares)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to accept the low bid from Calico Industries as the provider of small wares for the new Longview School.

Agenda Item VII.N. (Collaborative Agreement – I-CARE, Inc.)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the collaborative agreement with I-CARE, Inc. which provides special education services to identified developmentally delayed preschool children as presented.

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

Chairperson Hamilton reminded Board members of upcoming meetings which included:

1. Monday, July 14, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
2. Monday, July 28, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall
3. Sunday, August 17, 2:30 p.m., Dedication, Longview Elementary School

Chairperson Hamilton announced that the Board has conducted an evaluation of the Superintendent stating that the Board is very pleased with the work of Dr. Hart and as a result would like to reward him with a \$5,000 bonus.

Ms. Williams made a motion that the Board, as a result of its evaluation of Dr. Hart, award a \$5,000 bonus to Dr. Hart effective July 1, 2014. Rev. Spearman seconded the motion and the Board's vote was 7-0.

Dr. Hart thanked the Board and stated that the funds from the bonus would be donated to the Hickory Public Schools Education Foundation. Dr. Hart also thanked the staff for the work they do every day stating that the work of the superintendent is really the work of the entire team.

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

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Hart reported the following items:

1. Still waiting for the state budget and everyone across the state is very anxious;
2. There have been twice the applicants for voucher funding as there are available funds and key leaders want to find additional funding to fund all applicants which could amount to a \$7-\$8 million increase;
3. Last week, Dr. Hart had the opportunity to meet with a group known as NC BEST which is a non-partisan group of 80+ North Carolina businesses and corporations interested in public education, coming together to assure that public education gets the funding it needs; and
4. Dr. Hart reported that the new Longview Elementary School is on schedule and that he is excited for the children and staff who will be at the new school. Dr. Hart invited Board members to meet at the new school at 4:30 p.m. on July 14 for a tour which would be prior to its regularly scheduled work session.

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 7-0.

Agenda Item X. (Action Items from Closed Session)

Upon return to open session, Rev. Spearman made a motion that the Board approve Personnel List No. 18. The motion was seconded by Ms. Correll and the Board's vote was 7-0.

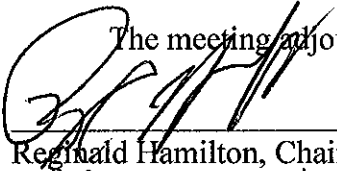
Agenda Item XI. (Announcements)

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item XII. (Adjournment)

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Ms. Correll and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn.

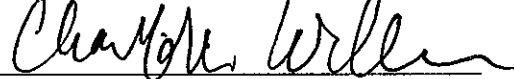
The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Reginald Hamilton, Chairperson

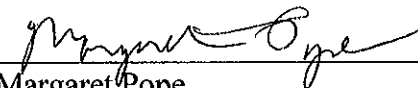


Walter H. Hart, Secretary

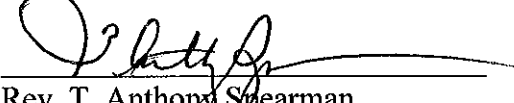


Charlotte Williams, Vice Chair

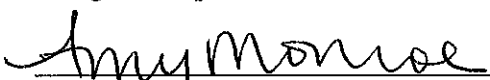
Sallie Johnson



Margaret Pope



Rev. T. Anthony Spearman



Amy Monroe



Julie Correll