

Minutes of Special Called Session  
Anniston City Board of Education  
Tuesday, June 9, 2020-2:00 p.m.

The Anniston City Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, in the Board Room of the Central Office, 4804 McClellan Boulevard. Members present: Mrs. Becky Brown, Mrs. Trudy Munford, Mr. Robert Houston, Mrs. Joan Frazier and Dr. Mary Harrington. Board President Mr. Houston called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Superintendent Dr. Hill led the group in the pledge allegiance and prayer

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the agenda.

A motion by Dr. Harrington was made to approve the Superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Brown. The motion was approved 5/0.

**Open request for employees to address the board (Addendum)**

Board President Mr. Robert Houston stated that the board must now consider the proposed transfers of Ms. Gwendolyn Baker, and Mrs. Amy Hurst.

**Ms. Gwendolyn Baker Hearing**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended to the board that Ms. Gwendolyn Baker be transferred from Director of Special Education at Anniston City Schools Central Office to a Special Education Teacher at Anniston High School effective July 1, 2020. He also stated that Mrs. Baker would work the same term and would suffer no loss in pay. Superintendent Dr. Hill stated that Mrs. Baker was given written notice of this recommendation on May 26, 2020 and Ms. Baker requested the opportunity to address the board on this recommendation on June 1, 2020.

Board President Mr. Houston asked each member whether he or she would be able to serve as an impartial member of this administrative tribunal and to arrive at a decision based solely upon the information presented at this conference. Mr. Houston also stated that any member not able to act in such manner might say so and ask to be excused. Each board was called by name and ask to respond affirmatively or state your request to excuse yourself from these proceedings.

Mrs. Brown - "Affirmatively"

Mrs. Munford- "Affirmatively"

Mr. Houston- "Affirmatively"

Dr. Harrington- "Affirmatively"

Mrs. Frazier- "No" She also stated that she would abstain on the voting and was excused.

Board President Mr. Houston stated that the matter before us is a serious and important matter. However, it is not a full adversarial hearing involving cross-examination of witnesses.

Board President Mr. Houston stated if there were any preliminary matters that should be addressed at that time. He also asked if there were any questions or problems regarding the hearing procedures.

Board President Houston stated that Superintendent Dr. Hill would present his reasons for transferring Ms. Gwendolyn Baker. He also stated that would be no cross-examination of the superintendent, although the members of the board may choose to ask questions. He also stated after Ms. Gwendolyn Baker has heard the superintendent's evidence, Ms. Gwendolyn Baker would have an opportunity to present in full all the reasons why she believes should not be transferred and to provide whatever documentary evidence she may have to support her position. No witnesses would be sworn.

Board President Mr. Houston asked the superintendent to give his reasons for the transfer.

Superintendent Dr. Hill explained his reasons for his proposal to transfer Ms. Gwendolyn Baker to a Special Education Teacher at Anniston High School.

Board President Mr. Houston stated Ms. Gwendolyn Baker you have received an explanation of the evidence that supports the superintendent's recommendation to transfer you. Mr. Houston also stated that he would now give Ms. Baker the opportunity to tell the board the reasons why she should not be transferred.

Ms. Gwendolyn Baker explained her reasons why she should not be transferred. Ms. Baker also asked to go into executive session to discuss the good and character of individuals.

Board President Mr. Houston recommended that the board convene into executive session at 2:18 pm so Ms. Baker could continue her reasons not to be transferred. A roll call vote was taken.

Dr. Harrington "Yes"

Mr. Houston "Yes"

Mrs. Brown "Yes"

Mrs. Munford "Yes"

Board President Mr. Houston recommended that the board re-convene into special session at 3:00 pm. No action taken.

A motion by Mrs. Brown was made to re-convene into special session and seconded by Mrs. Munford. The motion was approved 4/0.

The board thanked everyone involved for their cooperation during this proceeding. This concludes the hearing for Mrs. Gwendolyn Baker.

### **Mrs. Amy Hurst Hearing**

Mrs. Frazier re-entered the room. Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended to the board that Mrs. Amy Hurst be transferred from Technology Coordinator at Anniston City Schools Central Office to a Third Grade Teacher at Randolph Park Elementary School effective July 1, 2020. He also stated that Mrs. Hurst would work the same term and would suffer no loss in pay. Superintendent Dr. Hill stated that Mrs. Hurst was given written notice of this recommendation on May 26, 2020 and Ms. Hurst requested the opportunity to address the board on this recommendation on June 4, 2020.

Board President Mr. Houston asked each member whether he or she would be able to serve as an impartial member of this administrative tribunal and to arrive at a decision based solely upon the information presented at this conference. Mr. Houston also stated that any member not able to act in such manner might say so and ask to be excused. Each board was called by name and ask to respond affirmatively or state your request to excuse yourself from these proceedings.

Mrs. Brown - "Affirmatively"

Mrs. Munford- "Affirmatively"

Mr. Houston- "Affirmatively"

Dr. Harrington- "Affirmatively"

Mrs. Frazier- "Affirmatively"

Board President Mr. Houston stated that the matter before us is a serious and important matter. However, it is not a full adversarial hearing involving cross-examination of witnesses.

Board President Mr. Houston stated if there were any preliminary matters that should be addressed at that time. He also asked if there were any questions or problems regarding the hearing procedures.

