

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session Monday, November 14, 2011. All members were present. Others in attendance were Michael Freeman (Chief Operating Officer), Michael McLeod (Executive Director), Howard McLean (Executive Director), (Chief Learning Officer), 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 Rob Rollins 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. She asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. 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 Daniel Wilson, with a second by Michael Livingston. Motion carried.

V. Approve Minutes

(Regular Meeting 10-26-11)

Beulah Pratt moved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 26, 2011, be approved. This motion was seconded by George Truman, and unanimously approved. 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 Rob Rollins, seconded by Daniel Wilson and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 5:34 p.m.

There was no action taken.

VII. **Reconvene Open Session**

- The Board returned to open session at 6:33 p.m. upon a motion by Daniel Wilson, seconded by Russell Sikes. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. **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 was no one present to speak for this section.

IX. **Chair's Report**

- Public Engagement: Several members reported on public engagement opportunities where they have visited schools and attended school activities and meetings.

X. **Superintendent's Report – See Attached**

- Anson New Century Endowed Scholarship: Superintendent Firn asked Dr. Truman to comment on the Anson New Century Endowed Scholarship since he has the background and current information. Dr. Truman said Anson County New Century Scholars Program was established in 2000 to help increase college attendance. He explained the program identified seven to ten at-risk students in middle school to receive a tuition scholarship when they graduated from high school if they met certain or other criteria. Dr. Truman elaborated by saying if a student qualified for financial aid, the scholarship was not awarded. He said the school district was responsible for raising the money to fund the scholarships. He also stated the funds are managed by the South Piedmont Community College (SPCC) Foundation. Dr. Truman said because this funding is underutilized, they are suggesting it be turned into a pure scholarship program where SPCC will oversee the entire process. He mentioned they have the tools in place to handle the program. He also said it is not a monetary award; it is a credit to their account at the college. Dr. Truman clarified they must attend SPCC. He explained the Board of Trustees at SPCC is requesting an endorsement from the Anson County Board of Education on this change. Dr. Firn thanked Dr. Truman for his work on this project. Michael Livingston made a motion to endorse the change. Rob Rollins seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Motion carried.
- Discipline/Suspension Report: Dr. Firn stated the discipline/suspension report will return at the December Board meeting to show a combined November/December report.
- School Calendar (Waiver): Mr. Freeman discussed the LEA and Charter School Calendar Waiver Request from the 185. He explained that increased instructional days could be beneficial to students. However, he feels they need additional time to help staff to grow. He said the additional five days would be for mandatory teacher professional staff development days. Mr. Freeman explained that administration would like to apply

for the waiver, which is due no later than November 15, 2011. Mr. Freeman said action tonight does not guarantee the waiver. Daniel Wilson made a motion to apply and approve for the waiver to be submitted. Rob Rollins seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the board. Motion carried.

XI. **Consent Items**

Upon a motion by Daniel Wilson, seconded by George Truman, the Consent Items (Personnel Report, Budget Amendments and Field Trip Request for Anson County Early College High School) were approved by the board. Motion carried.

XII. **New Business**

Upon a motion by Russell Sikes, seconded by Daniel Wilson the board voted unanimously to remove the second Closed Session from the agenda. Motion carried.

XIII. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Russell Sikes. The motion was seconded by George Truman. There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Lisa G. Davis, Chairperson

Dr. Gregory Firm, Secretary