

MINUTES OF  
MILLAGE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARINGS  
September 18, 2012  
6:30 P.M.

The Millage Increase Public Hearing for the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on September 18, 2012. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Also present were the other staff members:

Danny Hayes, Superintendent

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Board Presentation**

Louis Fordham, board chairman, presented a presentation on the Millage Increase. A copy of the presentation is attached with the backup minutes.

**Hearing of Individuals**

A list of 13 names of the public in attendance who spoke is part of the backup minutes. Six of these names were added by Carolyn Weaver, administrative assistant to Superintendent Danny Hayes. Only four people who spoke signed in to speak.

**Comments**

Louis said that the tax increase is not what we want but we have to do it to continue to teach 13,526 students in our school system this year. We are mandated by the state to teach every student that comes to our system. Louis Fordham stated that the people of Whitfield County need to keep us accountable. He said that a lot of good things are happening but we are not happy where we are at.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

MINUTES OF  
MILLAGE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARINGS  
September 18, 2012  
11:30 A.M.

The Millage Increase Public Hearing for the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on September 18, 2012. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Also present were the other staff members:

Danny Hayes, Superintendent

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Board Presentation**

Louis Fordham, board chairman, presented a presentation on the Millage Increase. A copy of the presentation is attached with the backup minutes.

**Hearing of Individuals**

A list of 10 names of the public in attendance who spoke is part of the backup minutes. One name was added by Carolyn Weaver, administrative assistant to Superintendent Danny Hayes. Everyone else signed in to speak.

**Comments**

Louis said that this board is committed to dialogue. We are property owners too and we all are all paying for a lot of mistakes from the state of Georgia. Mr. Lock stated that we are all in the same boat. Louis said that we need to make the right investments for education. Louis Fordham stated that the people of Whitfield County need to keep us accountable. He said that a lot of good things are happening but we are not happy where we are at.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

MINUTES OF  
MILLAGE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARINGS  
September 27, 2012  
6:30 P.M.

The Millage Increase Public Hearing for the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on September 27, 2012. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Also present were the other staff members:

Danny Hayes, Superintendent

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Board Presentation**

Louis Fordham, board chairman, presented a presentation on the Millage Increase. A copy of the presentation is attached with the backup minutes.

**Hearing of Individuals**

A list of 19 names of the public in attendance who spoke is part of the backup minutes. These names were added by Carolyn Weaver, administrative assistant to Superintendent Danny Hayes. There was only one person who signed in to speak.

**Comments**

Louis said by law we have to educate every student that comes to Whitfield County Schools. Bill Worley said that we are doing everything that we can. We have looked at every way to cut. Louis Fordham stated that the people of Whitfield County need to keep us accountable. He said that a lot of good things are happening but we are not happy where we are academically.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

MINUTES OF  
CALLED BOARD MEETING  
September 28, 2012

The Whitfield County Board of Education held a called meeting at the Whitfield County Central Office on Friday, September 28, 2012. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Also present were the following staff members:

Danny Hayes  
Carolyn Weaver

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

Old Business

- Discussion of Millage FY13

At this time Louis Fordham asked the board for any discussion, comments, or reflection over the Millage Rate. Mr. Hayes thanked the board for the hard work that they have done. He knows that it has not been easy. Mr. Hayes told the board that he is sorry that we are backed into a corner. He said that he waited thinking that the economy would get better and it has not. He said that if I knew what I know now I would have pushed for at least a 1 percent increase each year. He apologized and said that it should have been done earlier. Gary Brock said we tried to hold off thinking it would get better. Thomas Barton thanked Mr. Hayes for the job that he does. Bill Worley said that we all make mistakes. Ron Hale, Chief Financial Officer, told the board that he looked at everything and there will be about one and half million more in the reserve than what he thought it was. Louis Fordham said that we have been challenged by the public. This one is a little different now that we have this information about the reserve. Louis asked Ron Hale that with this information that we could consider a 4 mill increase. Louis said that it is a gamble. Louis said that what I have seen in the school system is get by with less. He stated that I have seen them squeeze blood out of a turnip. Mr. Lock wanted to know once again if we could go three-mill. Ron Hale told the board that what they are looking at right now we know is going to happen. What we don't have in here is if we have anything else that we are not aware of. He said that he knows that people think with the reserve we have a lot but we have to operate from June 30<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Ron said that we asked legislators if we were going to get any of our austerity cuts back. They said no. Mr. Hayes told the board members in previous conversation that there are 73 school systems in the state of Georgia that are filing for bankruptcy this year. Ron said that we are just waiting to see what happens with these systems. Louis told the board that it states in the Georgia constitution that public education is their primary job. Ron Hale said that is true but I do not think the public believes that right now. Rodney Lock said that everyone is still struggling. He told the board that we should not go higher than three-mill and wait a year and then see where we are. Ron Hale told the board that he could not recommend going any lower than four-mill. The four-mill tax rate will only work if the economy stays the same. He said that we have to look at how much we have already been cut. We do not have a lot of fat out there to cut. He told the board that 85% of the general fund goes to pay salary and benefits. Louis told the board that his concern is losing good teachers but the attitude that he heard last night is if they leave they leave. If we start losing good teachers that is something that we could not fix over night and that is my concern. Louis said

