

HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HICKORY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, July 22, 2013

The Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit met in regular session on Monday, July 22, 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at Hickory City Hall.

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

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; Angela K. Simmons, Director of Student Services; Tracy Sigmon, Personnel Officer; Shawn Clemons, Director of Accountability; Adam Huckabee, Facilities Director; Jeff Tice, Technology Director; Beverly Snowden, Public Information Officer; invited guests; representatives from Catawba County Public Health; and Mary Duquette, Clerk to the Board.

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

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

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

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

Ms. Pope made a motion that the Board adopt the agenda with the following amendment: the addition of Exhibit Item VII.A.3. – Field Trip Request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Williams and the Board's vote was 4-0

Agenda Item IV. (Minutes)

Upon motion made by Rev. Spearman and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of the June 10 and June 24 meetings of the Board.

Agenda Item V. (Public Hearing)

No one addressed the Board during the Public Hearing.

Agenda Item VI. (Programs/Special Recognitions)

Dr. Hart introduced Mr. Doug Urland, Ms. Jennifer Lindsay, and Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather, representatives from Catawba County Public Health (CCPH). Mr. Urland thanked the Board for the opportunity to share information about what has transpired in terms of student health from the previous school year and what needs to be done for the upcoming school year.

Ms. Jennifer Lindsay advised the Board that CCPH currently provides five school nurses to the Hickory Public Schools, a ratio of one nurse to every 866 students which is slightly higher than the state recommended ratio of 1:750. Ms. Lindsay reviewed information on the varied services offered to students through CCPH, the number of students who received services during the 2012-2013 school year, and the educational impact to students through the support of school nurses that helps to keep students safe, in school, and ready to learn.

Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather addressed two programs that have been implemented in the Hickory Schools. One is the development of a MERT Team. She reported that each school has a team of teachers and staff members who are trained in first aid and CPR and who serve as first responders in emergencies until officials arrive on the scene. The other program is Eat Smart/Move More. Ms. Stikeleather stated that this program started several years ago and during the 2012-2013 school year eight of the nine Hickory schools met the criteria of the coalition which includes abiding by policies relating to healthy fund raisers and meeting the physical activity requirements from the state.

Mr. Urland thanked the Board for its support. Chairperson Beaver Simmons thanked Mr. Urland, Ms. Lindsay and Ms. Stikeleather for their informative presentation.

Agenda Item VII.A. (Consent Agenda)

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

1. Various donations;
2. A fund raiser request from the Hickory High football team; and
3. A field trip request from the Hickory High cheerleaders.

Upon motion made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Agenda Item VII.B. (Budget Amendments)

Mr. Adam Steele presented three budget amendments to the Board: State #23, CE#1, and CO #3.

Upon motion made by Rev. Spearman and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the budget amendments as presented.

Agenda Item VII.C. (Continuation Budget)

Mr. Steele advised the Board that the state budget has not yet been adopted and, therefore, he recommended the Board adopt a continuation budget equal to 1/12 of the district's total operating budget.

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the continuation budget as presented.

Agenda Item VII.D. (Contract – Catawba County Public Health)

Dr. Hart presented the Board with a contract with Catawba County Public Health for school nurses to provide services to students in the Hickory Public Schools. Dr. Hart stated that the total

cost to the district is \$48,942 which reflects an increase over the previous year's contract and is associated with increased personnel costs.

Upon motion made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the contract with Catawba County Public Health as presented.

Agenda Item VII.E. (Contracts – Catawba County Department of Social Services)

Dr. Hart requested the Board approve the following contracts with the Department of Social Services: three social workers who will provide services to students at the elementary schools; a half-time social worker at Hickory High School, and a half-time social worker at Hickory Career & Arts Magnet High School.

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the contract with the Department of Social Services for three social workers to provide services to elementary schools as presented.

Agenda Item VII.F. (Contract – Catawba County Department of Social Services)

Upon motion made by Mw. Williams and seconded by Rev. Spearman, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the contract with the Department of Social Services for a half-time social worker to provide services to Hickory High School.

Agenda Item VII.G. (Contract – Catawba County Department of Social Services)

Upon motion made by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the contract with the Department of Social Services for a half-time social worker to provide services to Hickory Career & Arts Magnet High School.

Agenda Item VIII.A. (Unfinished Business)

There were no items to discuss under unfinished business.

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

Chairperson Beaver Simmons reminded Board members of upcoming meetings which included:

1. Monday, August 12, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building
2. Friday, August 16, Noon, Opening date to file for November elections (Wards 1(Simmons), 2 (Johnson), 3 (Spearman) and 5 (Hamilton)). Filing ends September 6 at 5:00 p.m.
3. Monday, August 26, first day for students
4. Monday, August 26, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall
5. Monday, September 9, 5:30 p.m., Board meeting, Administrative Services Building
6. Monday, September 23, 7:00 p.m., Board meeting, Hickory City Hall

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

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Hart congratulated Angela Simmons, Director of Student Services, for receiving a \$5,000 grant from the Panthers which will help defray costs associated with the implementation of the Olweus bullying prevention program. He announced that the annual Administrators Retreat is scheduled for July 30 and 31 and will be held at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Dr. Hart provided an update on the state budget which included:

reduction in funding for teacher assistants, instructional supplies and instructional support positions; phasing out of education based salary supplements, the Teaching Fellows program and teacher tenure; no salary increase for state employees; some additional funding of CTE, AP, and IB programs; and a matching grant program for school safety. He further read a statement for State Superintendent of Schools Dr. June Atkinson.

Agenda Item IX. (Closed Session)

Ms. Pope 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 4-0.

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. 2. The motion was seconded by Rev. Spearman and the Board's vote was 4-0.

Ms. Williams made a motion that the Board of Education of the Hickory Public Schools award Dr. Hart a \$5,000 bonus to be paid at the next pay period. The bonus is in recognition of and appreciation for the outstanding job Dr. Hart done since assuming the position of superintendent. The motion was seconded by Rev. Spearman and the Board's vote was 4-0.

Chairperson Beaver Simmons thanked Dr. Hart for his leadership and stated that the Board is very excited to have him in the Hickory community and serving as the leader of the district.

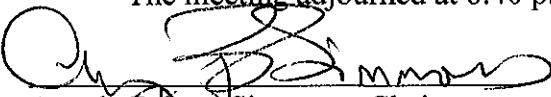
Agenda Item XI. (Announcements)

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item XII. (Adjournment)


There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Ms. Monroe and seconded by Ms. Pope, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

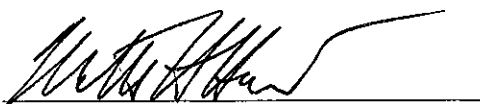
The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

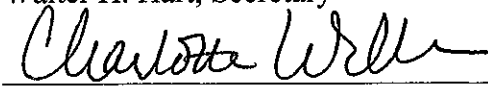

Angela Beaver Simmons, Chairperson

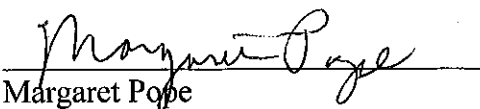
Reginald Hamilton, Vice Chair (absent)

Sallie Johnson (absent)


Rev. T. Anthony Spearman


Walter H. Hart, Secretary


Charlotte Williams


Margaret Pope

Amy Monroe (absent)