

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 AND
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 7, 2013

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a work session at 4:00 p.m., on Monday, September 30, 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

Dr. Bobbie Short, Interim Superintendent
Chris Campbell and Dean Shatley, Board Attorneys

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Hallum called the work session meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

WORKSESSION

Cynthia Grady informed the Board that the update that they were about to receive concerning the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the new Isaac Dickson project, resulted from the positive school bids' meeting held on September 17, 2013 with Construction Manager at Risk (CMR), Miles-McClellan Construction Company and architect for the project, John Legerton. The meeting had provided answers to questions, and at its conclusion, the attendees expressed their satisfaction with the presentation. In addition, they were able to

settle on a budget amount for the Board to consider following the presentation. The Board chair requested know who attended the meeting.

John Legerton of Legerton Architecture provided a brief summary on the process of the IDES project, highlighting the 7 original Project goals for the new school and the Value Engineering (VE) items that were selected for the project. He concluded his summary by reminding the Board that the goal of the reductions was to not affect anything that was programmatic to the educational parts of the project.

Miles-McClellan Construction Company was selected by the Board last May to be the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) for the new Dickson project, and the goal for the CMR was to be on time and on budget. Tim McClellan recapped the initial budget that was established for the project on June 3, 2013 which was slightly under \$20M based on 95% design of the project, and then proceeded to:

- Reviewed the bidding process for the project which included keeping HUB and local firms engaged in the process.
- Reviewed the added alternates requested by the school faculty
- Reviewed the different contractors bidding on the project

The next steps:

1. A GMP packet will be delivered to Ms. Grady's office for review and then placed on the October 7, 2013 Board agenda for the Board to approve
2. A request for the Board to approve Miles-McClellan Construction Company GMP Contract so that they can sub-contract out to different companies

The Board was informed that Miles-McClellan has a tally of all the successful bidders broken down into Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) and Local Firms, and that the information will be sent to them on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 after they have finalized the numbers.

The GMP presentation at the October 7, 2013 regular Board meeting at 6:30 pm and who will participate were reviewed with the Board. In addition, Board members were encouraged to review the spreadsheets again, and if they had any questions to direct them to Cynthia Grady.

Chief Finance Officer, Donna Watson before her presentation, introduced Sarah Banks, the new Budget Analyst for the Business Office, and then proceeded to review the Six Operating Funds totaling \$57,142,302 that will be presented at the October 7, 2013 regular Board meeting for the Board to approve. The Dickson project is not included in the Capital Outlay Budget, Mrs. Watson informed the Board, but she will bring back to them a budget amendment once the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) has been established.

The presentation also highlighted five major salary and benefit changes that will have an impact on all the operating funds.

A Board member requested that a blurb be added to the district website that will reassure parents that regardless of the budget issues facing the district, they can expect the same quality education for their children.

Cynthia Grady reviewed the recommended changes to Policy Code 7430, Substitute Teachers with the Board and requested to know if they have any questions. The Board had no changes or questions.

Dr. Short reviewed the draft Board Agenda for October 7, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. The following items were added to the agenda:

- New Isaac Dickson Elementary School (presentation)
- Consideration and Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price for the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School (action item)

Dr. Short informed the Board that the curriculum feature for the October 7th Board meeting will be presented by Vance Elementary School. She also shared current happenings on student achievement programs at Isaac Dickson Elementary School.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:10 p.m., Leah Ferguson made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(1), (3) and (5) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321, to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege, and to receive advice regarding the Phillips Lawsuit. The motion was seconded by Precious Folston and carried.

The closed session ended at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Tuesday, October 1, 2013 4:30 pm – the Board will meet with other representatives from Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates.

MEETING RECESSED

At 7:10 p.m., Board Chair Jacquelyn Hallum announced in open session that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene at Isaac Dickson Elementary School, 90 Montford Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina, 12:00 noon on Monday, October 7, 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

On Monday, October 7, 2013 at 12:00 pm., members of the Board of Education, Interim Superintendent, Dr. Short and the Leadership Team were greeted by Principal, Brad Johnson and Assistant Principal, Ruletta Hughes. The group assembled in the media center where they enjoyed lunch provided by the school's business partner, Early Girl Eatery.

Following lunch, Principal Johnson proceeded to review the items on the agenda for the presentation and it included a look at Professional Learning Communities, core problem-solving and Title I support. Fifth grade teacher, Libby Kyles shared how frequent and teacher-led PLCs are addressing specific reading and vocabulary terms. Another fifth grade teacher, Mairead Smitka mentioned how assessments are being not just done, but analyzed for effective strategies. "We are not an island," she said. "All our school's teachers are working together as a team to improve achievement."

Title I teacher, Laura Lane noted that in the past, communication was an issue across grade levels, but the PLCs are helping us make connections on a daily basis. School-based literacy coach, May Castelloe described how student engagement is being addressed through a program called Mind Up. The work evolved from an Asheville City School's Foundation Fellows Grant that focused on a number of studies, including Eric Jensen's "Teaching with Poverty in Mind." Dickson's teachers and students alike are learning smart and teaching smart with an emphasis on the non-cognitive skills necessary to achieve academic success.

The group concluded their visit with stops in the Title I learning area, Tasha Lewis' kindergarten class, where a Mind Up session was underway, and in third grade teacher, Ali

Trainer's classroom where we observed turning and talking about cognitive, social and emotional connections.

The group enjoyed their visit to Isaac Dickson on Montford, where they heard more than one time, how pleased both staff and parents are with the educational environment in this temporary facility. It was obvious that students are engaged in their daily routines.

MEETING RECESSED

At 1:25 p.m., Chairperson Hallum announced that the meeting was recessed and would reconvene for a special Board meeting at 5:00 pm in the Training Room #203, followed by a closed session at 5:30 p.m., and then a continuation of the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:45 p.m., Precious Folston made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to General Statute 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 to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.

The Board returned to open session 6:10 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Short reviewed the assessment data compiled from her meetings with administrators and elementary principals with the Board.

The Board discussed scheduling a meeting with the selected superintendent search firm, Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates and agreed to meet with HYA consultants on October 30, 2013 if the date works for them.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Isaac Dickson Elementary students.

REPORT ON BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL VISIT

Leah Ferguson presented information on the Board's visit to Isaac Dickson Elementary School.

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Peggy Dalman led the reading of the Mission Statement for Asheville City Schools.

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Precious Folston led the reading of the Asheville City Schools Guiding Principles

CONSENT ITEMS

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

- Minutes of the special meetings on September 18, 2013, September 24, 2013, September 25, 2013, and October 1, 2013
- Transfer of Students
- Asheville Middle School Treasurer
- LEA Calendar Waiver for 2014-2015 School Year
- Minor Property Damage Settlement

- Acceptance of Donation of Band Trailer
- Policy Code 3320 – School Trips
- Policy Code 6321 – Bus Routes

Following the approval of the consent items, the Board recognized and thanked Mr. Will Schneider for donating a new trailer to the school district for the AHS Band to transport their equipment. The total cost of the trailer was \$4,445.00. The Board's acceptance of the donation is in compliance with School Board Policy Code 8820, Gifts and Bequests. Copies of the acceptance letter, Policy Code 8820, and the invoice from Mr. Schneider are attached to these minutes.

GOOD NEWS

ACS Teacher of the Year Annual Banquet was held two weeks ago, honoring the 'best of the best' among our district teachers. It is my pleasure to introduce you to those nine teachers: Laura Jane Howald --ACS Preschool; Pat Bruder ---Isaac Dickson Elementary; Jesse Swain--Claxton Elementary; Juanita Mitchiner---Ira B. Jones Elementary; Kenny Nichols---Asheville Middle School; Laura Ingersoll ---SILSA - School of Inquiry & Life Sciences at Asheville; Melody McGarrahan--- Hall Fletcher Elementary; Will Talley--- Asheville High School; and Ximena Del Corral Smith--- Vance Elementary. District teacher of the year, Will Talley was called to the podium to say a few words.

Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) results were released recently and Asheville High School and SILSA saw strong results, bettering both the North Carolina and national averages for the 16th consecutive year. One hundred and eighty-five AHS and SILSA seniors (Class of 2013) took the exam during their high school career, an impressive 73.7% participation rate for the district. Asheville City Schools' overall SAT average score of 1586

ranks third in the state among 115 school districts, only surpassed by Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Watauga County. Congratulations to the Class of 2013 and to their teachers and families.

Asheville High School students Daisy Homolka, Zoe Kaplan, Laura Lane, Mira McMahon and Emma Tax have been named Commended Students in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2014 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million student who entered the competition by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. “These students represent a valuable natural resource and we hope this recognition broadens their educational opportunities,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC.

Governor Pat McCrory has proclaimed September 15 through October 15 as **Hispanic Heritage Month** in North Carolina. The proclamation recognizes the positive impact that our Hispanic communities have on the social, cultural and economic development of our state and nation. Asheville City Schools now serves nearly 300 Hispanic children and their families, almost seven percent of our student population. We are honored tonight to recognize their many contributions to our mission of educating our community’s children.

Did you know we had a ‘**Teacher at Sea**’ this past summer? Dacia Harris, Asheville High School Chemistry and Earth & Environmental Science teacher, sailed aboard the NOAA ship Nancy Foster during the latter part of August to help explore Deepwater Canyons. This research cruise was collaboration among UNC Wilmington, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, CSA Ocean Sciences and NOAA, among others. Participants

retrieved one lander from the mouth and one lander from the head of Baltimore Canyon plus some moorings from both canyons.

CURRICULUM FEATURE

Vance Elementary School second year 5th grade teacher for Social Studies and Science, Brian Ballenger, presented four 5th graders and their parents who demonstrated what Student-Lead Conferences looks like. Students taking ownership of their learning, setting goals and having their parents keep them accountable.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Roy Harris addressed the Board and expressed his appreciation to the school district, and thanked the Board and administrators for doing such a great job! Board chair Hallum thanked Mr. Harris for his comments and support.

Joe Bly addressed the Board concerning a report he received regarding DPI postponing the 2012-2013 school data because of the new accountability model.

ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION (TRIP TO CHINA)

Principal for Asheville High School, Carol Ray presented an update on the school's trip to China this past summer with Yanzii High Sister School in Jiangsu Province, Nanjing. In addition, she presented an update on the school's four year partnership with Hanban Institute in Beijing.

NEW ISAAC DICKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Brad Johnson provided a brief overview of what the journey has been like for the Dickson Elementary School staff, and the participation of the community and

stakeholder groups with the new school project, and then proceeded to recognize and thank the following individuals and groups for their role in the process:

- Former Superintendent, Allen Johnson
- Buncombe County Commissioners
- County Manager
- Teachers
- Staff
- Interim Superintendent, Dr. Bobbie Short
- Cynthia Grady
- Maintenance Director, Don Sims

John Legerton of Legerton Architecture provided a brief overview of the Isaac Dickson project since its August 2012 start date with the following highlights: The participatory goals for the project, the cost issues, and the school's experiential components. In addition, a review of the different components that made up the initial budget of \$20M, a summary of the cost reductions and strategies during the early design phases, maintaining the experiential spaces and the key core components that were expressed by the school staff.

Construction Manager at Risk, Miles-McClellan Construction Company, Mr. Tim McClellan presented to the Asheville City Board of Education, an overview of the proposed Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$17,526,333 (the project's construction cost) for the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School. The IDES Project Master Control Budget amount of \$19,923,93 was \$2,200 less than what was originally budgeted for the project.

The presentation also provided the following information:

- The project was bid out to local companies and HUB firms (Historically Underutilized Businesses)
- Miles-McClellan received bids from 132 pre-qualified bidders
- 89 bids were received on August 9, 2013
- Firms that have been awarded the project
 1. Local firms – 32%
 2. HUB firms – 43%
- The new facility will be ready for occupancy on June 5, 2015

The IDES project concluded with Mr. Legerton sharing that the brother of Mike Nicklas of Innovative Design, will donate a 30 foot Hadrosaurus Dinosaur to the new school.

Board Vice-Chair Peggy Dalman thanked the committee members who participated in all the meetings in planning of the new school that will be the first new school built in the last 30 years for Asheville City Schools.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE

Cynthia Grady, Chief Human Resources Officer, Director of Support Services, and Legal Counsel, presented to the Board for the consideration and approval, the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$17,526,333 as presented by Tim McClellan of Miles-McClellan Construction Company for the building of the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School, subject to satisfactory negotiation with Miles-McClellan Construction Company, Inc. as the contract is finalized. Precious Folston made a motion to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$17,526,333 for the building of the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School as presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Leah Ferguson and carried.

Ms. Ferguson thanked Board member, Matt Buys for his role in the new school project.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF 2013-2014 BUDGET RESOLUTION

Chief Finance Officer, Donna Watson presented the 2013-2014 Budget Overview for the Board to review and the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Resolution for their consideration and approval. After presentation, Peggy Dalman made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Resolution which will rescind the Interim Budget that the district has been operating under since July 1, 2013. The motion was seconded by Precious Folston and carried.

A copy of the 2013-2014 Budget Resolution is attached to these minutes.

FIRST READING OF POLICIES

Leah Ferguson made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy Code 7430, Substitute Teachers as presented by Cynthia Grady. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalma 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 Precious Folston and carried.

October 7, 2013

For Approval by the Board of Education

Recommendation for classified:

Emily Ambs	10/1/13	Bookkeeper / Treasurer Asheville Middle School
Heather Finch	9/30/13	Teacher Assistant Ira B. Jones Elementary School
Anastasia Fink	9/23/13	Teacher Assistant Isaac Dickson Elementary School
Alfreida Foster	10/1/13	Child Nutrition Worker Claxton Elementary School
Amanda Houdek	9/20/13	Child Nutrition Worker Ira B. Jones Elementary School
Tammy Laffitte	10/1/13	Teacher Assistant Asheville City Preschool
Karen Tomlinson	9/30/13	Teacher Assistant

Ira B. Jones Elementary School

Recommendation for temporary contract:

Filomena Sue Austin	9/19/13 -	Interim Grade 8 Language Arts Teacher until teacher returns Asheville Middle School
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Recommendation for contractual agreements:Asheville City Preschool

Angela Talford	7/1/13 - 6/30/14	Main Office Duties
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Asheville City Schools Systemwide

John Anglin	8/24/13 - 6/15/14	Homebound Services
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Asheville High School

Jermaine Brawley	9/16/13 - 10/31/13	Percussion Instructor
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Chris Smith	9/16/13 - 10/31/13	Percussion Instructor
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Chris Stroup	8/1/13 - 12/10/13	Cross Country Coach
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Asheville Middle School

Lisa Rhodes	9/9/13 - 9/30/13	Clerical Duties
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Carole Riddle	9/4/13 - 9/30/13	Interim School Bookkeeper Duties
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Hall Fletcher Elementary School

Joreka Bradley	9/16/13 - 10/31/13	Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant Duties
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Catherine Byers	9/3/13 - 5/29/14	Title 1 Tutor
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Betsy Rhodes	9/3/13 - 5/29/14	Title 1 Tutor
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Recommendation for contractual agreements continued:

Isaac Dickson Elementary School

Elizabeth Freeman	9/20/13 - 12/20/13	Title 1 Tutoring
William Gehling	9/25/13 - 6/9/14	Bright Ideas Afterschool
Elizabeth McClure	9/20/13 - 12/20/13	Title 1 Tutoring

Vance Elementary School

Linda Cooke	8/26/13 - 5/20/14	Tutoring
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William Randolph School

Patricia Griffin	9/27/13 - TBD	Additional Administrator Mentoring
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Substitutes:

Barbara Block
Robin Harwell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Short made the following announcements:

1. October 24, half day for students (Half Day of Professional Development for Staff) Elementary Schools: 12:00 pm; Preschool: 12:00 pm and Grades 6-12: 1:00 pm. All students will have lunch for dismissal
2. October 25 – Professional Development Day – all day at AHS (no school for students)
3. October 28 – Teacher Work Day – (no school for students)
4. November 4th – Report Card students

Board Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Jacquelyn Hallum, Chairperson

Dr. Bobbie Short, Secretary/Interim Superintendent