

**Minutes
Joint Meeting
Anson County Board of Education
Anson County Board of Commissioners
Thursday, March 5, 2009, 5:30 p.m.**

The Anson County Board of Education hosted a joint meeting with the Anson County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, March 5, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Anson County Board of Education Charles Riddle Staff Development Center. Members of the school board present were Lisa Davis, Michael Livingston, Jackie Huntley, Altheria Patton, Beulah Pratt, Rob Rollins and Russell Sikes. There was an excused absence by Daniel Wilson. Other school personnel present were Greg Firn (Superintendent), Frances Williamson (Deputy Superintendent), Michael Freeman (Executive Director for Teaching and Learning), Michael McLeod (Executive Director for Individual and Organizational Accountability), Holly Berry (Finance Officer), Glendora Hagins (Director for Exceptional Children), Jeanne Price (Director for Testing, Media and Technology), Cynthia Springer (K-12 Support Teacher), Joslyn Allen (Director for Business and Community Partnerships), Cynthia Hampton (Director for Career and Technical Education), Georgia Maner (AIG and Special Programs), Anne Hyatt (Clerk to the Board) and Mike Flake (Board Attorney).

Members present from the Anson County Commissioners' Board were Vance Gullledge (County Manager) and Commissioners Anna Baucom, Jim Sims, Ross Streater, Bobby Sikes, Claude Spencer and Jarvis Woodburn. Mr. Harold Smith was absent. Other members from the County Government were Rita James (Interim Finance Officer) and Bonnie Huntley (Clerk to the Board).

I. Call to Order

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

II. Invocation

Chairperson Davis asked Rob Rollins to give the Invocation.

III. Adopt Agenda

The agenda for today was unanimously adopted by the Board upon a motion by Altheria Patton, with a second by Jackie Huntley. Motion carried.

IV. Recess

Chairperson Davis entertained a motion that the Board go into a recess for dinner. This motion was made by Michael Livingston, seconded by Russell Sikes and unanimously approved. The Board went into recess at 6:08 p.m.

After a delicious meal prepared by Events Catering, Lisa Davis called the board of education meeting to order again.

V. Board Chair Comments

Chair Baucom began by giving thanks for the opportunity for fellowship and for the wonderful meal. She shared compliments on the way the buildings are maintained so well and she said it is evident that a great deal of care is put into the buildings.

Chair Davis welcomed everyone on behalf of the Board of Education, and said it was a wonderful opportunity to come together as two boards and convene and have open discussion and dialogue. Chair Davis said Cabinet Members are going to share with everyone what is going on in the schools so that hopefully everyone will have a great understanding and learn a lot.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Firm greeted everyone and said he appreciates the opportunity for everyone to hear all the positive things that are happening in the Anson County Schools. Superintendent Firm affirmed that we are all very mindful of our current situation (both as a County, as a State and as a Nation) and sometimes we don't always get to celebrate. Dr. Firm then introduced Dr. Jane Hammond and Dr. Gene Huddle. He said both Drs. Hammond and Huddle recently visited with our operational directors, and they will be returning to Anson County to work with our processes and how we can become more efficient and effective in the work that we do in delivering services to not only our students, but to our parents and certainly to our community. Dr. Firm said he is excited that our system will have an opportunity to work with them. He said we may have an opportunity to talk about where the county and the school system may begin to work even closely in services in providing support for one another for the work that we do.

Cabinet Reports

Each cabinet member gave a snapshot of some of the celebrations and successes that are taking place in our system.

VII. Golden Leaf Applications

Frances Williamson stated that the school system's grant came in as number one. She said the grant is entitled College and Career Ready Graduates. She said the school's request was for \$501,788. Mrs. Williamson said our match that we have identified from E-Rate, State and Federal Funds is \$561,030. She further stated that within our grant we have identified donations that have been made by Scientific Learning and Apple Computer to \$210,430. She explained that the system wants to establish three labs at the high school for Fast ForWord and Reading Assistant. Mrs. Williamson said this will help those students who have difficulty reading and understanding and it will help them to catch up. At the junior and senior levels, she said laptops will be provided where students can do research and prepare themselves for the 21st Century workplace.

VIII. Recess

A motion to recess the Board of Education meeting was made by Rob Rollins, Dr. Altheria Patton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting recessed at 8:10 p.m.

Russell Sikes made a motion to reconvene the Board of Education meeting. Jackie Huntley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Public School Capital Building Fund for ADM

A motion to approve the ADM draw down was made by Russell Sikes, seconded by Rob Rollins and unanimously approved by the Board. Motion carried.

Public School Capital Building Fund for NC Education Lottery

A motion to draw down lottery dollars was made by Jackie Huntley, seconded by Altheria Patton and unanimously approved by the Board. Motion carried.

IX. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the Board of Education meeting was made by Rob Rollins. The motion was seconded by Russell Sikes. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Lisa G. Davis, Chairperson

Dr. Gregory Firm, Secretary