

HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, May 12, 2014

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met on Monday, May 12, 2014, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center at Hickory High School. 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.

Also present were Board Attorney Jeff Mackie; Dr. Walter Hart, Superintendent; Dr. Denise Patterson, Chief Academic Officer; Shawn Clemons, Director of Accountability; Adam Huckabee, Director of Facilities; Dr. Timothy Sims, Director of Federal Programs; Amanda Byrd, Director of Exceptional Children's Programs; Jeff Tice, Director of Technology; Tracy Sigmon, Personnel Officer; Rebecca Allen, Director of Child Nutrition; Beverly Snowden, Public Information Officer; Adam Steele, Finance Officer; invited guests; and Mary Duquette, Clerk to the Board.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Board's May 19 meeting was cancelled. Since this would be the only meeting of the Board during the month of May, it will provide for public comment.

Chairperson Hamilton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked if anyone had signed up to address the Board.

Ms. Liz Menard, 2013 Hickory High graduate, addressed the Board. Ms. Menard stated that her participation in the IB program at Hickory High prepared her well for college at Vanderbilt University noting that she has been on the Dean's list for two semesters. She stated that the IB program fosters a sense of community, teaches you how to interact with teams and small groups and promotes time management skills. She encouraged anyone pursuing a major in math or science to consider the IB program.

Chairperson Hamilton thanked Ms. Menard for her comments and asked if there were others in attendance who wished to address the Board. Having no response, Chairperson Hamilton moved to the next item on the agenda.

The following individuals were recognized by the Board:

1. First United Methodist Church – Hickory Public Schools Community Partner of the Year;
2. Devonte Fuller – Hickory High Men's Conference Player of the Year;
3. Thomas Propst – 2014 Salvation Army Boys & girls Clubs of North and Southwest Carolina Youth of the Year;
4. Taylor Panzer – 2014 Benjamin N. Duke Scholar;
5. Hickory High Scholastic Cup Team – State Champions for Small Districts;
6. Viewmont Elementary School – High Performance School Recognition; and
7. Golden Apple Award nominees – Classified Employees of the Year.

The next item of business to come before the Board was information shared by Captain Harris and Lorrie Wolfe from the Salvation Army. Captain Harris reported that the Salvation Army will provide \$10,000 scholarships for five rising 9th grade students. He shared the criteria to remain eligible for the scholarship upon graduation which included maintaining a C average through high school, regular attendance, participate in activities at the Boys/Girls club and have good behavior in school and in the community. He further stated that the donor of the scholarship wishes to remain anonymous. Dr. Hart stated that Ms. Simmons is working with counselors to identify the students who may be interested. He thanked Captain Harris and Lorrie Wolfe for the partnership between the Hickory Public Schools and the Salvation Army and stated that there are students who will benefit from this service.

The next item of business to come before the meeting was a presentation from Hickory High Principal Dr. Ann Stalnaker on the proposed implementation of SMART (Students Maximizing Achievement with Resources and Time) Lunch at Hickory High for the 2014-2015 school year. Dr. Stalnaker stated that SMART Lunch will schedule time during the instructional day to meet the needs of all students to ensure academic success. The school will change from four lunch periods to two lunch periods. Those students who are not having a lunch period can use that time as free time, be on computers, participate in activities in the gym, have ACT or SAT prep time, work with counselors on college applications, or meet with teachers or groups of students on particular class assignments or projects. Dr. Stalnaker invited students who were present as well as members of the Hickory High staff who were present to share their perspectives on the implementation of the program. She also shared results of a student/parent/faculty survey which reflected support of the SMART Lunch program. Board members thanked Dr. Stalnaker for the presentation. Dr. Hart indicated that the Board would be asked to take formal action at its next meeting and encouraged Board members to contact him or Dr. Stalnaker with any questions they may have.

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the renewal of the agreement between the Hickory Schools and the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services at a cost of \$15,524, as presented.

Ms. Rebecca Allen, Director of Child Nutrition, shared information with the Board about a new program, Community Eligibility Provision that would provide free breakfast and lunch to all students in schools that met eligibility requirements. Ms. Allen reported that schools that would be eligible for this program in the Hickory Schools include Longview Elementary, Southwest Elementary and HCAM. Dr. Hart recommended that the Board approve participation in the Community Eligibility Provision program as presented.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 7-0 to approve participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision program as presented.

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 7-0 to approve State budget amendment #23 as presented.

Dr. Timothy Sims provided the Board with a presentation of the federal grant applications for the 20140-2015 school year. They included:

- Title I – Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
- Title III – English Language Acquisition
- Career-Technical Education (CTE)
- Title II – Improving Teacher Quality
- Preschool Grant Program for Children with Disabilities
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- McKinney Vento – Homeless Education Program

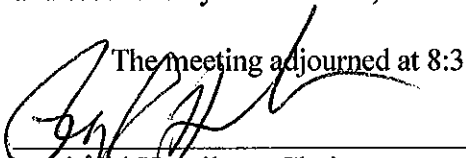
Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 7-0 to approve the Federal grant applications as presented:

Ms. Williams made a motion that the Board 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 and to instruct the attorney regarding the handling of a settlement of a claim, judicial action, or administrative procedure. The motion was seconded by Rev. Spearman and the Board's vote was 7-0.

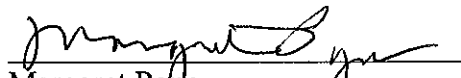
Upon return to open session, Ms. Johnson made a motion that the Board approve Personnel List No. 16 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Williams and the Board's vote was 7-0.

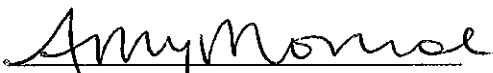
There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Monroe, the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

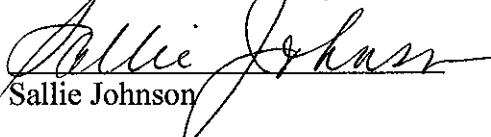

Reginald Hamilton, Chair


Charlotte Williams, Vice Chair


Margaret Pope


Amy Monroe


Walter H. Hart, Secretary


Sallie Johnson

T. Anthony Spearman


Julie Correll