

MINUTES
 THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SPECIAL MEETINGS AND WORKSESSION APRIL 29, 2013 AND
 REGULAR MEETING MAY 6, 2013

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held two special meetings beginning at 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. followed by a work session at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, April 29, 2013 in Training Room 203 of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were:

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson, presiding
 Matt Buys
 Peggy Dalman
 Leah Ferguson
 Precious Folston

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also

Allen H. Johnson, Secretary/Superintendent.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Johnson called the special meetings with the architects for Isaac Dickson Elementary School and Asheville Middle School to order at 3:05 p.m. He stated that the purposes of the meetings were to orient new Board members, Matt Buys and Leah Ferguson with the new school projects and to update everyone on any changes the architects' might have made since they last presented to the Board. After his brief remarks, Mr. Johnson turned the meeting over to the architect for Isaac Dickson Elementary School, John Legerton.

SPECIAL MEETINGS – ARCHITECTS UPDATES ON NEW SCHOOL PROJECTS

In his brief overview of the new school project, architect John Legerton reminded the Board that the theme for Isaac Dickson Elementary School is Experiential Education. The

new school will have Solar Domestic Hot Water Heating for the cafeteria hot water, and students will be able to access information about the functionality of the systems through a computerized dashboard or on their school's computers. In addition, explanatory signs will be posted around the campus and in the corridors. Other educational opportunities will include the already existing garden program which will be extended. The size of the new school will be 75,342 square feet. Other facts that were provided during the presentation included:

- 9 different firms will participate in the building of the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School
- The new school will have daylighting in the gym, media center, cafeteria, and in each of the three classrooms wings. Research supports that daylighting plays an integral role in student learning and academic performance resulting in teacher satisfaction.

The Board was informed that 100% of the Construction Documents will be completed on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 and that Miles McClellan, the Construction Manager for the new school is in the process of electronically getting the Construction Documents out to sub-contractors for budget pricing. The outcome of the June 4, 2013 commissioners' meeting will decide the construction start date on the site.

- June & July – the move for Isaac Dickson Elementary School to William Randolph School. Students from William Randolph School will be moved to another facility not yet determined.
- The construction on the site is scheduled to begin August 2013
- The date for the site work is September 2013
- Occupancy date is set for January 2015 with slide date of June 2015

Meetings on providing alternates as an option to lower the overall cost of the project were suggested to the Board for review and recommendation at earlier Board meetings. In addition, the Board was informed that Miles McClellan is in the process of reviewing Value Engineering (VE) items, another option to help lower the budget. These changes will be

recommended to the Board and then be presented to the County Commissioners at the June 4, 2013 meeting.

An additional feature to the new school will include the donation of a 30 foot Hadrosaurus Dinosaur from the brother of Mike Nicklas, architect for Innovative Design. Before concluding his presentation, Mr. Legerton responded to remarks and questions about solar panels and floor covering materials.

Chad Roberson of PBC & L Architecture Firm reviewed with the Board, the layout of the new Asheville Middle School that will be constructed and situated on the existing school campus. The walk- through of the new project highlighted the 4 major components that will determine the design and rationale for the layout: Explore, Learn, Food and Media Center.

Mr. Roberson remarked that the site for the new school is expensive and that it cannot be compared to other elementary schools in Buncombe County. The middle school has and will have a more intensive program. In addition, the new school will be built on the existing campus with the old facility. Other considerations are that the old building contains hazardous materials and it will need to be demolished.

PBC & L is currently working with the Construction Manger to evaluate the project, cost and potential alternates to include the auditorium and the elimination of classrooms. Board members expressed some concerns regarding classroom size and the school's growth potentials.

- The Schematic Design for the new Asheville Middle School will be completed during the week of April 29, 2013
- The Construction Manager at Risk will also be on board to start the pricing
- The Design Development will be completed in August 2013
- The Construction Documents to be completed in May 2014
- Guaranteed Maximum Price will be provided by June 2014 and be ready to present the Buncombe County Commissioners at their budget cycle meeting in June 2014

- Start construction by August 1, 2014
- Completion date of May 15, 2016
- Occupancy date of August 15, 2016
- The demolition of the old site will commence immediately after school closes in June 2016. Total completion of the new school project will be February 2017.

Cynthia Grady requested that Mr. Roberson email the Schematic Design document to the superintendent's office for the Board to review before making his official presentation at the May 6, 2013 regular Board meeting.

