

MINUTES  
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
October 18, 2017

The Asheville City Board of Education (“Board”) held a special called meeting, commencing at 10:02 a.m. on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, in the Training Room 203 at 85 Mountain St. Asheville, NC 28801.

Members present were:

Shaunda Sandford, Chairperson, presiding  
Martha Geitner  
Patricia Griffin  
Joyce Brown  
James E. Lee, III

Comprising a quorum of the Board; also present were:

Dean Shatley, Board Attorney  
Dr. Denise Patterson, Superintendent

Staff:

Charlotte Sullivan, Executive Director for Finance; Joyce Graves, Executive Director of Human Resources; Melissa Hedt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning; Shannon Baggett, Principal Montford North Star Academy; Tim Holcombe, Capital Projects Coordinator; Jesse Dingle, Asheville High School Principal; Don Sims, Director of Facilities & Properties; Martin Jacobsen, WAN Engineer; Matt Whiteside, Director of Instructional Technology/Media; Kimberly Jones and Ashley King, Board Administrative Assistants.

Guests:

Greg Israel, Buncombe County Facilities Manager; TJ Hollars, Project Manager at James R. Vannoy & Sons Construction, Inc.; Jim Young, Project Director at James R. Vannoy & Sons Construction, Inc.; Ray C. Woodcock, Industrial Hygiene Consultant

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Shaunda Sandford called the special meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Shaunda Sanford made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Martha Geitner.

**FACILITIES UPDATE**

Dr. Patterson presented the topics that would be covered during the meeting. Don Sims introduced the guests are overseeing the projects.

### Asheville High School

- T.J. Hollars went over the 3 phases of construction at Asheville High School. When the ROTC building was inspected by the structural engineer, a structural issue was found with the building. The main support girder beams were starting to erode away.
- There was no danger to the people in the building. The amount of construction that would need to take place inhibited students and the staff to stay in the building during construction. The cost to fix the building was more expensive than the building itself.
- They found that the ROTC building was built in 1949 by the High School students in the vocational program, as a real-world example of construction.  
Right now Asheville High School has fenced it off and secured it shut until a final decision is made.
- Dr. Jesse Dingle discussed where the students and teachers would be relocated to. Any students that were in that building will be moved to other classrooms within the High School. Elective teachers will be floating from classroom to classroom. The wrestling team and the basketball team will be in the main gym.
- Don Sims stated that there is no knowledge of any asbestos being in the ROTC building.
- Going forward, the staff and construction crew will continue to discuss all of the variables involved; the cost of it, what should be built in its place if it is taken down? What is the best use of the land?
- It would take around two years in total for the entire project. Including but not limited to: the design of a new building, tearing down the old building and building the new structure.
- The Board may consider asking for additional funds from the County Capital Fund Commission for the removal of the current ROTC building and construction of a new building.

### Montford North Star Academy

#### Asbestos statement review:

- The 2018 school calendar year is the projected completion date for all construction. They will create secure labs to remove the asbestos. The rooms that have it have been sealed off, meeting OSHA guidelines. They have plywood and tape in place.
- Asheville City Schools has brought in a third-party expert, Ray Woodcock to oversee the removal process. Mr. Woodcock specializes in the oversight of asbestos removal and he will be monitoring the contractor's removal. Mr. Woodcock will also conduct testing to confirm that 100% of the asbestos has been removed and the classrooms are safe and in working order for the students.
- The asbestos was found in the tile mastic, which is the adhesive that is used to stick the tile to the floor surface. The tile is safe as long as the floor is not being redone or removed.
- The three science labs that were budgeted to be installed are to remain on schedule. Their floors need to be redone to have epoxy put down to meet the state standards for installation. Therefore the tiles need to be removed.
- Shannon Baggett, Montford North Star Academy Principal has been keeping an open line of communication with the parents and staff.
- During afterschool hours is when the asbestos will be taken out of the building. No staff or students will be present when they take the contaminated material out of the building. The material bagged in multiple bags and air scrubbers are put in place while a third party is monitoring the removal process.
- No students or staff will be in any danger due to the asbestos.
- Shannon Baggett is in constant contact with the construction crew throughout the day monitoring their noise level and trying to limit it to the afternoons.
- Ray Woodcock said the removal of the asbestos is a routine removal.

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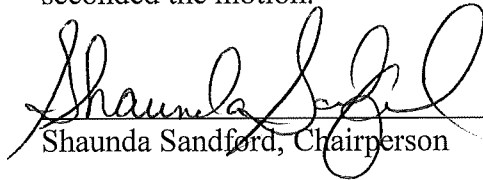
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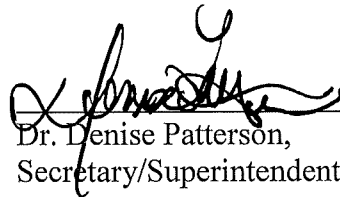
A break was motioned by Shaunda Sandford at 11:30 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:45 a.m.

- The guests left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.
- Dr. Patterson asked if there were any more questions.
- Martha Geitner asked if the parents are being kept in the loop of what is going on. Joyce Brown said a letter needs to be sent out to the parents, outlining all of the safety precautions that are put into place for the asbestos. School administrators indicated they will begin drafting an appropriate letter to send to parents. The board members will further discuss the student placement if parents want to move their kids.
- The board will meet again on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 during their open/ closed session and regular board meeting to further discuss the asbestos situation.
- There was consensus of the Board to move forward with the asbestos abatement at the Montford North Star Academy Campus.

### ADJOURNMENT

At 1:24 PM, Ms. Shaunda Sandford made a motion to adjourn session. Ms. Joyce Brown seconded the motion.

  
Shaunda Sandford, Chairperson

  
Dr. Denise Patterson,  
Secretary/Superintendent