

**HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE**  
**HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Monday, September 22, 2014

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met in regular session on Monday, September 22, 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, 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)*

Cadets Rutherford and Shuford with the Hickory High School JROTC led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

*Agenda Item IV. (Minutes)*

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the May 12, July 14, July 28 and August 25 minutes as presented.

*Agenda Item V. (Public Hearing)*

Ms. Susan Stulpin addressed the Board questioning the need to continue the IB program given the low enrollment. She presented the Board with a petition that encourages the Board to eliminate the IB Program and stated that she would be gathering additional signatures for this petition.

Chairperson Hamilton thanked Ms. Stulpin for her comments.

*Agenda Item VI. (Programs/Special Recognitions)*

Board members and Dr. Hart recognized Hickory High School students Cole Lackey and Thomas McBrayer who were recently named as President and Vice President, respectively, of the Catawba County Youth Council.

Dr. Hart reminded the Board that one of the focus areas for this school year is to improve the achievement of minority students. He stated that Dr. Chance Lewis has been working with principals in this endeavor. Dr. Hart stated that principals have been asked to update the Board each month about initiatives at their respective schools. He then introduced Dr. Ann Stalnaker, Principal at Hickory High School.

Dr. Stalnaker advised the Board that Hickory High has put together a plan for minority student achievement that has a focus on two components. One is SMART Lunch which will provide tutoring and remediation for all students who may need it and the other is to provide a year-long math program. In addition to these components, Dr. Stalnaker indicated that she will continue with the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) efforts.

Chairperson Hamilton thanked Dr. Stalnaker for her presentation and for taking Hickory High to the next level. He stated that on behalf of the Board he appreciates all the good things that are happening at Hickory High.

Agenda Item VII.A. (Consent Agenda)

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

1. Various donations;
2. Field trip request; and
3. Fund Raising Request.

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

Agenda Item VII.B. (2014-2015 Budget Message and Resolution)

Mr. Adam Steele, Director of Finance, presented for approval by the Board the 2014-15 Budget. He stated that the budget totaled \$39.7 million, with \$1.4 million designated for capital expenditures and \$38.3 million earmarked for operations. Mr. Steele provided an overview of the proposed budget explaining each fund and its purpose.

There being no questions from the Board, upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the 2014-2015 Budget Message and Resolution as presented.

Agenda Item VII.C. (Read to Achieve Good Cause Exemptions)

Dr. Hart recommended the Board approve the following assessments as good cause exemptions for Read to Achieve: Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), STAR, Beginning of Grade Test for 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders, Brigance and mClass/Reading 3D.

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Correll, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the use of the assessments referenced above as good cause exemptions for Read to Achieve.

Agenda Item VII.D. (First Reading of revisions to Board policy IFCB: Field Trips)

Dr. Hart advised the Board that the revision to this policy included a change in the time frame for field trips prior to the administration of state required testing.

Upon motion made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Ms. Correll, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the first reading of revisions to Board policy IFCB: *Field Trips*.

Agenda Item VII.E. (First Reading of revisions to Board policy IHE: Promotion and Retention of Students)

Ms. Angela Simmons, Director of Student Services, advised the Board of the addition of language to this policy that would provide opportunities for students to earn course credit by demonstrating mastery of course material without completing the regular period of classroom instruction.

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the first reading of revisions to Board policy IHE: *Promotion and Retention of Students*.

Agenda Item VII.F. (First Reading of revisions to Board policy JB: Attendance)

Ms. Angela Simmons, Director of Student Services, advised the Board of a change to the attendance policy that would include language that changes the compulsory attendance age based on the pilot program requiring students to remain in school until the age of 18 or graduation from high school.

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Monroe, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the first reading of revisions to Board policy JB: *Attendance*.

Agenda Item VII.G. (Contract – Catawba Science Center)

Upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Correll, the Board voted 6-0 to approve the annual agreement with the Catawba Science Center which provides field trips, outreach programs and science assemblies to students at a cost of \$11,000.

Agenda Item VII.H. (Appointment – Hickory Board of Education Ward 3 Representative)

Upon motion made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 6-0 to table action on this item until the Board's October 27 meeting.

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

Chairperson Hamilton reminded Board members of upcoming meetings which included:

1. Wednesday, September 24, 4:00 p.m., NCSBA District Meeting, Elkin High School, Elkin, NC;
2. Monday, October 13, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building;
3. 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 on the following items:

1. Friday, September 26, is Ridgeview night at the Hickory High football game where members from the Ridgeview Panthers will be recognized. A reception will be held in the Media Center at Hickory High beginning at 6:30 p.m. prior to the start of the football game and the members of the Ridgeview Panthers will be recognized on the field at half-time.
2. Ms. Angela Simmons has been selected to present at a national conference.

3. Northview Middle School is participating in the Schools to Watch program and representatives from the North Carolina Middle Schools Association will be visiting Northview on October 2 and 3.

Agenda Item IX. (Closed Session)

Ms. Monroe made a motion that the Board of Education go into closed session for the following reason: 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 6-0.

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. 6. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pope and the Board's vote was 6-0.

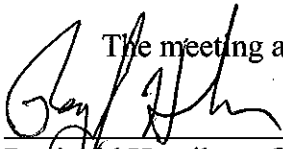
Agenda Item XI. (Announcements)

There was a consensus among the Board to invite Ms. Carson, the Ward 3 candidate, to the October 13 work session to ask some additional questions. There was also a consensus to change the start time for the October 13 work session from 5:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. due to the anticipation of a longer than normal meeting that evening.

Agenda Item XII. (Adjournment)

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

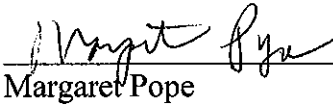
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Reginald Hamilton, Chairperson



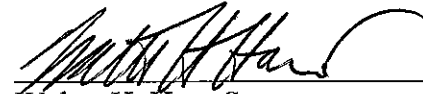
Charlotte Williams, Vice Chair



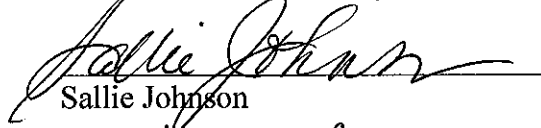
Margaret Pope



Julie Correll



Walter H. Hart, Secretary



Sallie Johnson



Amy Monroe