

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, October 29, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
Anson High School Media Center

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 29, 2012. All members were present with the exception of Daniel Wilson. Others in attendance were Michael Freeman (Deputy Superintendent), Mike Flake (Board Attorney) and Anne Hyatt (Clerk to the Board of Education).

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Lisa Davis opened the meeting and welcomed all visitors.

II. Invocation

Chair Davis asked to give the Invocation.

III. Conflict of Interest Statement

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chair Davis reminded Board Members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. There were no conflicts of interest communicated by the members. Chair Davis then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to her attention. She further explained it would then be the member's duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

IV. Adopt Agenda

The agenda was unanimously adopted by the Board upon a motion by George Truman, with a second by Michael Livingston. Motion carried.

V. Approve Minutes

(Regular Meeting 09-24-12)

(Special Meeting 09-25-12)

Russell Sikes moved the minutes of the regular meeting of September 24, 2012 and September 25, 2012, be approved. This motion was seconded by Beulah Pratt and unanimously approved by the Board. Motion carried.

VI. Closed Session

- Matters Related To Personnel

Chair Davis entertained a motion that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11(a) (6). This motion was made by George Truman, seconded by Marilyn Bennett and unanimously approved by the board. The Board went into closed session at 5:33 p.m.

Matters related to personnel were discussed and no action was taken!

VII. **Reconvene Open Session**

- The Board returned to open session at 6:28 p.m. upon a motion by George Truman, seconded by Michael Livingston. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. **Public Comment**

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE

Public Comment is limited to five minutes per speaker. Speakers may offer objective comments about school operations and programs. The Board will not permit any expression of personnel complaints nor defamatory comments about the Board of Education personnel and students or against any person connected with the Anson County School System. Security issues and matters relating to negotiations/grievances will not be permitted.

Mr. Robert Coff was present to speak about the building project at Anson New Technology High School. He said he asked Mr. Stinson and other PTO Leadership about the progress of constructing the building and the answer is always the project is in process. He asked the board if he could get a timeline so he can share it with the other members of the parent leadership team. Chair Davis asked administration to furnish Mr. Stinson with a timeline so he can share it with the Parent Leadership Group.

IX. **Chair's Report**

- Public Engagement: Several members spoke about public engagement they were involved in where they visited schools, attended school functions, etc.
- Ombudsman Uniform Proposal: Bobbie Little explained that a uniform committee of administration, teachers, parents and board members met to discuss the uniform proposal from Ombudsman Administration. The committee decided to change the following items in the proposal:
 - Girls may wear white blouses/shirts
 - Girls' skirts must be knee length
 - Take out Oxford shirt and just say white dress shirt
 - Add bow ties in addition to neck ties
 - Would not be limited to button-down collar shirts

Dr. Firn said Ombudsman Administration has agreed to accept the board's suggestions above to go along with what is currently in the proposal and will therefore be the policy for Ombudsman. Chair Davis asked if there would be help for those students who could not afford uniforms. Dr. Truman chimed in and said the regional director is so committed to this proposal that he has assured administration and the board that he will find funding that is needed to assist students with purchasing their uniforms.

Dr. Truman asked if the Ombudsman uniform proposal was to go under consent. Chair Davis said once the committee makes the recommendations it is done unless someone from the board disagrees. Mr. Freeman said this will be formatted in a separate way than our policy. Mr. Freeman said it could be in the form of an agreement for this year and then it could be revisited next year since this is the last year of our contract with Ombudsman. He said a final feedback could be provided and will need to be aligned with our dress code policy that is separate from our uniform policy.

- Christmas Card Contest: The board agreed to ask Mrs. Hyatt to select from the top four cards presented and extended their appreciation for all participants.

Superintendent's Report – See Attached

- School Campaign (L. Diane Bennett): Ms. L. Diane Bennett (LDBA) was present to give an overview of the proposed Anson County Schools' (ACS) Marketing Campaign. She said LDBA proposes to work closely with Anson County Schools to implement an integrated communications campaign for expanding awareness of ACS successes, promote ACS Mission, Goals and Expectations, engage local stakeholders and partners and expand student, parent and community appreciation for ACS Strategic Commitments and expectations. Ms. Bennett added that she wants to be sure the system's goals are clear and consistent.
- FY 11-12 Annual Audit Presentation (Rives & Associates): Evan Rives was present to give an overview of the annual audit that was held in July. Mr. Rives commended Holly Berry and her department for their hard work and said the audit was overall very good. He further stated there were no issues during the audit, but said the internal control procedures in place could be improved and pointed out that the school district's internal audit had already identified most of the significant issues. Chair Davis thanked Holly Berry for the internal controls she has put in place. Dr. Firn said if members have questions to funnel those through Chair Davis and she can work with Holly Berry and Mr. Rives on any questions that need addressing. Michael Livingston asked for the internal audit findings for athletics. Chair Davis asked administration to provide the breakdown of the internal audit for athletics.
- AIG Overview (Forum): Georgia Maner (Administrator for AIG, iTech, Assessment) gave the board the results of a parent, student and staff survey of the school district's program for academically gifted students. Dr. Firn said the survey was targeted for 4-6 grade students who have been identified as being AIG. Dr. Firn also said a new plan will be brought before the board for approval no later than May for the next three years. After reviewing the data, Michael Livingston voiced his concern with bussing students to one location for AIG instruction. He asked why students could not use digital media to provide real time instruction instead of wasting time bussing the students to another location. Chair Davis agreed with Mr. Livingston's suggestion. Ms. Maner and Dr. Firn both took heed to the remarks made and told the board to continue to make suggestions if needed. Dr. Firn reminded the board that a forum will be held October 30th to continue addressing and discussing AIG. Dr. Firn said the forum will elaborate on the requirements by statute, discuss how the AIG programs across the state vary which depends on local funding and provide opportunities for the community to ask questions that will be addressed.
- Budget: Dr. Truman asked how much longer the district is obligated under QZAB. Ms. Berry said the County has QZAB and said it ends in 2020 and is \$12,260.75/year. Dr. Truman asked if the county makes a direct allocation for that and Ms. Berry said yes. She said all bonds were paid last year. She said the only other debt they are paying this year is the final payment on the mobile unit of \$54,509.

X. **Consent Items**

- Upon a motion by George Truman, seconded by Russell Sikes, the following Consent Items were approved by the board: Personnel Report (Certified A1-A4, Classified B1-B2, Substitutes C1-C5, Change in Status H-1, Administrative Contract I-1), Budget Amendments, Cash Management Plan, Local Options for Anson Academy, Morven Elementary Lease, 2013-2014 School Calendar, 2013-2014 Board of Education Meeting Dates and Field Trip Request (AHS Career Development). Motion carried.

XI. **Old Business**

- Upon a motion by George Truman, seconded by Michael Livingston, the 7000 Series Policies as presented below were approved by the board. Motion carried.
 - 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
 - 7110 Information Provided by Applicant or Employee
 - 5026/7250 Smoking and Tobacco Products
 - 7335 Employee Use of Social Media
 - 5071/7351 Electronically Stored Information Retention

XII. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by George Truman, seconded by Michael Livingston. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Lisa G. Davis, Chairperson

Dr. Gregory Firn, Secretary