that education benefits are not the norm. He said that they are still as good as there is out there. He said that our teachers work really hard. He stated that he pulled in at Westside Elementary to vote and teachers were already out there doing duty at 7: a.m. Louis said that his other worry is that Whitfield County is looking at raising their millage rate two-mills. Thomas Barton told the board that the bottom line is bigger classrooms and fewer teachers. Rodney Lock told the board that it worries him about people's houses. He said that I know everyone is struggling but we need to do the best we can. Louis told the board that as he looked through his notes and he saw where people were passionate but he also sees where they did not have all of the information. He said that people challenge us to teach the way we use to teach a long time ago but if we did that we would be a dead community. Louis said that technology is the way of the future whether we like it or not. Louis told the board that we are going to have to start going after our legislators and as board members taking people with us.

#### Action Item

- Millage Rate Increase FY13

At this time board member Thomas Barton motioned for the vote to increase the millage rate to 18.756. Louis Fordham seconded. Rodney Lock stated that he thinks we need to go with the three-mill. Louis asked him what happens if things don't get better. He told Rodney that I am with you on this but we have to look at the chart. Bill Worley told Rodney that he sees what he is saying and I would want to do that too but I just don't think we can. Louis said that if we do the three-mill we will have to have a plan. The board approved 4-1 with Rodney Lock voting no.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 a.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

MINUTES OF MEETING  
October 1, 2012

The regular meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on Monday, October 1, 2012. Vice Chairman Bill Worley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Louis Fordham was absent.

Also present were the following staff members:

Danny Hayes	Audrey Williams
Judy Gilreath	Carolyn Weaver
Richard Schoen	Eric Beavers

Mr. Hayes recommended that an amendment be made to the agenda. He asked the board to add item e. Resolution for Waiver of Rule 160-4-8-.12 (Alternative/Non-Traditional Education Programs) under Consent Agenda Items. The superintendent recommended the board approve the amendment to the Agenda. Thomas Barton moved approval and Rodney Lock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silent Reflection**

The following students from New Hope Middle led the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silent Reflection:

Chandler Poole – 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Gracen Vaughn – 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Inspiration**

Jenna Dillingham, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at New Hope Middle, gave the inspiration. She said that Michelangelo inspired all by his beautiful art work and his hard work. He said work hard and you can do anything. Jenna said that we all should strive to work hard and give it our best. She said that we should strive for what we want. Jenna stated that nothing comes easy and without hard work you will not get what you want, accomplishment and achievement. Nothing comes easy.

**Presentation – Alpha Delta Kappa (ADK)**

Darlene Cartwright is Co-president of ADK. She told the board that ADK is an International Honorary Organization for Women Educators. She said they have 30 members of employed or retired educators in their local chapter. This month ADK is celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> year. She said we read to children at the Ronald McDonald House, Crisis Center and we give scholarships. She wanted to thank the board and Mr. Hayes for all that they do for education in Whitfield County. She presented each board member and staff a bag of goodies. The board and Mr. Hayes thanked her.

**Hearing of Individuals**

Lisa Creswell – Ms. Creswell's concerns and questions are about outsourcing bus drivers. She wanted to know why we would pay overtime if we are in such bad financial shape. She said that drivers have been receiving overtime pay. She asked the board if we want drivers that care about our kids or don't care. She said that we work for our retirement. She

asked the board if they deserve this. She said that no one has asked for their help on these new routes. She thanked the board for listening.

John Lofty – Mr. Lofty asked the board if we have had people to really look into outsourcing. Saving money is one thing but what is the cost? He told the board that they love the kids. How many companies are they going to see how this has worked?

Larry Satcher – Mr. Satcher told the board that he is retired and works for his benefits. He said that we can't get drivers now.

Gabriel Powers – Mr. Powers told the board that he is probably the youngest bus driver and he is here for the older drivers. He said that most of them work for their benefits. He told the board if you take that away you will lose a lot of good drivers who work hard.

## **School Report**

### **School Council Report**

- Joe Barnett, principal at New Hope Middle, introduced Gandy Vaughn, school council representative, to give his report first. Mr. Vaughn said that there are great things going on at both New Hope Schools. He said that they have met with representatives from NWGCCA and talked about the great things that are going on with the STEM Labs. Mr. Vaughn told the board that the 3D printer is awesome. The council feels like the parents still need some direction on the Career Pathways. Mr. Vaughn said that New Hope Middle is in need of a large area for group gatherings and facilities for their athletics. He said that they have some great projects. The water project is raising money for Africa to help install wells for clean water. The agricultural gardens are using their math and science standards. They have had great gains on their CRCT. He said that Mr. Barnett and the staff are wonderful. He said that surveys have shown great communication. The only negative thing where the council would like to see improvement is updating of grades. We would encourage the school to make that connection with the technology.  
The board and Mr. Hayes thanked Mr. Vaughn for his time and sharing the good things that are happening at New Hope Middle.

### **Principal Report**

- Joe Barnett, principal at New Hope Middle, talked to the board about data and where we have come from and where we are now. He said that they have had more significant gains among several of our sub groups and gains overall as a school. This data shows us areas that we need to work on. We block out 55 minutes of time in areas of math and reading. We were able to start intervention on day two of school. We have been able to expand this thanks to Compass Learning. This is on individual levels.  
Mr. Barnett talked to the board about student growth and achievement. He explained that in the areas of curriculum that we do not have MAP assessment we use the State Longitude Data System (SLDS). By using this we have been able to create goal setting work sheets for science and social studies. He said that MAP helps us to set goals with worksheets along with summary data sheets to create a picture of our student's academic strengths and weaknesses. He said that we were able to use the spring 2012 data from our students and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders to start our interventions during the first week of school. We now have students that were having problems with certain curriculum now leading small groups. Mr. Barnett stated that teachers are communicating with parents through Blogs and they send home schedules on what they are doing in the classroom. He said that school level communication is happening through mobile Apps, Email groups, Facebook, Twitter, Newsletter, and Website. We have found that communication is the key. Joe told the board that the Bernhardt surveys have shown them areas that as a school we need to improve. One is teachers working to build communication with parents of their students. A book that he has recommended for reading is, "Working with Parents", by Ruby Payne. We need to rethink/reformat our progress reports. We need to utilize the Infinite Campus Contact Log. We need to create goal setting scenarios. Mr. Barnett said that he works with a great group of people. Mr. Barnett told the board that they appreciate your help and support.  
The board and Mr. Hayes thanked Mr. Barnett for his report.

At this time Bill Worley told the bus drivers that we are going to delay on putting the outsourcing information out until we can meet with you and talk to you first. Mr. Hayes wanted to make sure that they understand that we have looked at all areas. Rodney Lock explained to the bus drivers that the board had asked them to look at everything. He said that we did not know that they had gone that far. At that time Bill Worley told the drivers that they could leave if they would like to.

## **Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Superintendent, Danny Hayes, recommended the board approve the Consent Agenda items listed below: Thomas Barton moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

### Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2012 Meeting and September 24, 2012

### Adoption of Agenda – October 1, 2012

### School Fundraising Requests

<b><u>Name of Group or Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Activity or Request</u></b>
CCHS Tennis	Cupcake Sales
NHS Beta Club	Sell Candy Bars
NHS Beta Club	Sell Bracelets for Kandis Guice (former student with cancer)
NHS Beta Club	Raise Money for Muscular Dystrophy by Selling Paper Mobiles
NHS Beta Club	Sell Halloween Treat Bags
NHS Beta Club	Sell Christmas Treat Bags
NHS Wrestling	Pancake Breakfast
NHS Cross-Country	Cornhole tournament
NHS Cross-Country	Raffle for New Ipad
NHS AP Biology	\$2.00 Wear Pajama Pants to School
NHS Ag Classes/NHS Clubs	NHS Harvest Fest
SHS Visual Arts	Sell Snacks
SHS Drams	Sell handmade ornaments and painted pumpkins at home games
SHS Drama	Photo booth at football games
SHS Chinese Summer Camp	Sell Chinese Candies and Fruit Drinks
SHS Basketball	Free Throw Shoot a thon
SHS Basketball	Tony Ingle Motivational Dinner
EMS Football Team	Spirit Shirt Sale
NHM Advanced Art	Paint Your Own Canvas Night (2)
NHM Advanced Art	Arts and Crafts Time for Students and Children
NHM PTO	Sell Candy Bars
NHM	20 For 10 (donate \$10.00)
NHM Art	Computers for Education Fundraiser
NHM Art	Raffle for Kindle Fire
VPM Quiz Bowl	Lunch for Staff
VPM Wrestling	Host Basketball Tournament
VPM Softball	Sell Krispy Kreme Doughnuts
AES ALPHA	Sell Boo Grams
AES ALPHA	Host a Movie Night
BES	Administration and Staff work at McDonald to make portion of profit
DGE PTO	Innisbrook Wrapping Paper
EES	Work at McDonalds to get portion of proceeds
THE PTO	Pictures, Snacks, T-shirts, School Supplies, Festivals, and other items
THE ALPHA	Sell Candy-Grams
THE 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Hat, Pajama Day, Activity Choice Day, Sucker Sale, and Mixed Bag Day
VES	Drive For You Community Event

### Overnight Field Trip Request

<b><u>Name of Group or Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Activity or Request</u></b>	<b><u>Date for Request</u></b>
EMS 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Atlanta Zoo	October 18-19, 2012
SHS FFA	Sunbelt Ag Expo Moultrie, GA	October 15-17, 2012



NHS FFA  
SHS FBLA

Outdoor Adventure Rafting (OAR) Benton, TN  
Classic Center Athens, GA  
(DECA Fall Competition)  
Georgia Study, Tour Savannah

November 2-3, 2012  
November 1-2, 2012

VPM 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

March 7-10, 2012

Resolution for Waiver of Rule 160-4-8-.12  
(Alternative/Non-Traditional Education Programs)

## **System Reports**

### **Demographics**

### **Report Card**

### **Financial Reports**

#### General Funds and Capital Project Funds

Ron Hale, chief financial officer, presented the Capital Projects report as of August 31, 2012. Superintendent Hayes recommended the board approve the report as presented. Gary Brock moved approval and Rodney Lock seconded. The board approved 4-0. The financial reports are a part of these minutes.

Ron then told the board that next month the board will have a complete up to date report.

### **Superintendent's Reports**

#### Teaching & Learning

Dr. Audrey Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, introduced Tim Fleming, CEO at NWGCCA, to give an update on the STEM Labs.

Mr. Fleming said that the middle schools are up and running. The teachers just had their first rotation. He reminded the board that they rotate every 6 weeks. He said that the teachers have really connected with their students and that it has been hard to rotate for some of them. Here are some of the highlights that they sent.

#### Engineering and Manufacturing:

- Built own robots. Programmed them to go up and down the hallway and turn left.

#### Health Science

- 85 students are CPR certified. Mr. Fleming stated that this is not easy to do. At one school a student who is certified was able to recognize an allergic reaction and respond quickly. Another student was able to help a parent who came into their school with chest pains.

Mr. Fleming said that he and Tom Bojo, General Manager of GNTC, are going to different schools and speaking at their School Council meetings trying to help parents have a better understanding of Career Pathways. A lot of parents still do not understand or know what a career pathway is.

Mr. Fleming thanked the board for their continued support.

#### Operations

#### Support Services

Dr. Gilreath presented the following:

A vote was not taken on the following first readings:

- First Reading to Rescind Board Policy IDCA: Summer School
- First Reading of Board Procedure Enrollment of Foreign Exchange Students – not a policy

### **Approval of Personnel Changes**

#### Personnel Recommendations

Superintendent Hayes recommended the board approve the personnel actions as discussed in executive session to include certified personnel changes, resignations, retirements, new hire, and other personnel changes in this action. Thomas Barton moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

### **Previous Business**

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Second Reading of the Board Policies as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

- Second Reading of Change in Board Policy DJE: Purchasing
- Second Reading of Change in Board Policy GAD: Professional Learning Opportunities
- Second Reading of Change in Board Policy DCL: Fund Balance
- Second Reading of Change in Board Policy JKB: Solicitations by Students
- Present a Resolution Opposing Charter Amendment – Mr. Hayes stated that we are not against charter schools. We think it should be a decision made by local school boards. He stated that we have a charter school in Whitfield County.

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Resolution in Opposition to Constitutional Amendment as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

### **New Business**

- Tobacco Use Policy – There was no motion made at this time.
- Board Training for FY13 – At this time Caroline Woodason told the board that they had scheduled the one day training in Atlanta which would be 6 or 7 hours. The rest of the training could be done online, which only offers 2 hours of training, or we can set up training at the Central Office.

The following board members voted on the remaining hours of training to be done at the Central Office:

Thomas Barton

Rodney Lock

Bill Worley

Gary Brock did not vote because his term will end December 31, 2012

**Board Member Reports**

Mr. Barton stated that the people in this school system get the job done in every area. He just wanted Mr. Hayes to know that he appreciates what we do.

Mr. Brock said that he appreciates them too. He said that we are a team.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

MINUTES OF WORK SESSION  
EASTBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL  
October 29, 2012

A work session of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held on Monday, October 29, 2012 at Eastbrook Middle School. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Also present were the following staff members:

Danny Hayes     Richard Schoen  
Judy Gilreath     Audrey Williams  
Carolyn Weaver   Ron Hale  
Eric Beavers

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

George Kopcsak, principal at Eastbrook Middle School, welcomed everyone to Eastbrook Middle School. Then he introduced Rodrigo Paramo, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance

### **Moment of Silent Reflection**

Rodrigo Paramo asked everyone to observe a moment of silent reflection.

### **Student Inspirations**

Mr. Kopcsak introduced Jennifer Mora, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, who gave the inspiration. Jennifer's inspiration was about the teacher from a student's perspective and how the teacher is the decisive element in the classroom. The board and Mr. Hayes thanked both students.

### **School Reports**

Eastbrook Middle School

Mr. Kopcsak showed a presentation of interviews from different people at the school highlighting the new building and what it means to them. Here are some of the comments:

- School is amazing
- Students are enjoying their new school and so are the teachers
- Inspires us to want to learn
- Functional – this was a word used by a teacher to describe the school. Every area is useful.
- New technology – Eastbrook now is able to have the new technology just like the other schools. The teachers can learn just like the kids.
- The community can now embrace their new school and go forward. We are so proud.

George Kopcsak thanked the board. He said that the students and community are so proud of their new building. It is a greater learning opportunity. We can do anything in the spaces to work. George said that they had a group from Nashville come and they were amazed at how well the students worked together. There were over 100 students in the large areas outside the classroom and the behavior was great. He said that the discipline problems were down.

## School Council Report:

George Kopcsak introduced Kristi Harvey, school council representative, to give her report. She told the board that they talked about the original bid for Eastbrook that was 24 million but it came under budget. The council said that there was a drop in discipline referral 18-20% since they moved into the new school. She said that technology and webpage has improved and that they had seen an increase in student population. The board thanked Mrs. Harvey for her report. At this time, Mr. Kopcsak said that the projection for 6<sup>th</sup> grade population for this year was 243. We are now at 250. The last numbers that we have on the enrollment is 661 students. Louis Fordham asked if we could get specific numbers on the enrollment over the last 5 or 6 years. Mr. Kopcsak said that he would. The board and Mr. Hayes thanked Mr. Kopcsak for his report.

## System Reports

### Teaching and Learning

Dr. Audrey Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, told the board that there is still a lot of training going on with the Literacy Initiative and CCGPS. She said that they would have reports for them at the board meeting. The Literacy training still has some negative concerns. Media feels like they are being phased out. Some principals still have concerns. Audrey told the board that this is from schools that do not have the programs in place yet. We still have some scheduling problems. Louis said that we do not need to disregard the negatives. Mr. Lock wanted to know if they could go and visit the schools that have the literacy program so they could see what is going on. Mr. Hayes told Mr. Lock that they would like for the board to wait until after Christmas because the teachers are still learning themselves and have not had the opportunity to actually put the training into practice. He told the board that we are setting up a time to go to Dalton Public Schools to visit since they have the program in place. That way they can see how it is going to work. Caroline Woodason told Mr. Hayes and the board that they had already set up the following dates for principals and teachers to visit at DPS. She told the board that they could go and visit at that time too.