Board President Houston stated that Superintendent Dr. Hill would present his reasons for transferring Mrs. Amy Hurst. He also stated that would be no cross-examination of the superintendent, although the members of the board may choose to ask questions. He also stated after Mrs. Amy Hurst has heard the superintendent's evidence, Mrs. Hurst would have an opportunity to present in full all the reasons why she believes should not be transferred and to provide whatever documentary evidence she may have to support her position. No witnesses would be sworn.

Board President Mr. Houston asked the superintendent to give his reasons for the transfer.

Superintendent Dr. Hill explained his reasons for his proposal to transfer Mrs. Amy Hurst to a Third Grade Teacher at Randolph Park Elementary School.

Board President Mr. Houston stated Mrs. Amy Hurst you have received an explanation of the evidence that supports the superintendent recommendation to transfer you. Mr. Houston also stated that he would now give Mrs. Hurst the opportunity to tell the board the reasons why she should not be transferred.

Mrs. Amy Hurst explained her reasons why she should not be transferred. Mrs. Hurst also asked to go into executive session to discuss the good and character of individual.

Board President Mr. Houston recommended that the board convene into executive session at 3:20 pm so Mrs. Hurst could continue her reasons not to be transferred. A roll call vote was taken.

Dr. Harrington "Yes"

Mr. Houston "Yes"

Mrs. Brown "Yes"

Mrs. Munford "Yes"

Mrs. Frazier "Yes"

Board President Mr. Houston recommended that the board re-convene into special session at 3:50 pm. No action taken.

A motion by Mrs. Brown was made to re-convene into special session and seconded by Mrs. Munford. The motion was approved 5/0.

The board thanked everyone involved for their cooperation during this proceeding. This concludes the hearing for Mrs. Amy Hurst.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Personnel Recommendations**

Superintendent Dr. Hill made a recommendation to approve the personnel as presented. Before the motion Superintendent Dr. Hill stated that action items 1a, b, c, and 2a, b, c, would be voted on separately by roll call.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 1a of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

Item 1-a. Mr. Houston –“Yes”

Dr. Harrington-“No”

Mrs. Brown-“Yes”

Mrs. Munford- “Yes”

Mrs. Frazier- “Yes”

The motion was approved 4/1- 1 No

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 1b of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Munford to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Brown.

Item 1-b. Mr. Houston –“Yes”

Dr. Harrington-“No”

Mrs. Brown-“Yes”

Mrs. Munford- “Yes”

Mrs. Frazier- “Abstain”

The motion was approved 3/2- 1 No and 1 abstention

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 1c of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

Item 1-c. Mr. Houston –“Yes”

Dr. Harrington-“No”

Mrs. Brown-“Yes”

Mrs. Munford- “Yes”

Mrs. Frazier- “Abstain”

The motion was approved 3/2- 1 No and 1 abstention

A motion by Mrs. Munford was made to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Brown. The motion was approved 5/0.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 2a of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

Item 2-a.

Mr. Houston –“Yes”  
Dr. Harrington-“No”  
Mrs. Brown-“Yes”  
Mrs. Munford- “Yes”  
Mrs. Frazier- “Abstain”

The motion was approved 3/2- 1 No and 1 abstention

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 2b of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent’s recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

Item 2-b. Mr. Houston –“Yes”  
Dr. Harrington-“No”  
Mrs. Brown-“Yes”  
Mrs. Munford- “Yes”  
Mrs. Frazier- “Abstain”

The motion was approved 3/2- 1 No and 1 abstention

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 2c of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent’s recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

Item 2-c. Mr. Houston –“Yes”  
Dr. Harrington-“No”  
Mrs. Brown-“Yes”  
Mrs. Munford- “Yes”  
Mrs. Frazier- “Yes”

The motion was approved 4/1- 1 No

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the remaining personnel recommendations action item 3a.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent’s recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

The motion was approved 5/0.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 4a of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Dr. Harrington.  
The motion was approved 5/0.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 5a of the personnel recommendations.  
A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Frazier.  
The motion was approved 5/0.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 6a of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Munford to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Dr. Harrington.  
The motion was approved 5/0.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of action item 7a of the personnel recommendations.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Brown.  
The motion was approved 5/0.

### **B. Approval of Bid for Produce**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the bid for produce to Forestwood Produce Company.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.  
The motion was approved 5/0.

### **C. Approval of Compensation and Addendums for Curriculum, Technology, CNP, Secretary and Custodian**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the of Compensation and Addendums for Curriculum, Technology, Child Nutrition Program, Secretary and Custodian

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Munford.

The motion was approved 5/0.

**D. Approval of Summer Hours for Anniston City Board of Education Meetings**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the Summer Hours for Anniston Board of Education Meetings.

A motion was made by Mrs. Frazier to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Dr. Harrington.

The motion was approved 5/0.

**E. Approval of At-Risk Proposal and Contract for McKinney-Vento Summer Program**

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the At-Risk Proposal and Contract for McKinney-Vento Summer Program.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Dr. Harrington.

The motion was approved 5/0.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion made by Mrs. Frazier and seconded by Mrs. Munford, the Board adjourned. The vote was unanimous to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

Approved: July 16, 2020

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Robert Houston, President

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Dr. D. Ray Hill, Superintendent