

Henderson County Board of Public Education

MINUTES

August 12, 2019

The Henderson County Board of Public Education met in a regular business meeting on August 12, 2019, in the Boardroom of the Administrative Offices located at 414 Fourth Avenue West, Hendersonville, N. C.

Board Members Present: Amy Lynn Holt, Chairperson; Mary Louise Corn, Vice Chairperson; Dot Case, Blair Craven, Jay Egolf and Rick Wood.

Board Members Absent: Michael Absher

Administrative Staff Present: Bo Caldwell, Ed.S. Superintendent; Jan King, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction; Scott Rhodes, Chief Human Resources Officer; Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer.

Administrative Staff Absent: John Bryant, Ed.D., Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services; Rick Fender, Chief Technology Officer.

Attorney Present: Dean Shatley

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Amy Lynn Holt called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. and requested that everyone stand for the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mrs. Mary Louise Corn moved that the agenda be approved as presented, seconded by Ms. Dot Case. (Unanimously approved.)

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Jan King recognized Ms. Dina Waxman, media specialist at Glenn C. Marlow Elementary, for being named the Slater Family Honored Educator for 2019-20 by the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Dr. King also recognized Ms. Tessa Brown of East Henderson High who was selected by the Marketing and Business Administration Research and Curriculum Center to serve as North Carolina's representative on the organization's national Teacher Advisory Network.

Dr. King congratulated Mr. Tyler Honeycutt, math and physics teacher at Henderson County Early College, has been named a 2019-2020 Kenan Fellow by the Kenan Fellows Program for Teacher Leadership.

Dr. King presented Ms. Molly McGowan Gorsuch, HCPS Public Information Officer, with two 2019 Golden Achievement Awards from the National School Public Relations Association.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

Caroline Patterson, Director of Middle Schools and AIG, along with AIG teachers, Anne Boyette, Lynn Fender and Tisa Futch, presented an overview of the 'Discover STEM' Camp for Girls which was held at Bruce Drysdale Elementary school over summer break. The week-long program was made possible through an Educational Grant from Duke Energy and support from the Henderson County Education Foundation. The target group was girls in fourth and fifth grade, nurtured or identified as gifted, with special attention to underserved and at-risk populations. The grant specified that the funds should be used for underserved populations, and girls in STEM are considered "underserved" and underrepresented in STEM careers and educational pathways. Students learned computer coding through a partnership with Zaniac, and Dreamboards were used to help students set lifelong goals listing the steps necessary to attain those goals. A field trip to Blue Ridge Community College allowed for a tour that exposed the girls to careers in Mechatronics, Mechanical Engineering, Welding, Computer-Integrated Machining, and Electronics Engineering. A second field trip to Fox and Otter allowed the girls to have a hands-on

experience with problem solving skills in an escape room setting. The girls worked together to solve a variety of puzzles in order to successfully escape. The teachers stated this was a wonderful experience for the 23 girls who attended and plan to have a one-day retreat in the Fall to follow up with the participants.

BOARD CHAIR OBSERVATIONS

Mrs. Holt feels that attending the School Safety Summit in Asheville was extremely beneficial. She stated that as a school system, we are ahead of the curve with some of our recent school safety initiatives but there are areas that still need improvement. She welcomed our new Director of School Safety, Mr. Scott Masington.

BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Blair Craven thanked the county commissioners for the successful Joint Facilities meeting last week. He is excited that the committee is working well together as we address many capital projects needs within the system.

Mr. Rick Wood applauded the work of the Central Office Staff with the recent campus beautification day. He mentioned the upcoming United Way Day of Action and thanked the community for their support and willingness to complete projects in our schools. Mr. Caldwell added that 400 volunteers have registered for the event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ken Fitch stated that he is not in agreement with the traffic flow proposed for the new Hendersonville High School. He feels there is a better way to allow for entrance and exit to the facility and provide safer pedestrian crossings.

