

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2009, 5:30 p.m.

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session Monday, May 18, 2009. All members were present except for an excused absence from Altheria Patton and Beulah Pratt. Others in attendance were Mike Flake (Board Attorney), Michael Freeman (Executive Director), Anne Hyatt (Board Assistant), Michael McLeod (Executive Director) and Frances Williamson (Deputy Superintendent).

I. Call to Order

Board Chairperson Lisa Davis opened the 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 Russell Sikes, with a second by Daniel Wilson. Motion carried.

IV. Approve Minutes (Regular Meeting 04-27-09)

Jackie Huntley moved the minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2009, be approved. This motion was seconded by Rob Rollins, and unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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 Russell Sikes seconded by Michael Livingston and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 5:37 p.m.

There was no action taken.

VI. Reconvene Open Session

- The Board returned to open session at 6:37 p.m. upon a motion by Michael Livingston seconded by Daniel Wilson. 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.

Jennifer Ricketts, Catherine Johnson, and Curtis Crump were all present to speak about Anson New Technology High School and to request a meeting with administration and/or board members to further discuss the letter that was sent from Dr. Greg Firn's office.

Chair Davis said (with the board's permission) she would like to direct the administration, along with the administration at Anson New Tech. to meet with the parent leadership and student leadership team at Anson New Tech. as well as Anson Early College to go over and come down to an understanding and come to a consensus then report back to the board. Chair Davis said the entire board could not attend without having an open meeting. She said she will appoint two or three members of the board panel to meet with the administration and she will set that up. All members were in agreement with the recommendation by Chair Davis.

VIII. Chair's Report

IX. Superintendent's Report – See Attached

- Furlough Plan: Michael Freeman presented a "draft" Furlough Plan for all employees to the members. Dr. Firn explained this plan does not need board approval; he wanted the members to be aware of the proposal.
- Graduation Requirements: Frances Williamson reported the Class of 2013 will have a new graduation requirement of having four Math classes (three higher than Algebra) as well as being encouraged to take a foreign language. She said it is important everyone understands there are changes in this upcoming 9th grade's graduation requirements. Dr. Firn said he will forward the updated graduation requirements document to all members when it is completed.
- Organizational Assessment (Peggy Churn): Mrs. Churn was present to speak about her observations of the Organizational Assessment (OA) and about the process. Mrs. Churn said the OA team spent hours and hours speaking with different groups of individuals during the week of May 11-15, 2009. Ms. Churn said the OA Team interviewed community and parent groups and received good information. She said everyone they talked to said they liked the direction the system was heading. Ms. Churn said behind that huge piece of work, you must have efficient and effective procedures that support that work. She further stated that the system has a lot of staff with a lot of skills and eager to build and improved on those skills. Ms. Churn continued to explain the OA Team's thoughts from their visit. Dr. Firn said he is very anxious to get the detailed report and to begin the work that the system needs to do on the journey of continuous improvement.

X. New Business

c.1 – Personnel Report

- Upon a motion by Jackie Huntley, seconded by Russell Sikes, personnel items B, D, and H presented by Dr. Firn, were approved by the Board. Motion carried.

c.2 – Federal Programs (I, II, III, IV & EETT)

- Upon a motion by Michael Livingston, seconded by Rob Rollins, the continuation of Federal Programs (Title I, II, III, IV, EETT) were approved by the Board. Motion carried.

c.3 – Budget Amendments

Local Current Expense Fund

- Upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Daniel Wilson the Local Current Expense Fund amendments were unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried. Rob Rollins asked Holly Berry if the fund was within state law and we have the money. Mrs. Berry said yes.

State Public School Fund

- Upon a motion by Jackie Huntley, seconded by Rob Rollins the State Public School Fund amendments were unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried. Rob Rollins asked Holly Berry if the fund was within state law and we have the money. Mrs. Berry said yes.

Federal Fund

- Upon a motion by Michael Livingston, seconded by Rob Rollins, the Federal Fund amendments were unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried. Rob Rollins asked Holly Berry if the fund was within state law and we have the money. Mrs. Berry said yes.

Capital Outlay Fund

- Upon a motion by Daniel Wilson, seconded by Michael Livingston, the Capital Outlay Fund amendments were unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried. Russell Sikes said the RC&D is looking to fund projects for school grounds. He said that might be something to look at for the high school erosion issue.

c.4 – Policies

First Read – No Action

c.5 Policy GBKA Reduction in Force

Bullying Policy

- Chair Davis stated these policies will lie on the table for one month to possibly be approved at the June meeting. Dr. Firn said if there are questions about the bullying policy, please let Mr. McLeod know. Additionally, he explained if there are questions about the Reduction in Force policy, please ask him Mr. Freeman or Mrs. Williamson.

c.6 – **Board Attorney Contract**

- Upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Daniel Wilson, the board attorney contract as presented was unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried.

c.7 – **Field Trip Request (ACA)**

- Upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Michael Livingston the field trip request for Anson Challenge Academy as presented by Preston Waddell was unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried. Dr. Firn informed the board that student participants would be required to write a letter to the board members describing what they learned and their experience.

XI. 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 Jackie Huntley seconded by Michael Livingston and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 7:54 p.m.

There was no action taken.

XII. Reconvene Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 8:26 p.m. upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Jackie Huntley. Motion carried.

Performance Incentives

Upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Jackie Huntley, the Board of Education unanimously authorized the Superintendent (subject to CFO review) to approve performance incentives to appropriate, contracted central office administration. Motion passed.

Calendar Items

Upon a motion by Daniel Wilson, seconded by Russell Sikes the board unanimously approved suspending the reading of calendar items. Motion passed.

XIII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Russell Sikes. The motion was seconded By Michael Livingston. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Lisa G. Davis, Chairperson

Dr. Gregory Firn, Secretary