

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING JANUARY 16, 2014

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a special meeting at 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, January 16, 2014 in the Board Room 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

Dr. Bobbie Short, Secretary/Interim Superintendent.
Chris Campbell, Board Attorney

Guest present:

Councilwoman Gwen Wisler

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Hallum called the special meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. she remarked that the special meeting will be televised for the purpose of providing the staff and public with an update on the search process for the new Superintendent for Asheville City Schools.

Following the presentation of the report, the Board will further discuss the report with Dr. Diana McCauley when the Board reconvenes to their recessed special meeting (mid-year board retreat).

SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE REPORT

The Asheville City Board of Education received the Superintendent Leadership Profile Report presented by Dr. Diana McCauley, Co-Lead Consultant for Hazard, Young, Attea &

Associates. In her opening remarks, Dr. McCauley stated that the purpose of the meeting was to provide the Asheville City Board of Education and the community with highlights detailed in the 78 page report:

- The background information on the search process
- Outcomes from the search firm visits on December 9 and 10
 - What stakeholders had to say pertaining to the strengths, concerns and issues
 - The desired characteristics in the new superintendent
- Review other components of the search process

Dr. McCauley shared that the information presented in the report does not constitute a scientific study and that the opinions that were generated does not necessarily reflect the majority opinion of just one stakeholder group. As a result of the on-line survey and conversations with stakeholders and individual groups, HYA was able to formulate a list of strengths, concerns, issues and characteristics that will provide them with a guide in searching for the new superintendent for Asheville City Schools.

In addition to her review of the next steps for the search process, Dr. McCauley also shared that the superintendent vacancy has been placed in Education Week Magazine, on the North Carolina Association of School Administrators' (NCASA) website, and also on HYA's website. HYA does not rely exclusively on responses to ads when trying to sort through the candidate pool to present to the Board. Also, the report on the desired characteristics will not be made available until it has been approved by the Board.

Copies of the Leadership Profile Report, The Desired Characteristics (when approved) and the Promotional Blurb will be attached to these minutes.

Before reviewing the timeline of the search process, Dr. McCauley requested to know if the Board had any questions.

- 1) Vice-Chair Dalman asked for clarification on the HYA Benchmark that is included the report and its origin.
- 2) Leah Ferguson requested to know if the comments noted in the report – fairly represents the economic diversity of Asheville City Schools. In her response, Dr.

McCauley stated that the report does not reflect the opinion of just one person, but with the individuals with whom HYA had the opportunity to speak with.

- 3) Precious Folston requested to know with diversity being one the district's issue, and that it carries a different definition for everyone, how would the issue be conveyed to the candidates.

Board Chair Hallum reminded the audience that the reports will be posted on the district's website once they have been approved.

- 4) Matt Buys requested to know Dr. McCauley's impressions on the responses so far.

Dr. McCauley shared that the timeline for the superintendent search process is on track and it was confirmed by the Board chair.

The special meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson

Dr. Bobbie Short, Secretary/Interim Superintendent