Chairperson Jacquelyn Hallum called the Special Budget Meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

Chief Finance Officer, Donna Watson before her presentation, informed the Board that State Statutes require that the superintendent present to the school Board before May 1, 2013, Local Budget Information. In addition, by May 15, 2013, the Asheville City Board of Education has to present their request to the County Commissioners for local funding for the following year.

Ms. Watson informed the Board that she will be presenting the local information as she knew it to be, and that at the end of the review and the presentation, she would ask for their approval of the 2013-2014 Budget for the school district.

After the presentation, Peggy Dalman made a motion to approve the Budget Request for 2013-2014 to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners as presented. The motion was seconded by Precious Folston and carried.

The special meetings ended at 6:36 p.m.

WORKSESSION

Asheville High School student, Nyrobi Tyson presented to the Board for their review and consideration, her High School Project, a proposal on Offering Financial Incentives to Students. Before the presentation, a short video on students voicing their ideals about education was shown. According to Ms. Tyson, the efforts that are in place by school administrators to improve education are not necessarily what students need. The PowerPoint presentation on Hindsight 20/20 (The Solution for the Crisis in the United States Education System) was the focus of Ms. Tyson's presentation. After the presentation, Ms. Tyson responded to a question concerning potential conflicts about fairness and equality if the proposal were to be implemented. The Board recognized Ms. Tyson's father and her Senior Exit Project mentor, Major Ron Capes who commented on the presentation in show of his support for the project. Superintendent Johnson asked Ms. Tyson to briefly share the scholarship that she received from Gates Millennium Scholarship Program.

Career and Technical Education Director for Asheville High School, Sharon Caffrey and guest, Ken Verburg of Project Lead the Way (PLTW) shared with the Board, the many facets of the PLTW program and how it will prove to be beneficial to students. The program will be implemented at Asheville High School for the 2013-2014 school year. After the overview, the members were encouraged to contact Mr. Verburg if they had additional questions.

Ms. Caffrey requested of the Board that they review the Career and Technical Education – Current Offering and Plans for 2013-14 presentation that was posted to Board site.

Executive Director for Public Relations, Charlie Glazener informed the members about the action steps that were going to be implemented over the weeks leading up the June 4, 2013 meeting with the county commissioners. One plan that will be underway is the shooting of a video at the middle school with Board member, Matt Buys. The video will be posted to the school district's website for parents and PTO members to view. Other action plans will involve the Board revisiting the updated contact assignment list for their personal one-on-one meetings with targeted groups.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services, Kelvin Cyrus presented to the Board for review, the re-write of the goal for the district's 2012-2015 Strategic Plan #1: Implementing rigorous, engaging and relevant curriculum and into Smart Goal language.

Superintendent Johnson reviewed the May 6, 2013 Board Meeting Agenda with the Board members

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:35 p.m., Peggy Dalman made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to Section 143-318.11 (a)(1) of the General Statutes of North Carolina, to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential student information pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232g(FERPA) and G.S. 115C-402(e) of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321. The motion was seconded by Matt Buys carried.

The closed session ended at 8:15 p.m.

MEETING RECESSED

At 8:15 p.m., Chairperson Jacquelyn Hallum announced in open session that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene at Vance Elementary School, 98 Sulphur Spring Road, Asheville, North Carolina, 12:00 noon on Monday, May 6, 2013 for lunch and presentations, followed by a closed session at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 203 of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina, followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

LUNCH AND PRESENTATION

At 12:00 pm., Monday, May 6, 2013, Members of the Board, Superintendent Johnson and the Leadership Team received a warm welcome when they arrived at Vance Elementary School. Following the exchanged greetings, the group was directed to the school's media center to commence the program.

Principal Carrie Allen introduced volunteer, Kate Dowers from the Fresh-Easy-Affordable-Sustainable-Tasty (FEAST) program and five fourth graders from Mr. Damian Wells' class. The students took turns in sharing how they are building academics from everyday experiences related to the growing, preparing and presentation of healthy food options. Ms. Dowers mentioned that her organization is expanding their reach into schools and partnerships with organizations like Mother Earth Produce and Roots. "If we can visualize a problem, we can solve it," one student told the group.

Everyone assembled for lunch that included appetizers that were prepared during the students' FEAST learning experience, as well as some delicious food catered by Neo Burrito. Following lunch, Ms. Allen spoke briefly about the new safety procedures being

implemented at the school including a more secure entrance and a new look at traffic patterns, which could become a model for the city.

Assistant principal Becca Weeks presented encouraging news about the school's Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support Program (PBIS). With only four weeks remaining before the school year ends, positive referrals of all varieties now total nearly 14,000. The group was impressed with the positive referrals on school buses which are posted in the cafeteria.

The week of May 6, 2013 was National Teacher Appreciation Week, and the group was honored to fan out across the school to present gift tokens to Vance's teachers and teacher assistants. The group made a brief stop to observe the FEAST program in action, then listened to the school's Garden Coordinator/Volunteer Coordinator, Jordan Diamond read Jack and the Beanstalk to Lisa Hash's second graders. Everywhere that the group visited at Vance, the students were engaged. The Board of Education school visit to Vance Elementary School was enjoyable!

MEETING RECESSED

At 1:35 p.m., Chairwoman Jacquelyn Hallum announced that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene for a closed session at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 203, and then a continuation of the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:35 p.m., Precious Folston made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to

Section 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (5) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321. The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

The closed session ended at 6:15 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

A Board member requested clarification on the commissioning agent's role at Isaac Dickson Elementary School and that was explained. Ms. Grady informed the Board that the contracts listed under the consent items - Construction Manager at Risk for Asheville Middle School and the Commissioning Agent for Isaac Dickson Elementary School, are preliminary contracts therefore they are short with a July 1, 2013 completion agreement date.

Superintendent Johnson reminded the Board that Chad Roberson, Architect for PBC & L Architecture Firm will be presenting the Schematic Design for the new Asheville Middle School at the regular Board meeting at 6:30 pm. Following the presentation, a motion to approve the Schematic Design will be required.

Superintendent Johnson requested approval from the Board so that he could give teachers at Isaac Dickson Elementary School and William Randolph School the go ahead to start packing and labeling their boxes for the move by the last day of school. Board members in turn, requested that both schools be fully informed with the understanding that the move may not come to fruition and that they may end up unpacking their boxes where they are.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jacquelyn Hallum called the Board meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was lead by Vance Elementary School 3rd grade students Julianna Pett Floriani, Avery Delac, Kai Thorstad and Regan Cheadle

Leah Ferguson presented information on the visit to Vance Elementary School.

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Matt Buys read the Mission Statement for Asheville City Schools.

CONSENT ITEMS

Leah Ferguson made a motion to approve the consent items listed below. The motion was seconded by Precious Folston and carried.

- Construction Manager at Risk – Asheville Middle School
- Minutes of special meeting on March 18, 2013 and regular meeting on April 1, 2013
- Transfer of Students
- Budget Amendments
- Commissioning Agent for Isaac Dickson Elementary School
- Early Head Start Policy Council Recommendation
- AHS Field Trip Request to Denmark – 09/23/13

GOOD NEWS

Charlie U. Glazener, Executive Director of Community Relations/Communications requested that the audience join him in celebrating the district's outstanding **English as a Second Language (ESL) staff**: Gabriela Aragonz; Marisa Thomas; Vince Floriani; Ximena Smith; and Krisztina Krivatsy-Stern (who retired in February). This team of dedicated professionals has earned the district the distinction of meeting all of the Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for four consecutive years; 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12. These professionals are dedicated day-in and day-out to serving

the needs of our English Language Learners and assisting them in achieving academic success. Title III Director Marsha Lipe oversees this critical program.

Four Asheville Middle School students who have earned impressive recognition and accolades over the past few weeks were recognized:

- Asheville Middle School 6th grader, Max Ungert participated in **NASA's Titan & Europa Essay Contest** and was among 675 students in 127 classrooms in 32 states who participated in the contest. He won the 5-6 grade division. Max's essay is posted on NASA's site and he will be invited to participate in a teleconference with all the winners and scientists at NASA sometime in the next few weeks. Teacher, Victoria Angelotti assisted in facilitating a Googledoc presentation to share his research with his classmates.
- Congratulations to AHS student Kristie Kim, who placed first at the **state finals geometry math competition** held at UNC Asheville last month.
- AMS student Quanzae Davis participated in NC State/Community's Students at Work Week in March. 100s of middle school students visited four clusters (Chamber 5X5 Program) to get acquainted with the world of work. AMS teacher, T.J. Wright introduced Quanzae who shared his experience.
- AMS held their annual Poetry Slam moderated by Dickson 5th grade teacher and poet, Keena Proctor and with the support of media center coordinator, Jodi Mercier and literacy coach, Melissa Hedt. The event began airing later on AET Channel 16. It showcased incredible talent and creativity among middle school students. The winner, Devon Boston and his Language Arts teacher, Chris Gable addressed the audience. Devin also delivered one of his poems from the competition.
- At the April 29, 2013 work session, Board members met AHS senior, Nyrobi Tyson, who presented her impressive senior exit project on providing incentives as a way of modifying student behavior/motivation as a way of improving academic scores. The next evening at the Academic Awards Banquet, Ms. Tyson again, participating as a MCJROTC cadet in the Presentation of Colors. Ms. Nyrobi is a recipient of the prestigious **Gates Millennium Scholars Program (GMSP)** which can top \$100,000 in college scholarship resources. So let me introduce you to this standout student and soon-to-be graduate and let her tell you of her plans.

The 17th Annual Buncombe County **School Bus Rodeo** was held Tuesday, April 16 at the BCS bus garage. Eleven ACS and 18 BCS bus drivers worked their way through the 8- station obstacle course in an attempt to earn as many as possible, 300 potential points.

The top three scores then advanced to compete at the district level last Tuesday. Hall Fletcher's veteran driver, Adrian Pearson came in 3rd place!

Next we would like to recognize our **Asheville City Schools Nutrition Program** and employees...this is School Nutrition Employees Week! The schools' cafeterias are staffed with 44 dedicated employees...many are among the first in the buildings each school day. Operating on a budget of about \$ 1,680,000, they work hard to provide delicious, nutritious meals to all ACS students. We often talk about the cafeteria health ratings [hold up stack of "100" scores on recent inspections] but these ACS staff members do much more than that. As director of Child Nutrition Beth Palien often says, "Hungry children cannot learn! Introduce managers: Asheville City Preschool: Ameran Kelley; AHS: Sharon Burton; AMS: Angela Howard; Claxton: Barbara Baker; Isaac Dickson: Pearley Hampton; Hall Fletcher: Deborah Jones; Ira B. Jones: Susan Bowers; Vance Elementary School: Lisa Davis.

I have saved up the glowing reports over the past school year about our **AHS/SILSA Debate Team** and their incredible string of success stories...now there's enough to write a book, not just a Good News Item. So we would like to hear from a couple of our Debate Team members and also recognize long-time coach and mentor, Keith Pittman, who, by the way, was awarded earlier this year his third Diamond Coach in the National Forensic League...under his instruction, our team members earned more than 30,000 points through speech and debate presentations, competition and service. Congratulations, all!

Back in August 2010, we began a partnership with The College Board/ Asia Society Guest Teacher **Confucius Classroom Collaborative**, which enabled the district to offer Mandarin Chinese to our high school students. We were blessed to have been assigned teacher Chunna Liang (Choo- nah Lee-ang). She is an outstanding teacher, has also shared

her culture with us and most recently has attended the NC State Confucius Classroom Chinese Speaking competition, where her student, Domingo Marcello won 2nd place for his Chinese speaking ability. She has also helped AHS develop their partnership with our Sister School in Nanjing, China and this June, 16 students will be going to China to tour Beijing, Shanghai, and Nanjing and participate in classes at our partner school.

AHS and SILSA students are having a great year in what we call **Spring Sports**, and we will report some final records and meet some of the coaches/students at our August meeting, but tonight we would like to recognize girls and boys **Track Teams**, who are having an exceptionally good year. John Paul Kimbrough coaches our girls' team, which won the Mountain 3-A Conference Track Meet and recently finished third in the Regionals. Chris Stroup and Rocky Cunningham coach the boys and they won both the Mountain 3-A Conference and the Regional competition. Several team members qualified for the state competition.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

IN REAL LIFE UPDATE PRESENTATION

The Asheville City Board of Education received an update on the Asheville Middle School's In Real Life (IRL) program with Campus Director, Travis Herbert. The program provides engaging learning opportunities for middle school students beyond the school day. The program started in 2010 and currently serves 561 students.

After the presentation, Superintendent Johnson and members of the Board thanked Mr. Herbert for his leadership and the ACS Foundation for funding the program.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Donna James, Director for AdvancEd North Carolina, before making her formal presentation to the Asheville City Board of Education, remarked that Asheville City Schools is one of 65 accredited school districts across North Carolina. In addition, Asheville City Schools is one of the first 15 school districts across the state to embrace this process. Dr. James also remarked on portions from the good news that confirmed the commendation of Powerful Practices that the school district received from the External Review Team last October. Board Chair, Jacquelyn Hallum and Superintendent, Allen Johnson accepted the plaque in recognition of the school system's significant accomplishment of District Re-Accreditation. Individual Accreditation Certificates were also presented to each school and were received by principals.

