

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 1, 2017

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a special called meeting at 6:00 p.m., on Thursday, June 1, 2017, in the Board Room of the Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were:

Shaunda Sandford, Chair
Martha Geitner, Vice-Chair
Joyce Brown
Patricia Griffin
James E. Lee III

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also

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

Guest:

Superintendent-elect, Dr. Denise Patterson

Media present:

Asheville Citizen-Times and WLOS

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Sandford called the special called meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., and led the pledge of allegiance.

OPENING REMARKS

Chair Sandford stated that the purpose of the special called meeting was to elect a new superintendent for Asheville City Schools. She took a few moments to thank the Community Advisory Team (CAT) and to express her appreciation to Interim Superintendent, Dr. Bobbie Short for her leadership during the transition on behalf of the Board. Dr. Short received a standing ovation. Chair Sandford went on to state that during the Superintendent Search process, the Board carefully reviewed applications from a diverse field of 52 excellent candidates. She thanked the Community Advisory Team (the "CAT") who spent many hours attending and participating in community forums and other meetings and reviewing redacted applications, so they could suggest possible candidates to the Board of Education. Members of the CAT who were present were applauded.

Following her opening remarks, Board Chair Sandford asked for a motion to approve the position of Superintendent for Asheville City Schools.

Martha Geitner made a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Denise Patterson as the new superintendent for Asheville City Schools effective July 1, 2017, pursuant to the terms of employment agreed to by Dr. Patterson. The motion was seconded by Joyce Brown and carried. The motion passed unanimously. Superintendent Dr. Denise Patterson received a welcoming standing ovation.

Board Chair Sandford read aloud Dr. Patterson biography.

REMARKS FROM THE BOARD

- *Mr. Lee thanked the Community Advisory Team for their hard work and the effort that they had put into the process. He told the audience that he was excited to have Dr. Patterson on board. He further stated that Dr. Patterson was going to do a phenomenal job for the district. He expressed his enthusiasm for her leadership qualities and wished her well.*
- *Ms. Brown echoed Mr. Lee's sentiments on the Community Advisory Team. She thanked Dr. Patterson for accepting the Board's quest to the district and said the Asheville City Schools' staff and community will be pleased. Additionally, she stated that the Board was unanimous in their decision to select Dr. Patterson.*
- *Vice Chair Geitner remarked that Dr. Patterson was a relationship builder and spoke highly of her attributes and how they will benefit the district. She also thanked the Community Advisory Team for their hard work, dedication and hours and restated the Board was unanimous in their decision when they selected Dr. Patterson. She concluded by saying the staff and community will like, love, respect, and are going to be willing to work with Dr. Patterson.*

Board Chair Sandford welcomed Dr. Patterson to make a few remarks.

REMARKS FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. DENISE PATTERSON

Dr. Patterson thanked the audience for welcoming her and said she has been blessed and honored to have already worked with the Board. She looks forward to working with the district and building partnerships. She shared with them Asheville City Schools will continue to be a successful district, and that she would welcome all opportunities to ensure that the success of all students remains the main goal for the district. Dr. Patterson concluded that she looks forward to the partnership and collaboration.

Board Chair Sandford invited everyone to a meet and greet with Superintendent, Dr. Denise Patterson following the meeting. Refreshments were provided.

The specially called meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.