

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 28, 2008, 5:30 p.m.

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session Monday, January 28, 2008. All members were present except for an excused absence by Dr. Altheria Patton.

I. Call to Order

Board Chairperson Lisa Davis opened the meeting and welcomed all visitors.

II. Invocation

Chairperson Davis asked M.R. Bell to give the Invocation.

III. Adopt Agenda

The agenda for today was unanimously adopted by the Board upon a motion by Russell Sikes, with a second by Lorenzo Steele. Motion carried.

IV. Approve Minutes (Regular Meeting 12/17/07 and Called Meeting 01/14/08)

M. R. Bell moved the minutes of the regular meeting of December 17, 2007, be approved. This motion was seconded by Jackie Huntley, and unanimously approved. M. R. Bell moved the minutes of the called meeting of January 14, 2008, be approved. This motion was seconded by Lorenzo Steele and unanimously approved.

V. Closed Session

- Matters Related To Personnel

Chairperson 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 M. R. Bell, seconded by Lorenzo Steele, and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 5:35 p.m.

There was no action taken.

VI. Reconvene Open Session

- The Board returned to open session at 6:40 p.m. upon a motion by Russell Sikes seconded by Lorenzo Steele. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

VII. Public Comment (limited to three minutes, 20 minutes total)

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE

Public Comment is limited to three 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.

There were no requests to speak during this segment.

VIII. Chair's Report

There was no report from Chair Davis.

IX. Superintendent's Report

- See Attached
- State of the District (A Mid-Year Report) – Dr. Firn distributed a mid-year report to members and asked that they let him know if they have any concerns or questions. Dr. Firn explained that he will follow-up with any concerns at the February Board Meeting.
- Make Your Day (MYD) Presentation by Anson Middle School – Mr. Owens (Assistant Principal) introduced Anson Middle Schools' MYD CATS committee. The committee members consist of Christina Rose, Patricia Bennett, Selene Hardison, Melody Stinson, Melody Harris, Darlene Lindsey and Kim Ingold. Ms. Christina Rose began the presentation by explaining that the ultimate goal of MYD CATS is for all stakeholders (school staff, parents, community and students) to exhibit personal responsibility. Ms. Rose said the philosophy is that school is viewed as a privilege. She said they now have one school rule: no one has the right to interfere with the learning, safety and well-being of others. She said they have two expectations: every student is to do what is expected and do it to the best of their ability. Ms. Rose said they have two components (steps and points). She stated that this program is very fair and everyone has a voice. Ms. Rose said there has been a tremendous difference in the classroom. Other committee members also shared their opinion of the MYD CATS Program. Ms. Hardison explained that she has a better rapport with the students. Ms. Ingold said the program has gotten the parents more involved. Ms. Bennett explained that the program has gone over very well with parents because they explain to the parent that students choose to make the decision to misbehave. Ms. Harris stated the program has helped the atmosphere at their school. She said it's not only the teacher's responsibility to teach, but it's the student's responsibility to learn. Ms. Rose explained that overall, before MYD CATS, AMS had a total of 543 suspensions and after MYD CATS, they had 120 suspensions. Furthermore, Ms. Rose said the committee meets on a

weekly basis and they discuss any issues that the staff may have. Mr. Owens said they are still tweaking the program and it will be an ongoing effort.

X. Old Business

c.1 – Proposed Resolution

- Upon a motion by Lannie Allen, seconded by Russell Sikes, the Calendar and Out of State Scholarship Provision as stated in the proposed resolution were approved by the Board. Motion Carried.

XI. New Business

c.1 – Personnel Report

- Upon a motion by M. R. Bell, seconded by Rob Rollins, personnel items A, B, C, D, F and H presented by Dr. Firm, were approved by the Board. These items not requiring Board approval are attached.

c.2 – 2008-2009 School Calendar

- Upon a motion by Jackie Huntley, seconded by Michael Livingston, the 2008-2009 School Calendar was approved with the change that January 23, 2009, is a weather make-up day and not January 26, 2009.

XII. Calendar Items

- Annual Planning Meeting (Board of Education and County Commissioners) Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cooperative Extension Office.
- School Board Meeting – Monday, March 17, 2008.
- Easter Break – Friday, March 21 – Friday, March 28, 2008.
- NSBA Annual Conference (March 29-April 1) – Let Dr. Firm know by February 1st if you plan to attend.

XIII. Closed Session

- Matters Related To Personnel

Chairperson 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 M. R. Bell, seconded by Michael Livingston, and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 7:39 p.m.

There was no action taken.

XIV. Reconvene Open Session

- The Board returned to open session at 8:23 p.m. upon a motion by M. R. Bell seconded by Rob Rollins.

XV. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by M. R. Bell. The motion was seconded by Lorenzo Steele. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Lisa G. Davis, Chairperson

Dr. Gregory Firm, Secretary