

MINUTES OF  
CALLED WORK SESSION  
September 9, 2013

The called work session meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on September 9, 2013. Vice Chairman Bill Worley called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Tony Stanley  
Bill Worley  
Rodney Lock arrived a few minutes late  
Louis Fordham arrived a few minutes late and joined them in Executive Session

Others present:

Judy Gilreath, Superintendent  
Carolyn Weaver  
Mike Ewton  
Eric Beavers

**Adoption of Agenda**

Vice Chairman Bill Worley recommended the board members adopt the agenda as presented. Tony Stanley moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 3-0.

**Executive Session**

Superintendent Judy Gilreath recommended the board members move into executive session to discuss personnel. Vice Chairman Bill Worley said that a recommendation had been made to move into executive session. Rodney Lock moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

**Adjournment**

The board members having taken no action in executive session adjourned Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman

## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

September 9, 2013

The regular meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on Monday, September 9, 2013. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Louis Fordham  
Rodney Lock  
Tony Stanley  
Bill Worley

Also present were the following staff members:

Judy Gilreath	Carolyn Weaver
Karey Williams	Eric Beavers
Mike Ewton	Audrey Williams

Also present:

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

### **Adoption of Agenda**

Dr. Gilreath recommended that an amendment be made to the agenda. She told the board that under Student Services we need to add Tracie Hogan to present a presentation on Teen Maze. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the amendment to the agenda and to adopt the agenda as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Alex Pace, 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Eastside Elementary, led the pledge of allegiance.

### **Moment of Silent Reflection**

Louis Fordham asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

### **Inspiration**

Ashleigh Helton, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Eastside Elementary, read a poem. The name of the poem is “Bright Horizons,” by Helen Lowrie Marshall. This poem is about the value of long term goals and how hopes and dreams are built on them. The board thanked Ashleigh for sharing this poem.

### **Recognitions and Presentations**

Habitudes Grant for Northwest High School – Louis Fordham presented Britt Adams, principal of Northwest High School, a certificate recognizing Northwest for the Habitudes Grant from the Growing Leaders Foundation. The grant is for \$12,000.00. Britt told the board that this is a school wide grant. He said that Habitudes are a fun, creative and engaging way for the next generation to learn and practice leadership. Habitudes teach timeless character and leadership principles through the power of an image, a conversation and an experience. Louis congratulated Northwest and said that is a great amount for a grant.

Shiny Gibson – Honorable Mention for her poem “A Warning,” submitted to the Georgia Poetry Society’s Youth Poetry Contest. Louis Fordham presented her a certificate and said that her poem was published in “The Reach of Song,” the Georgia Poetry Society’s 2013 Anthology. He asked Shiny if she would read her poem so she read her poem for the board members.

AP Scholars for 2012-2013 – Louis Fordham said that most of these students had graduated and were at college. He said that we still wanted to recognize them for this great achievement.

AP Scholar is granted to students who earn a grade of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams:

- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Anthony Anderson (NHS) | Manuel Caro (SHS)           |
| • Savannah Cross (SHS)   | Sarah Fearing (NHS)         |
| • Hannah Grider (NHS)    | Miranda Helton (NHS)        |
| • Macie Maret (NHS)      | Concepcion Montelongo (SHS) |
| • John Parsons (NHS)     | Darshan Patel (SHS)         |
| • Triston Smith (NHS)    | Jessica Torres (SHS)        |
| • Mitzi Varela (SHS)     |                             |

AP Scholars with Honor are students who earn an average grade of at least 3025 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams:

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| • Ellison Beard (NHS)     | Conner Cross (SHS)   |
| • Amy Hartline (NHS)      | Kelian Heard (NHS)   |
| • Manuel Montelongo (SHS) | Tucker Morgan (NHS)  |
| • Jake Rogers (NHS)       | Anna Stevens (NHS)   |
| • Christine Tran (NHS)    | Elizabeth Trew (NHS) |
| • Xiangyu Zhong (NHS)     |                      |

AP Scholars with Distinction have earned an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams:

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Mikayla Defore (SHS) | Angelica Herrera (SHS) |
| • Sarah Johnson (NHS)  | Silas Ledford (NHS)    |

Board Member Training certificates

Dr. Judy Gilreath stated that Georgia law and state board rules require school board members to obtain training in board operations, duties and responsibilities. She said that our board members have completed that training for the current year of service and she would like to present them with their certificates. She said that our board puts in long hours of service and she wants you to know how much we appreciate your willingness to serve the students of Whitfield County. She also wanted to express appreciation to their wives and families who allow them to devote time and attention to board matters. Dr. Gilreath presented each board member with a certificate.

### **Hearing of Individuals**

None

### **Approval of Minutes – August 5 and August 7, 2013**

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the minutes for August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 7, 2013 meetings. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### **Approval of Purchase Orders over \$25,000.00**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CDW-G Computer Centers	Projectors, Bulbs, Whiteboards	\$1,032, 640.56

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the Purchase Orders over \$25,000.00. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

## **Financial Reports**

### **Approval of Millage Rate**

Superintendent Dr. Judy Gilreath recommended the board approve the millage rate to remain at the current 18.756 mils. Louis Fordham said that we have a recommendation to leave the millage rate at 18.756 mils. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

## **Superintendent's Reports**

### **Teaching & Learning**

#### AdvancED Update Report

Dr. Audrey Williams, Chief Officer for Assessment and Accountability, told the board that we are almost ready for our External Review Team. She said that they will arrive on Sunday, November 3, 2013 and be here through Wednesday, November 6, 2013. Audrey gave the board copies of the following:

- External Review Team Schedule
- Self Assessment
- Executive Summary

Audrey said that everything will be online for the External Review Team. Audrey told the board that everyone has worked very hard. Louis Fordham told Audrey that he knows this requires a lot of time and work from everyone and the board appreciates all that they have done.

### **Operations**

#### Bids for Athletic Construction at Southeast High School and Dug Gap Elementary Parking Lot

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, told the board that Competition Athletic Construction was the sole bidder on the project at the Southeast High School Athletic Facility. He said that this is the company that began the project. He said that their proposal meets the specifications of the project and it is attached to Attachment #4.

Dug Gap Elementary School Parking Lot: The following bids were received:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
B&J Reid Construction	\$514,000.00
Felker Construction	\$511,699.00

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, recommended that the board approve Competition Athletic Construction for the Southeast track and tennis courts and Felker Construction for the Dug Gap School Parking Lot. Bill Worley moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

#### Surplus of Bus Donation

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer of Operations, told the board that the Whitfield County Public Works Department had requested that a surplus bus be donated to them for the use in their community service program. Due to the mutually beneficial nature of the relationship between our Operations Department and the Whitfield County Public Works Department, Mr. Ewton recommends that the board approve the donation of Bus # 94-23. This bus has already been approved by the board for surplus. Thomas Barton moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

#### Capital Outlay Project Application

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, presented a copy of the GaDOE Capital Outlay Project Application for the Eastbrook gym and Eastside renovation projects for board approval. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the Capital Outlay Project Application for Eastbrook Middle addition and Eastside Elementary's renovations. Rodney Lock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

## Support Services

### After School Care Employees

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, presented a new list from Valley Point Elementary School of After School Care Employees for overtime payment from their individual school After Care Budgets and or new employees for board approval. Dr. Gilreath recommended the board approve the After School Care Employees. Tony Stanley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### Family Resource Agency of North Georgia Food Service Agreement

Dr. Judy Gilreath presented the Family Resource Agency of North Georgia Head Start Program Food Service Agreement for 2013-2014. Dr. Gilreath told the board that this is something that we do each year. Dr. Gilreath recommended that the board approve the Food Service Agreement for Head Start for 2013-2013. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### Teen Maze Presentation

Tracie Hogan, Lead Social Worker, gave the board a pamphlet with information about Teen Maze. She introduced David Moeller, CEO of the NWGCCA, to tell the board about Teen Maze. He told the board that it is an Interactive Game of Life. It is an event where students have the opportunity to face consequences of randomly selected life-style choices associated with risky youth behaviors in a safe and controlled environment. Students will have the opportunity to examine the consequences of life's choices in a hands-on, realistic and educational way. Tracie told the board that all 10<sup>th</sup> graders from Dalton Public Schools, Murray County Schools, and Whitfield County Schools will have the opportunity to participate. She is very excited about this opportunity for our community and has invited our board members to attend. She told the board that Whitfield County Schools will participate on October 3-4, 2013. The board thanked them for this great life learning experience.

### Personnel

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the personnel actions as discussed in executive session. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

### **Previous Business**

None

### **New Business**

#### Board Member Professional Development

Dr. Gilreath said that the Board of Education members are required to do nine hours of training with one or more years of service. This would include all five of our board members. I am recommending:

- All board members and I will attend the winter GSBA student Achievement Workshop on December 5, 2013 in Atlanta. This will give our board members 6 hours of training. Dr. Gilreath said that she feels like this will be beneficial training because of our emphasis on academic achievement. She said that Chairman Louis Fordham plans on attending the GSBA conference in Atlanta on December 6-7, 2013 as our delegate

Dr. Gilreath said that GSBA provides excellent training. They offer conferences such as the one in December and they also offer courses on line through their GSBA University.

- Whole Board Governance Training – total of 3 hours of training for board members.

Dr. Gilreath told the board that our board attorney Stan Hawkins will provide this training. His topics will include personnel and finance issues relevant to our system. She said that she talked with Stan about us traveling to Gainesville instead of bringing him here because it would be more economical. She said that we are investigating this possibility.

**Board Member Reports**

Louis Fordham told the board that we have completed our first 30 days of our new school year. It has been a great start. He wanted Dr. Gilreath and staff to know what a great job they have done.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman