

MINUTES

ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 7, 2009

The December meeting was held at the Board of Education Annex as scheduled with all members present. Superintendent Reeves called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Policy 2200, *Election of Officers/Organization of Board*, requires that the Board of Education hold an organizational meeting at the first meeting in December of each year at which time a chairman and vice chairman are elected. Following opening remarks by Superintendent Reeves, the floor was opened for nominations for chairman. A nomination by Mr. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the selection of Mr. Charles King to continue as chairman. Superintendent Reeves relinquished the meeting to Chairman King who opened the floor for nominations for vice chairman. Dr. Beckworth nominated Mr. C.B. Jones to continue as vice chairman. Chairman King declared that Mr. C.B. Jones be elected as vice chairman by acclamation. Mr. King declared that the Board would continue to meet on the first Monday night of each month (unless altered by a holiday) at 7:00 pm in the Annex if there was no opposition. There was none.

The Board gave unanimous approval to the agenda for the meeting.

A motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on November 2, 2009, and minutes for the special meeting of the Board on November 23, 2009.

Superintendent Reeves presented the *Ashe County Schools Employee of the Month Award* for December to Anna Thompson, teacher at Ashe Middle.

A motion by Mrs. Witherspoon and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Randall Munday, who will reside in Ashe County beginning January 2010, to allow his daughter to attend school in Watauga County as she did before moving to Carolina Beach, NC in 2005. The requirement for Mr. Munday to attend the Board meeting was waived by Superintendent Reeves due to the six hour drive from Carolina Beach, North Carolina.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request for early graduation from Jasmine M. for school year 2009/10.

A motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Mrs. Witherspoon gave unanimous approval to the adoption of Policy 1720, *Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying*, with the addition of the word "shunning" to Section C.2.(a) paragraph 3, after "exclusion from peer groups" as requested by Mrs. Witherspoon.

A motion by Mrs. Witherspoon and a second by Mr. Jones gave unanimous approval to the adoption of Policy 7811, *Action Plans for Licensed Employees*.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Jones gave unanimous approval to amend Policy 2120, *Code of Ethics for School Board Members*.

Assistant Superintendent for Finance Phyllis Yates presented the Budget Timeline for 2010/11. In addition to the timeline, there was discussion of possible budget updates for the Board.

Superintendent Reeves and Transportation Director Shea Coldiron gave a power point presentation on potential changes and reorganization of bus routes for school year 2010/11. Superintendent Reeves will present guidelines for this possible reorganization at the regular meeting of the Board in January 2010.

Dr. Beckworth nominated Mr. Jones to serve on the 2010/11 Calendar Committee. There was no opposition.

Superintendent Reeves presented a synopsis on *Race to the Top*, a federal grant program that will reward states for educational innovation. North Carolina plans to apply for phase one of these funds. The deadline for phase one of the application is January 19, 2010. Superintendent Reeves and Chairman King will travel to Raleigh on Wednesday, December 9, 2009, to receive more information on North Carolina's *Race to the Top* application process.

A motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the following recommendations.

CERTIFIED

Teachers

- Request from Emily Roten, prekindergarten teacher at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave of absence effective on or about April 2, 2010 through end of current school year
- Request from Julie Taylor, literacy specialist at Ashe Middle, for a parental leave of absence effective on or about February 16, 2010 through end of current school year
- Request from Kari Truax, prekindergarten teacher at Ashe Early Learning Center, for a parental leave of absence effective on or about February 13, 2010 through end of current school year

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Joy Campbell, Meagan Crawford, Dori Gold, Donna Hester, Kimberly Jolly, Patrick Sean Weddell, and Kelly Vannoy to the list of approved substitute teachers

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Temporary math teacher at Ashe Middle
 - Interim school nurse at Mountain View
 - Assistant principal at Ashe High
 - Assistant principal at Ashe Middle
 - Substitute teachers
- Per Board request, Superintendent Reeves will poll the Board before employment of assistant principal at Ashe High and assistant principal at Ashe Middle.

CLASSIFIED

Cafeteria Assistants

- Transfer of Cheryl Melene Testerman from cafeteria assistant (full time) at Blue Ridge to cafeteria assistant (full time) at Westwood effective November 30, 2009
- Reassignment of Mary Jane Cox from temporary cafeteria assistant at Westwood to temporary cafeteria assistant (less than 20 hours/week) at Blue Ridge effective November 30, 2009

Substitute Cafeteria Assistant

- Addition of Flossie Day to the list of approved substitute cafeteria assistants

Coaching Assignment

- Addition of Logan Orr to the approved winter sports coaches list at Ashe Middle as non-faculty assistant wrestling coach

Custodians

- Resignation of James Baldwin as custodian at Ashe Middle effective November 9, 2009
- Resignation/retirement of Everette McCoy as custodian at Westwood effective December 1, 2009
- Reassignment of Rosemary Dorinzi from custodian (part-time, 15 hours/week) at Westwood to custodian (full time) at Westwood effective December 1, 2009

Office Support

- Resignation of Shirley Miller as part-time temporary secretary at Ashe High effective November 20, 2009

Teacher Assistants

- Request from Mary Graybeal, teacher assistant at Blue Ridge, for a medical leave of absence effective October 27, 2009 through November 12, 2009 (FMLA)
- Reassignment of Janet Young from interim teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe Middle, to full time teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe Middle effective December 1, 2009

- Reassignment of Pachia Brinegar from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time teacher assistant for exceptional children (20 hours/week) at Westwood effective September 28, 2009
- Reassignment of Rebecca Rose from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to interim teacher assistant (to fill a leave of absence) at Mountain View effective October 5, 2009

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Part-time custodian (3 hours/day) at Westwood
- Part-time custodian (4 hours/day) at Ashe Middle
- Part-time teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe Middle
- ESL tutors at Blue Ridge and Ashe High
- Bus driver substitutes
- Cafeteria assistant substitutes

Information items included *Calendar of Events; Bulldog Breakdown* (Volume 3, Issue 1); and recommendations to serve on the *NCSBA Legislative Committee*.

Following a short recess at 8:30 pm, the Board went into closed session at 8:45 pm for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board [N.C. General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(6)], and for the purpose of discussing [the acquisition of real estate] [the terms of an employment contract] [N.C. General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(5)].

Upon return to regular session at 9:19 pm, a motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Mrs. Witherspoon gave unanimous approval to the following personnel recommendations.

- Transfer of Phil Howell from principal at Ashe County High to director of testing and accountability effective July 1, 2010
- Transfer of Amanda Lovell from testing coordinator for Ashe County Schools to student services and site testing coordinator at Ashe County Middle effective January 4, 2010
- Transfer of Sarah Blevins from athletic secretary at Ashe County High to registrar and site testing coordinator at Ashe County High effective January 4, 2010
- Transfer of Ricky Goodman from administration assistant at Ashe County Middle to human resources director for Ashe County Schools effective January 4, 2010

Superintendent Reeves informed the Board that the bid opening for the pool project will be held at 2:00 pm on Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Superintendent Reeves invited the Board to a luncheon at noon on Monday, December 21, honoring Bobby Ashley and Shelia Richardson for their service to Ashe County Schools.

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm.