

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a special meeting at 8:30 a.m., on Friday, September 11, 2015, in the Superintendent Suite, Room 205 of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were: Peggy Dalman, Chairperson, presiding
 Matt Buys
 Leah Ferguson (via phone conference)
 Martha Geitner
 Shaunda Sandford

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also

Charlie Glazener, Executive Director for Community Relations; Donna Watson, Executive Director for Finance; and Jackie Taylor, Clerk to the Board.

Donna Watson joined the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Peggy Dalman called the special meeting 8:30 a.m.

Charlie Glazener, Executive Director for Community Relations presented the LEA Based Calendar Waiver Request for Weather Related Causes for the 2016-2017 school year for the Board's consideration and approval. His review of the law and history behind the calendar waiver that the legislators passed over 10 years ago took the authority away from school districts and mandated that the opening date for schools could not be earlier than August 25 and the end date no later than June 10.

The Board was informed that the new calendar committee which will be handled by the Communication's Department will be comprised of a staff and a parent from each school, with three to four meetings, and will commence in early October. Draft versions of the 2016-17 traditional and balanced calendars will be presented to the Board for their review and comments at the November work session.

Executive Director of Finance, Donna Watson presented the Board with updates on the state funding for the driver's education program, and it included a possible agreement that could be reached as early as Monday, September 14. In addition, they were made aware that the approved extended contract between ACS and Mountain Professional for 2015-16

and Fees has been placed on hold pending the outcome of the budget being passed. Another News included a potential negotiation of the driver's education fee being reduced, and she briefly alluded to provisions that were made in the past by ACS training instructors to ensure that some students had the opportunity to partake of driver's education.

The Board suspended receiving updates on driver's education and moved to the action item that was next on the special meeting agenda.

Martha Geitner made a motion to approve the LEA Based Calendar Waiver Request for Weather Related Causes for 2016-2017 school, to allow Asheville City Schools an opening date on August 22, 2016 and a closing date on June 9, 2017 as presented by Charlie Glazener. The motion was seconded by Shaunda Sandford and carried. The approved request will be signed by Superintendent, Dr. Pamela Baldwin and copy will be attached to these minutes.

Leah Ferguson signed off from the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

The Board resumed their discussion of the driver's education updates with Donna Watson. Board Vice-Chair, Matt Buys requested to know if the district could put in place a funding source to assist those students who might have challenges affording the drivers fee, even if it is reduced. Ms. Watson informed the Board that a waiver application will be made available. It will be decided by the high school administration on how the information regarding the waiver will be shared with students.

The Board held a moment of silence for the September 11, 2001 tragedies; and after the special meeting was adjourned, assembled outside by the flag that was flown at half-staff to commemorate the anniversary of the nation's solemn event.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:05 a.m., the special meeting was adjourned.

Peggy Dalman, Chairperson

Dr. Pamela Baldwin, Secretary/Superintendent