

MINUTES  
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WORKSESSION NOVEMBER 24, 2014 AND  
REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2014

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a work session at 4:00 p.m., on Monday, November 24, 2014, in Training Room 203 of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were:

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson, Presiding  
Peggy Dalman  
Leah Ferguson  
Precious Grant

Member absent was:

Matt Buys (11/24/14)

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also

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

Guest:

Councilwoman, Gwen Wisler

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Hallum called the work session to order at 4:03 p.m.

Vice-Chair Dalman made a motion to amend the work session agenda to remove Item III. Solar Developer Proposal for Isaac Dickson Elementary School and Item VI. (7) Policy Code 7510, Leave; and add Asheville City Schools Foundation update as the new Item III.

The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

## WORK SESSION

The Asheville City Board of Education received updates on School Improvement Plans from the district's five magnet elementary schools. Principals utilized a template to present their schools' priorities for the 2014-15 school year and briefly shared their 2013-14 Student Achievement Data. At the end of the presentations, a five-minute question and answer time with the Board was permitted.

Vice Chair and Board member of the Asheville City Schools Foundation, Peggy Dalman provided the Board with continued updates on the Foundation's activities. It was recommended that Superintendent Baldwin consults with the director, Kate Pett to put in place a process to facilitate future updates.

Two resolutions from the North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) for local school Boards to consider were discussed with the Board. Resolution Regarding the State's Proposal to Assign Letter Grades to each Public School will be on the Mid-Year Retreat consent agenda on January 13, 2015 and that the Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars will be added to the December 1, 2014 regular Board meeting consent agenda for their approval.

Chris Campbell reviewed with the Board members Policy Code 6420, Contracts with the Board. They had no questions or changes to the other policies, including Administrative Procedure 3515-P, Religion in Schools. The policies will be on the December 1, 2014 Board agenda for first reading.

- Policy Code 1010, Board Authority and Duties
- Policy Code 2010, Board and Superintendent Relations
- Policy Code 2121, Board Member Conflict of Interest
- Policy Code 2200, Election of Officers/Organization of Board
- Policy Code 2210, Duties of Officers
- Policy Code 6420, Contracts with the Board

Superintendent Baldwin reviewed the proposed agenda items for the January 13, 2015 Board of Education Mid-Year Retreat. The processes for Asheville City Schools Foundation's updates and Board discussion on new school Board member appointments by City Council were suggested as additional agenda items.

Members of the Board and Councilwoman Wisler collaborated about the school board election process.

Superintendent Baldwin reviewed the December 1, 2014 Draft Board agenda with the members and requested to know if they had any questions or changes.

#### CLOSED SESSION

At 5:48 p.m., Leah Ferguson 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. The motion was seconded by Precious Grant and carried.

At 6:09 p.m., Leah Ferguson made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Precious Grant and carried.

#### OPEN SESSION

Superintendent Baldwin reviewed the announcements listed on the Work Session Agenda with the Board.

#### MEETING RECESSED

At 6:16 p.m., Chairperson Jacquelyn Hallum announced in open session that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene at Ira B. Jones Elementary School, 544 Kimberly Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina, 12:00 noon on Monday, December 1, 2014 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 p.m., members of the Board, Superintendent Baldwin and the Leadership Team assembled at Ira B. Jones Elementary School and were greeted and escorted to the Media Center for lunch by the school's safety patrol managed by Media Assistant, Aaron Ostwald. Principal Sarah Cain shared a comprehensive data review, which she introduced with two guiding principles: it is important to know who you are teaching and to know how they learn.

New Assistant Principal, Carrie Lynch, detailed how routine things like seating, class agendas, grading scales and classroom rules impact the learning process. Ms. Cain talked about a number of action steps the school has undertaken to boost academic performance for all students. These included strategic uses of data, making literacy a critical area of focus and parent engagement.

Kindergarten teacher Jessica Jackson shared several ways that the school is strengthening the foundation for kindergarten students. Standards-based grading and quarterly goals, an exercise called 'the Brain Book', homework for these young learners and guided reading were four of the interactive methods that we learned about.

The next step was to the kindergarten wing to meet Jerry the Giraffe, a collaborative effort led by art teacher Vicki Hall and a parent who helped with the design.

The group enjoyed their visit to several kindergarten classrooms, where in every case, students were actively engaged in learning. The final stop was to join a whole-school assembly designed to address character-building. Chairman Hallum introduced Kenston Griffin from Dream Builders Communication who captivated the audience with an entertaining style that offered incentives for good behavior and tips for becoming a better student. Dream Builders is working with several of our schools during the next few months.

The group departed from the school visit with positive feelings about both the climate and the future of our northern-most school that serves 487 students, 101 of those in kindergarten.

### MEETING RECESSED

At 1:15 p.m., Chairman 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., Peggy Dalman made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to Section 143-318.11 (a)(1), (3) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321, to discuss the possible acquisition of real property. The motion was seconded by Matt Buys and carried.

The Board returned to open session at 5:46 p.m.

### OPEN SESSION

The Board and Superintendent Baldwin received an update on the status of the Nutrition Committee from the Board's liaison, Leah Ferguson, and then they proceeded to discuss the next steps. Superintendent Baldwin apprised the Board of her plans to move the process forward. A decision on how and when to present the data that has been collected from the survey was undecided.

The Board chair shared a conversation she had with Mayor Manheimer regarding the appointment of new school board members for April 1, 2015 and about the process.

It was the consensus of the Board to amend the 6:30 p.m. agenda to remove Consent Items VI. (A) Minutes of Meetings and XI. Action Items (A-6) Policy Code 6420, Contracts with the Board.

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hallum called the Board meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

### AMENDED AGENDA

Peggy Dalman made a motion to amend the regular Board meeting agenda to have Item VI. Consent Items (A) Minutes of Meetings and Item XI. Action Items (A-6) Policy

Code 6420, Contracts with the Board removed from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Precious Grant and carried.

#### REPORT ON BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL VISIT

Precious Folston presented information on the visit to Ira B. Jones Elementary School.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ira B. Jones Elementary School students:

#### ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Leah Ferguson led the reading of the Mission Statement for Asheville City Schools.

#### ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Peggy Dalman led the reading of the Asheville City Schools Guiding Principles.

#### CONSENT ITEMS

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

- A. Budget Amendments
- B. Policy Code 3460, Graduation Requirements
- C. Policy Code 3470, Alternative Learning Programs/Schools
- D. Policy Code, 3515, Religion in the Schools
- E. Policy Code 6127, Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injector Devices
- F. Policy Code 6130, Automated External Defibrillators
- G. Policy Code 6260, Occupational Exposure to Boodborne Pathogens
- H. Policy Code 7262, Communicable Diseases – Employees
- I. Policy Code 7635, Workers’ Compensation/Return to Work
- J. Conditional Approval of Maintenance Facility Lease Agreement Subject to County Consent
- K. Approval of Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars

## GOOD NEWS

Executive Director for Community Relations/Communication, Charlie Glazener commenced his good news on the progress of the district's two new schools, Isaac Dickson Elementary and Asheville Middle. Construction crews continue to make progress. **Official groundbreaking ceremonies** took place in early October. Perhaps the most moving element at the two events was the singing of our National Anthem at the middle school groundbreaking by AMS sixth graders, Ava Powchak and Corina Mignon.

The **Asheville High CTE Program** is doing a great job of equipping high school students with knowledge, skills and inspiration to achieve meaningful careers. Supported by community businesses Fun Depot and Foods 2, students finished up their entrepreneurship unit with a bang. Students worked hard for several weeks, starting their very own restaurant from the ground up. Led by new family and consumer Science Education Teacher, Jacqueline Brown, students also made a website with a menu link. After two days of menu sampling, Fun Depot executive and event Judge, Roger Ward, selected the winner based on creativity, hard work, menu, website and food sample: Dajonna Boyd. Another winner was DeAndre' Sibert who did a fantastic job making his very first homemade pizza. Lana Bradley is the district's CTE Director.

The district was contacted by a North Buncombe Middle School parent about the **great sportsmanship** exhibited by an AMS athlete. "Your school has some very good athletes and frequently dominates our team at cross-country and track and field events. Some of our runners are intimidated by that. Yesterday, the last runner in was a young man from our school, and he was very upset with the way he finished the race. Your third place winner encouraged our player. 'Stick with it and save the best for last', he said. 'You are out there doing something a lot of other kids couldn't do, so buck up and be proud'. Asheville Middle 7<sup>th</sup> grader Elliot Hensley was called to the podium.

Asheville High has launched a campaign to raise awareness of solar energy in the school community. Several schools in the area are competing to see who can educate the most people about solar energy. Teacher Sarah Duffer's 9th grade Earth and Environmental Sciences class took a field trip on October 30, 2014 to the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy in Asheville to see first-hand how a unique dual tracking solar panel maximizes the production of clean solar energy.

## CURRICULUM FEATURE

Ira B. Jones Elementary School teachers shared their initiative and the process used to make certain all first graders have the required math resources that they would need for the entire school year and how to empower families to develop a sense for mathematics.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Bly addressed the Board on students who are not reading by the end of third grade.

## 2014 COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Donna Watson presented to the Board the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, performed by audit firm, Dixon Hughes Goodman. They were reminded that Asheville City Schools is required yearly by the state and federal regulations, to be audited by an independent certified public accountant.

Special acknowledgements for staff: Christy Wilson, Director of Financial Data and Service, Executive Director for Public Relations/Communications, Charlie Glazener and his assistant, Elaine Carter, Asheville Chamber of Commerce, Buncombe County Tax Department & Finance Department, and Auditors (new team). Brian Broom, Engagement Director of Dixon Hughes Goodman, L.L.P. presented for review, the Compliance Report and at the end his presentation, requested to know if the Board had any questions. The Board's vice-chair thanked Mr. Broom for his outstanding service to Asheville City Schools.

## FIRST READING OF POLICIES

Peggy Dalman made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy Code 2010, Board and Superintendent Relations presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Matt Buys and carried.

Leah Ferguson made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy Code 2121, Board Member Conflict of Interest presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.



Precious Grant made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy Code 2200, Election of Officers/Organization of Board presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.

Matt Buys made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy Code 2210, Duties of Officers presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

In addition, Ms. Grady presented as information only, the technical corrections that were made to Policy Code 1010, Board Authority and Duties that did not require approval from the Board.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL

Leah Ferguson made a motion to approve the following recommendations presented by Chief Human Resources/Director of Support Services and Legal Counsel, Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.

December 1, 2014

For Approval by the Board of Education

#### Recommendation for Administrative Contract:

Rod Daniels	1/5/15	Assistant Principal Asheville High School
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#### Recommendation for Temporary Teacher Contract:

Cynthia Koerber	11/12/14	Math Interventionist Hall Fletcher Elementary School
Mark Wilcox	11/14/14	Physical Education / Health Teacher Asheville Middle School

#### Recommendation for Classified:

Evelina Pierce	12/2/2014	Title 1 Teacher Assistant Hall Fletcher Elementary School
Andrew Watson	11/14/14	Teacher Assistant

## Asheville City Preschool

Michael Wright	11/12/14	Custodian Ira B. Jones Elementary School
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Recommendation for Contractual Agreements:Asheville City Schools Systemwide

Helen Cox - Andrews	10/16/14 - 12/20/14	Speech Language Pathologist Services
Crystal Dover	11/24/14 - 12/19/14	Speech Language Pathologist Services
William Silver	11/17/14 - 12/12/14	Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant Duties

Asheville High School

Jenna Melissas	10/7/14 - 10/14/14	Extra Substitute Services / ESL
Michael Zboyovski	8/1/14 - 11/25/14	Assistant Football Coach / Bus Driver

Hall Fletcher Elementary School

Evelina Pierce	11/19/14 - 12/1/14	Title 1 Teacher Assistant Duties
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Ira B. Jones Elementary School

Allison Walden	9/10/14 - 12/20/14	Teacher Assistant Duties
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Substitutes:

Melinda Allen  
James Ellington  
Cassia Imholz  
Raymond Jester  
Stewart Massey  
Brooke Parrott  
Amanda Shive  
Tobey Weissman  
Sarah Wilde

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Baldwin made the following announcements:

1. Jones Elementary School will host a Parent Empowerment session on Saturday, December 6. Child care will be provided for kindergarten parents from 11-12pm, including lunch.
2. Upcoming Parent U Session on December 4
3. Graduation Project at the highs schools

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson

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Dr. Pamela M. Baldwin, Secretary/Superintendent