Vice-Chair Peggy Dalman thanked the leadership team, principals, administrators and staff for putting together all of the documentation that was needed to prepare for the accreditation process.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Executive Director for Community Relations, Charlie Glazener and Safe Schools Coordinator, Michele Lemell presented an update on the district's Wellness Program. The program initially began in 2009. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) released a video on the importance of eating healthy and its impact on student achievement called "An Apple a Day Is Not Enough" was shown. Ms. Lemell ended the presentation by asking the Board and the audience to attend the committee's FIT2Learn Family Field Day at Carrier Park on Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

ASHEVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLAN

Chad Roberson, Architect for PBC& L Architecture Firm presented for review and approval, a walk-through of the completed Schematic Design of the new Asheville Middle School. Mention of the sustainable components and features that the firm is working to incorporate into the schematic design includes:

- Daylighting
- Green Room
- Reducing water consumption
- Recycling materials
- Solar Hot Water
- Energy Efficient Water and Cooling
- Reduction of Heat Waste
- Construction Waste Management
- Storage

Mr. Roberson directed the audience's attention to the budget for the new school by listing several of the factors that are associated with the cost. In an effort to lower the construction cost, a review of possible alternates were mentioned. Mr. Roberson ended his presentation with the schedule for the new school project.

After the presentation, Mr. Roberson requested to know if the Board had any questions regarding the presentation. Board Vice-Chair, Peggy Dalman asked Mr. Roberson to clarify a statement about reducing one studio. What was meant was reducing classroom spaces.

Leah Ferguson made a motion to approve the Schematic Design for the new Asheville Middle School. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL

Peggy Dalman made a motion to approve the following recommendations as

presented by Chief Human Resources/Director of Support Services and Legal Counsel, Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

May 6, 2013

For Approval by the Board of Education

Recommendation for classified position:

Brittni Fate	4/1/13	Child Nutrition Hall Fletcher Elementary School
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Recommendation for contractual agreements:

Asheville High School

Daniel Chase	5/18/13 - 6/1/13	SAT Boot Camp
Linda Johnson	4/29/13 - 6/7/13	AP Exam Test Proctor
Linda Large	4/29/13 - 5/31/13	AP Exam Test Proctor
Michael Large	4/29/13 - 5/31/13	AP Exam Test Proctor
Patricia Mosley	4/29/13 - 6/7/13	AP Exam Test Proctor
Dorothy Rapp	4/29/13 - 6/7/13	AP Exam Test Proctor

Claxton Elementary School

Lani Blakeslee	3/22/13 - 6/6/13	Substitute Services / Spanish Instructor
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Isaac Dickson Elementary School

Stephanie Rerych	4/10/13 - 6/5/13	Bright Ideas Afterschool Program
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Ira B. Jones Elementary School

Laura Beeler	4/1/13 - 6/4/13	Tutoring
Amani Duncan	3/1/13 - 6/4/13	Tutoring

School of Inquire and Life Science

Joseph Reynolds	3/21/13 - 6/5/13	Tutoring
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Vance Elementary School

Kelley Lackey

8/22/12 - 5/31/13

Remedial At Risk Tutor

Termination Recommendation:Certified

Aaron Cook

4/9/13

Grade 2 Teacher
Vance Elementary School

Substitutes:

Virginia Daffron
Paul Davis, Jr.
Susan Engstrom
Heather Finch
Katherine Greene
Ellen Hepp
Marilyn Jackson
Bethany Lanier
Rebecca Levy
Christine Starr
Amanda Trader
Rebecca Wertheim
Jennifer Westbrook
Michael Wingard
Victoria L. Wingle
Claudia Yokum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Johnson made the following announcements:

1. In preparation for EOG tests, a special thank you was extended towards principals, teachers and staff for their dedication to the students.
2. Last day of school will be Wednesday, June 5, 2013. An early release message will be sent to families.
3. Graduation for AHS/SILSA and WRS will be on Thursday, June 6, 2013 at UNC-Asheville (Kimmel Arena) at 6:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson

Allen H. Johnson, Secretary/Superintendent