Dr. John Godehn is opposed to the design of the new parking lot for Hendersonville High School. He feels there should be an exit to Oakland Street included in the plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Amy Lynn Holt cited the Board's receipt of the Consent Agenda presented for approval upon recommendation of the Superintendent. Prior to the meeting, Board members received documentation relative to the Consent Agenda as follows:

Meeting Schedule

HCBPE School Visit *[Wednesday, September 4, 2019, 12:00 p.m., (Etowah Elementary School)]*

HCBPE Regular Business Meeting *[Monday, September 9, 2019, 6:30 p.m., (Boardroom)]*

Minutes

June 27, 2019 *(Special Called Business Meeting, End of Year Matters)*

Personnel *(as presented in closed session)*

Mr. Blair Craven moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Mrs. Mary Louise Corn seconded. *(Unanimously approved.)*

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval - North Carolina Lottery Application (Mr. Bernie Sochia)

Mr. Bernie Sochia presented the lottery applications for approval. The Public School Building Capital Fund/N. C. Education Lottery Application is to request funds currently available (\$525,205.33) to pay debt service on the 2008 Installment Financing Contract debt issue for the Hillandale and Mills River Elementary School construction projects. All funds received from the N. C. Education Lottery are currently being used for debt service on these school building projects. Board member, Mr. Jay Egolf, made a motion that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the Public School Building Capital Fund/North Carolina Education Lottery Application as presented. Mrs. Mary Louise Corn seconded. *(Unanimously approved.)*

B. Approval - Two-Year Local Capital Funding (Superintendent Bo Caldwell)

Superintendent Bo Caldwell presented an updated two year spending plan for capital projects. This plan was approved at the Joint Facilities meeting on Friday, August 9, 2019 and authorizes the system to begin projects listed on the request. Board members and administrators are pleased that work can now begin and the work will encompass many projects. Mr. Rick Wood thanked Commissioner Bill Lapsley for his business expertise and Superintendent Caldwell for his work compiling the comprehensive list presented during the recent committee meeting. Mr. Blair Craven made a motion that the Henderson County Board of Public Education approve the Facilities Maintenance and Repair, Technology and Security Initiative Projects as presented. Mr. Rick Wood seconded. *(Unanimously approved.)*

Dr. Jan King, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the following policies for first reading approval. These are model policies that are recommended by the state.

- C. Approval – Policy 6000 Support Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- D. Approval – Policy 6100 Goals of Student Health Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- E. Approval – Policy 6110 Organization of Student Health Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- F. Approval – Policy 6120 Student Health Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- G. Approval – Policy 6200 Goals of School Nutrition Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- H. Approval – Policy 6210 Organization of School Nutrition Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- I. Approval – Policy 6225 Free and Reduced Price Meal Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- K. Approval – Policy 6306 School Bus Idling (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- L. Approval – Policy 6310 Organization of Student Transportation Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- M. Approval – Policy 6315 Drivers (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- N. Approval – Policy 6320 Use of Student Transportation Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- O. Approval – Policy 6321 Bus Routes (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- P. Approval – Policy 6322 Student Assignment to Buses (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- Q. Approval – Policy 6325 Parking Areas for Students (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)
- R. stated that the topic had Approval – Policy 6330 Insurance for Student Transportation Services (First Reading) (Dr. Jan King)

Board member, Mr. Blair Craven, made a motion to approve the group of 6000s policies as presented. Mr. Jay Egolf seconded. *(Unanimously approved.)*

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS

JOINT FACILITIES UPDATE

Chairperson Holt stated that meeting highlights were discussed during New Business, Item B.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Mr. Scott Rhodes, Chief Human Resources Officer, shared enrollment numbers at our Flexible Calendar schools which are currently in session. He stated that Hendersonville Elementary School’s enrollment numbers are about the same as 2018-2019 with 364 students; Bruce Drysdale numbers are less than last year at 460 and the Early College has 211 students enrolled. He added that we have 868 Kindergarteners registered countywide. Comparing these numbers to our budgeting projections, he feels we are 49 students to the positive at this time. Board members discussed the number of charter schools and private schools available in our area and asked if these schools have affected our enrollment. Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Rhodes agreed that they have had an impact on our enrollment stating that it is difficult to predict the overall numbers. Mr. Caldwell added that research shows that 1 in 5 students are electing to attend non-traditional public schools. Board members encouraged administrators to promote our schools by sharing our many strengths and excellent programs offered in Henderson County.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Superintendent Bo Caldwell introduced Mr. Kent Parent, Director of Capital Projects, to provide an update on construction projects. Mr. Parent stated that November 13, 2019 is the target date to receive our Certificate of Occupancy for the new Edneyville Elementary School. November 18, 2019 is the target date to begin moving furniture into the new school and the transition for teachers and students should occur between November 13, 2019 and January 1, 2020. Mr. Parent added that he has been impressed with the early site work being done at the Hendersonville High School project over the summer break. The work on the temporary cafeteria is well underway and students will begin using the temporary space August 26, 2019. He said there have been some challenges with the outside site prep work but it is still progressing nicely and all of the early site work is on target for completion by the first day of the 2019-2020 school year. Mr. Parent added that work should not interfere with the first home football game of the season. He then stated that the band room at Hendersonville High will transition to the stage area over Christmas break allowing access to that area. Mr. Parent shared that the staff at Hendersonville High have been very cooperative and great to work with so far. The Upward Elementary renovation RFQ has been awarded to Novus Architects. They are not in design development yet but are currently working on the preliminary timeline. Bids are projected to go out in January 2020 and the expected time of completion is eight months.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Bernie Sochia, Chief Finance Officer, presented the following financial summary reports for August.

1. Results of operations of the Local Current Expense and Other Restricted Funds for the 2018-19 fiscal year as of June 30, 2019: Revenues total \$30,217,920 or 99.3% of anticipated revenues (total budgeted revenues less appropriated fund balance). Expenditures for the year were \$31,582,031. Year-end payables and receivables are yet to be closed and will be included in the audited trial balance this Fall.
2. Results of operations of the Local Current Expense and Other Restricted Funds for the 2019-20 fiscal year as of July 31, 2019: Revenues of \$2,930,671 were received and \$2,309,701 in expenditures were made. The increased expenditures compared to last year is that the insurance premium invoice was received and paid in July this year and not August.
3. Results of operations of the Capital Outlay Fund for the 2018-19 fiscal year as of June 30, 2019: Expenditures for the year total \$5,945,677 and revenues received were \$5,805,454. Most of these are non-cash transactions such as the turf and track projects and school bus replacements.
4. Results of operations of the Enterprise Fund for the 2018-19 fiscal year as of June 30, 2019:
 - a. Child Nutrition had received \$6,826,70 in revenues and had \$6,944,362 in expenditures for the year. This is before final reimbursements from the USDA for June which will put the program back into a positive cash position.
 - b. Child Care had expenditures totaling \$1,157,646. Revenues prior to final month reimbursement were \$1,061,411. We anticipate \$25,000 additional revenue for the year.

Mr. Blair Craven stated that we need to establish a plan that will increase revenues and put the Child Care program back in the black. He added that the program isn't viable if it can't generate enough funds to even cover staff expense. Mr. Rick Wood agreed that we need to look into the Child Care program and find a solution that will increase its revenue. Mr. Sochia stated there are enough reserve funds to run the program for 1.5 years. Mr. Caldwell stated that the Leadership Team will review the data and bring options for Board consideration.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Superintendent Bo Caldwell stated that the first day of school for students will be August 26, 2019.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

Superintendent Caldwell introduced Mr. Scott Masington, Director of School Safety, to provide an update on the Active Assailant Exercise held at East Henderson High School on Thursday, August 8, 2019. Mr. Masington stated that the exercise was a tremendous success and thanked all of the

multiagency community partners that were involved in its planning and execution. He added that all participants were engaged during the activity and there were numerous take-aways to be evaluated and applied to future safety planning for our schools and in our community.

Mr. Caldwell said that the State has not approved a budget for 2019-2020 as of this meeting. He added that he will be interviewed on WLOS television on Wednesday morning, August 14, 2019, and will be sharing details about the start of the new school year. He is excited that six elementary schools will be participating in the Muddy Sneakers program in 2019-2020. Mr. Caldwell shared that Henderson County Public Schools will sponsor the Friday Night Football Half-time Shows on WHKP radio. This sponsorship will allow school personnel to share highlights and news from our schools.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Blair Craven moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mrs. Mary Louise Corn. *(Unanimously approved at 9:13 pm.)*

Minutes approved: September 9, 2019