Dr. Audrey Williams told the board that CCGPS training is continuing and a lot of this is with SIOP and applying the new CCGPS standards. She said that all sophomores are taking the PSAT this year and the GaDOE is paying for it. Dr. Williams told the board that she and others from the system will be going to the AdvancED conference November 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> to prepare our District for the new AdvancED External Review for November 2013. Audrey told the board that we have our District team in place. Mr. Hayes asked Audrey to tell the board about some of the changes. She told the board that we now have 5 standards instead of 7. She told the board that they have built the other two standards into the 5. She told the board that the schools will now have to produce their own report.

At this time she introduced Caroline Woodason to give an update report on Archway Partnership. The summer kick off on the Literacy Celebration was a great success. Caroline will be going to Rhode Island to the Literacy for All workshop to present. She told the board about the Hispanic Community Builder Appreciation Dinner to honor organizations that enrich and support the Hispanic Construction Community. Mayor David Pennington recommends our system and Dalton Public Schools and we will be presented this award at the dinner. Mr. Hayes said that he would like for Louis Fordham and him to attend. We have also received a grant through Wick to teach families how to make good meals on a budget. The board and Mr. Hayes thanked Audrey and Caroline.

### Operations

Richard Schoen, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, told the board about a concern that a parent expressed about the handicap ramp at Southeast High School. He said that our attorney said that it was a legitimate concern. Mr. Schoen contacted the Fire Marshall and he suggested bringing our architect in to look at this. He told the board that this is an unplanned expense. Mr. Schoen said he will inform the board when he knows more. Mr. Schoen said that we have a meeting scheduled with Tony Cook, Orville Porter, Greg Smith and Mr. Hayes to go over our expenditures for the SPLOST funds. At this time Mr. Schoen went over the Surplus Vehicles and Bus Purchase that was in the board packet. He told the board that we will not replace the vehicles that we purge.

Mr. Schoen wanted to know from the board if they want us to continue our work on the RFP. He said that he just needs some direction. Louis said that we need to look across the system at everything. . We need to

evaluate the feasibility to privatize. We are just coming off the complaints of the new software. He said that the board needs guidance from you on how to handle. The board thinks at this time we need to look at everything and hold off.

#### Support Services

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, wanted the board to know that Mike Ewton has been dispatched with FEMA because of the hurricane. This was an understanding when we hired Mike that in time of disaster he would have to go where they send him. She said that we have finished the diabetic training. We have two trained at each school.

#### Food Service

Dr. Gilreath reviewed the Non-Pricing Option. This would provide all elementary students with the opportunity to receive free breakfast. Dr. Gilreath also found a program where all elementary and middle school students could have a free snack. She has asked Angie Brown to implement this too. At this time we are at 73% free and reduced lunch for the system. She said that we are looking at the Finger Print Scan. That way they cannot charge to buddy.

#### Technology

Dr. Gilreath told the board that the E-Rate plan is reimbursed through the Federal Government. It will help schools and obtain state of the art technologies at discounted rates depending on your Free and Reduced Lunch. Connect Ed was the lowest bid for our parent phone communication. It is at the lawyers for review. Dr. Gilreath told the board that Angie was at a meeting and they said that there will be an 8% cut in federal funds for food service this coming year. At this time, Judy reviewed the policies in the board packet.

#### Finance

Ron Hale, CFO, went over the summary sheet in the board packet and told the board to let him know if this is what they want. He said that this report would replace the four page report that they usually get. Mr. Hayes thanked Ron for this report.

#### **Review Board Agenda**

Monday, November 5, 2012

Louis Fordham had a concern about recognizing Southeast Drama, Southeast Volleyball team, and Northwest Softball team at the same board meeting. He said that would be a lot of people in the same room. They decided to recognize Northwest Softball team at the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and recognize Southeast Drama and Volleyball team at the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### **Other Business**

Louis asked about the staffing standpoint in ESS and how it has grown. Dr. Gilreath told him that we are at 10% in our student population for ESS. He asked her to get with Sarah Hoskins and run the numbers for the last 10 years on ESS students and the number of staff. She said she would.

#### **Executive Session**

The superintendent recommended the board move into executive session for the discussion of personnel. Gary Brock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0. The time was 12:57 p.m...

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Bill Worley

Others present:

Danny Hayes, Superintendent

### **Return to Regular Session**

The board having taken no action in executive session returned to regular session at 1:20 p.m. Thomas Barton moved approval to return to regular session and Rodney Lock seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary