

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUGUST 4, 2014

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a regular meeting beginning at 12:00 noon on Monday, August 4, 2014, at Asheville City Schools Preschool, 441 Haywood Road, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were:

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

Member absent

Matt Buys

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also

Dr. Pamela M. Baldwin, Secretary/Superintendent.
Board Attorney, Chris Campbell

LUNCH AND PRESENTATION

At 12:00 p.m., Monday, August 4, 2014, members of the Board, Superintendent Baldwin, and the Leadership Team assembled in the media center of Asheville City Schools Preschool. They enjoyed lunch while Assistant Director for the Preschool, Dawn Meskil presented an overview and budget review of the preschool and early head start programs that served over 180 students last school year.

Laurie McDanel, who serves as director for the district's Exceptional Children's Department and also as an oversight for the preschool, presented funding and demographic information. Suzanna Smith, Early Head Start Education, Disabilities, and Mental Health

Coordinator, provided a comprehensive look at assessment data from the 2013-14 school year which showed that a majority of students are meeting or exceeding progress expectations on evaluations done in the fall, winter and spring.

Ms. Meskil introduced the Pre-literacy Professional Learning Initiative that occurred from March to May of the 2013-14 school year and used classroom assessments and coaching to strengthen literacy among the young students. Veteran teacher, Lynn Bennett endorsed the program and gave examples of how it had strengthened her teaching. This initiative will continue during the 2014-15 school year.

A final presentation was received from Chris Watkins of Western Kentucky University who highlighted the Board of Education's important role in the governance of our Early Head Start program.

Asheville City Schools has an excellent preschool that serves its youngest students and families, and serves them well.

MEETING RECESSED

At 1:45 p.m., Board Chair Hallum announced that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene for a work session at 4:30 p.m., in Training Room 203, a closed session at 5:40 p.m.; and then a continuation of the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hallum called the work session to order at 4:33 p.m. in Training Room #203 of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, North Carolina. She took a few moments to welcome everyone to the first Board meeting for the 2014-15 academic school year.

WORK SESSION

The Asheville City Board of Education listened to highlights presented from the team that attended the four-day training on “Closing the Achievement Gap: Strategies for Excellence with Equity” at Harvard Graduate School of Education from June 29-July 3, 2014. Vice-Chair Peggy Dalman, Superintendent Baldwin and Carol Ray, took turns to share their take-aways with a Powerpoint presentation. Because of the wealth of information, the Board chair informed the team that additional time will be made available at future work session meetings. The outline included:

- A. Three areas that resonated with the team throughout the training:
 - 1. ***Excellence with Equity*** - all student groups moving in the same direction – with achievement distribution for all student groups.
 - 2. ***Possibility!*** – numerous examples of schools that have made impressive progressive.
 - 3. ***Urgency*** – the disparity between subgroups as they relate to the district’s EOG data.
- B. According to research, the following five components when working together to carry out their roles will cause a change in the achievement gap:
 - 1. Parents
 - 2. Teachers
 - 3. Peers
 - 4. Employer
 - 5. community
- C. Superintendent Baldwin closed the presentation by reviewing the Harvard data on Strategic Components for school districts’ movement towards Excellence with Equity, and the seven goals and action steps that Asheville City Schools will implement.

Executive Director for Elementary Education, Paul Perrotta briefed the Board on the North Carolina Title I Application and Statement of Assurances. The documents are also listed on the 6:30 p.m. consent agenda for the Board to approve and Superintendent Baldwin to sign after the meeting.

Superintendent Baldwin shared the many ways Asheville City Schools will support, embrace and promote the North Carolina Public School Campaign efforts at the local level with the Board; and to erase the myth that the public education system is broken. Central Office will display the NC Public School Banner and distribute the 175th Anniversary NC Public School pin, to name a few efforts. In addition, the campaign has a committee and Charlie Glazener, Executive Director for Public Relations sits on the committee. The Board was encouraged to consider representing the school district at the 175th Anniversary Celebration on January 20, 2015. Board Chair Hallum requested that our students also be included in the campaign efforts and to provide them with anniversary pins.

Mr. Glazener briefly reviewed the district's marketing strategy. The funding was provided by a grant from Z Smith Reynolds Foundation through a collaborative effort with Asheville City Schools Foundation. Kata Bates of Twang, the hired consultant, has been involved with Asheville City Schools and Asheville City Schools Foundation to develop new brand and marketing campaign ideas to assist the district's support for public education. In addition, a new Asheville City Schools' logo and tag line was unveiled: *LEARN. DISCOVER. THRIVE.* is designed to capture "My child," and the leaves represent K-12, the community, teachers, and the unique and vibrant diversity of Asheville. The Board shared their feedback about the new logo, and Board chair Hallum asked the members to mull over the information shared, and any questions or concerns that may arise, will be addressed. Ms. Bates was acknowledged for her brief but comprehensive presentation to the Board.

Due to time constraints, work session agenda item V. 2014 NSBA Conference update was tabled for a future work session meeting.

The Board had no questions concerning the 6:30 p.m. regular Board Meeting agenda.

Superintendent Baldwin informed the Board of the reasons for the amended Balanced and Traditional Calendars that are on the consent agenda for their approval.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:05 a.m., Peggy Dalman made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to Section 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (3) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321, and discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege, including the lawsuit of Gail Bellows vs. Asheville City Board of Education, et al. The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hallum called the Board meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Executive Director for Public Relations, Charlie Glazener.

REPORT ON BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL VISIT

Leah Ferguson presented information on the visit to Asheville City Schools Preschool.

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Vice-Chair, Peggy Dalman led the reading of the Mission Statement for Asheville City Schools.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

- A. Minutes of special meetings: June 26, 2014 and July 10, 2014
- B. Transfer of Students
- C. Policy Code 7425, School Administrator Contracts and Positions
- D. Policy Code 7821, Petition for Removal of Personnel Records
- E. Policy Code 7950, Non-Career Status Teachers: Nonrenewal
- F. Approval of Title 1 Application & Statement of Assurance
- G. Approval of Resolution Supporting NCASA: Building Support for Public Schools
- H. Approval of Revised 2014-15 Balanced Calendar
- I. Approval of Revised 2014-15 Traditional Calendar

GOOD NEWS

Executive Director for Public Relations/Communications, Charlie Glazener provided a brief overview of the first day of school and Hall Fletcher Elementary School principal, Dr. Gordon Grant shared updates on his year-round school, which commenced on July 17, 2014.

CURRICULUM FEATURE

Asheville Middle School CTE Teacher, T.J. Wright presented several live demonstrations on how students are utilizing technology in the classroom and they are mastering problem solving with team efforts. Mr. Wright concluded his presentation by thanking the Board and CTE Director, Lana Bradley for their support of the program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Bly addressed the Board regarding phonics and literacy.

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 Precious Folston and carried.

August 4, 2014

For Approval by the Board of EducationRecommendation for 1 Year Teacher Contract:

Laura Alexander	8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Asheville Middle School
Jeffrey Bloomer	8/15/14	Grade 6 Language Arts Teacher William Randolph School / Asheville Middle School
Bobby Buff	8/15/14	AIG Teacher Asheville Middle School
Lucy Dudley	8/15/14	Kindergarten Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Sophie Ferguson	8/15/14	Grade 1 Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Taylor Fields	8/15/14	Grade 1 Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Kelly Hillier	8/15/14	Grade 3 Teacher Vance Elementary School
Christine Jones	8/15/14	Kindergarten Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Mitzi Levering	8/15/14	Grade 5 Teacher Vance Elementary School
Brenda Little	8/1/14	Elementary / Preschool Exceptional Children Program Coordinator Asheville City Schools Systemwide

Recommendation for 1 Year Teacher Contract continued:

Virginia Moore	8/15/14	Literacy Coach Isaac Dickson Elementary School
Laura Morris	8/15/14	Grade 2 Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Abigail Mulchay	8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Asheville Middle School
Rhian Nevergold	8/15/14	Social Studies Teacher William Randolph School / Asheville High School
Karla Palotay	8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Claxton Elementary School
Nadirah Rahman	8/15/14	Dance Teacher
Jennifer Warren	8/15/14	Grade 3 Teacher Ira B. Jones Elementary School
Shay Winkeljohn	8/15/14	Grade 5 Teacher Ira B. Jones Elementary School

Recommendation for Temporary Teacher Contract:

Rachel Bradshaw	8/15/14	Grade 8 Language Arts Teacher Asheville Middle School
Stephan Duga	8/15/14	50% Latin Teacher Asheville High School
Amani Duncan	8/15/14	Grade 3 Teacher Ira B. Jones Elementary School
Julie Griffith	8/14/15	50% AIG Teacher Hall Fletcher Elementary School
Robyn Iuliano	8/15/14	Health Sciences Teacher Asheville High School
Crystal Johnson	8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Asheville Middle School

Ashleigh Joyner	8/15/14	Grade 7 Language Arts Teacher Asheville Middle School
Elissa Kraph	8/15/14	Grade 1 Teacher Ira B. Jones Elementary School
Mary Lazich	8/15/14	Speech Language Pathologist Isaac Dickson Elementary School
Veronica Lepa	8/15/14	Math Teacher Asheville High School
Mary McCormick	8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Asheville High School
Noe McHone	8/15/14	Science / Social Studies Teacher William Randolph School / Asheville High School
Lauren Powell	8/15/14	Interim Physical Education Teacher Asheville High School
Daryl Rue	8/15/14	Math Teacher William Randolph School / Asheville High School
Stephen Shell	8/15/14	English Teacher School of Inquiry and Life Science
Alisha Suer	8/15/14	Media Coordinator Asheville Middle School

Recommendation for Classified:

Dayle Ambrus	7/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant Hall Fletcher Elementary School
Michele Holden	7/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant Hall Fletcher Elementary School
Daniel Polich	8/15/14	Teacher Assistant Claxton Elementary School

Recommendation for Contractual Agreements:Asheville City Schools Systemwide

Montana Bowman	7/1/14 - 8/15/14	Technical Support
Duncan Britton	7/1/14 - 8/8/14	Technical Support
Sandra Bruns	8/19/14 - 6/11/15	Occupational Therapist Services
Eric Chad Canupp	7/18/14 - 8/14/14	Exceptional Children Records Room Duties
Wanda Coats	7/1/14 - 6/30/15	Accounts Payable Duties / Other Business Office Functions
Bobby Hall	7/10/14 - 9/2/14	Substitute Custodian
Nathaniel Koerschner	7/1/14 - 8/8/14	Technical Support
Elisha Lewis	7/1/14 - 8/8/14	Technical Support
Tony Magness	7/1/14 - 8/15/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Duties

Asheville High School

Keith Pittman	7/1/14 - 6/30/15	Debate Coach
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Hall Fletcher Elementary School

Julie Griffith	8/1/14 - 8/13/14	AIG Teacher Duties
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Substitutes:

Jeffrey Armstrong
 William Hamilton
 Kara Errickson
 Mary Kitt
 Alyson Miner

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Ms. Grady introduced Asheville High School new principal, Joyce Best. She expressed her appreciation to all those who helped to make her first day welcoming, and complemented both the district and the high school on being rich in academic excellence.

Members of the Board took turns to welcome Ms. Best and to wish her well. Board chair Hallum echoed the sentiments of the members. She also acknowledged the two camera crew students at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Tuesday, August 19 will be the first day of School.
2. Superintendent Baldwin thanked administrators for a smooth opening day at Hall Fletcher Elementary School on July 17th as a year round school. Students were excited and engaged in learning.
3. Board chair Hallum thanked the community partners and businesses that participated in Hall Fletcher's first day of school.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson

Dr. Pamela M. Baldwin, Secretary/Superintendent

Approved: Monday, September 8, 2014

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