

MINUTES OF
CALLED WORK SESSION
August 4, 2014

The called work session meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on August 4, 2014. Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton
Louis Fordham
Rodney Lock
Tony Stanley
Bill Worley – was not present for roll call but joined other board members during executive session.

Others present:

Judy Gilreath	Eric Beavers
Karey Williams	Carolyn Weaver
Daniel Theis	
Mike Ewton	

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Louis Fordham recommended the board members adopt the agenda as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Executive Session

Superintendent Judy Gilreath recommended the board members move into executive session to discuss personnel and real estate. Chairman Louis Fordham said that a recommendation had been made to move into executive session. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Adjournment

The board members having taken no action in Executive Session adjourned Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
August 4, 2014

The regular meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on Monday, August 4, 2014. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 6:41 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	Mike Ewton
Karey Williams	Eric Beavers
Daniel Theis	Carolyn Weaver
Audrey Williams	
Wanda Phillips	

Also present:

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

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Louis Fordham recommended the board members adopt the agenda as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Pledge of Allegiance

James Hoskins, 12th grade student at Northwest High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Louis Fordham asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

Inspiration

James Hoskins sang a beautiful song titled; *The Blind Ploughman* by Robert Coningsby Clarke. The board thanked him for sharing his wonderful talent.

Recognitions and Presentations

Brian Ramsey Placed 1st in the Regional Department of Education Technician Competition

The board presented Brian Ramsey with a certificate of congratulations for 1st place in the region for the Department of Education Technician Competition that was held in Ellijay, GA. He went on to represent Whitfield County Schools in the State Department of Education Technician Competition held at the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega, GA where he competed against Technicians from all over the state of Georgia and he placed 16th in the state.

James Hoskins Placed 3rd in the Nation at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)

The board presented James Hoskins with a certificate of congratulations for placing 3rd in the nation at the National Association of Teachers Singing (NATS). James had a wonderful year. He was selected to the Georgia Music Educators

Association All State Chorus for the 4th time since middle school. He won the region literary meet, and then won the State Literary Meet in class 4A in Men's Solo Singing. He then competed in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and placed 1st in the southeast regional, and then competed at the national level in Boston, MA on July 7th at the Boston Conservatory where he placed 3rd in the nation. James is a tremendous musician, but even more a tremendous person. The board congratulated him for all of his accomplishments and the way he has represented himself, family, school, and community.

Hearing of Individuals

None

Approval of Minutes – July 14, 2014 Board Meetings

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the minutes for the July 14, 2014 meetings. Tony Stanley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Approval of Purchase Orders over \$25,000.00

Louis Fordham presented the following purchase orders for approval:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R.K. Redding Construction, Inc	Freezer/Coolers for AE, DGE, VE, and VPM	\$665,490.00
Dell Computer Corp.	Optiplex 3020 Minitower and Soundbar at WMS	\$64,476.00
DEMCO	Equipment for Computer Lab at DGE	\$84,161.47
Dell Computer Corp.	Computer/Server/Software at DGE	\$56,593.23
CDW-G Computer Centers	Equipment for Computer Lab at DGE	\$170,863.89
Apple Computer, Inc	Apple TV/Ipad/Cart/MacBook Pro/Protection Plan at DGE	\$117,186.70
Sciencefirst/Star Lab	Digital Starlab Saturn Package/Dome at DGE	\$58,540.00
Sciencefirst/Star Lab	Digital Starlab Saturn Package/Dome at AE	\$58,540.00
Fisher Scientific Co. LLC	Supplies for Science Lab at DGE	\$29,323.58
Industrial Air and Mechanical	Antifreeze for HVAC@CCHS	\$31,875.00

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the Purchase Orders as presented. Thomas Barton moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Financial Reports

Daniel Theis, CFO, presented the General Fund Balance and the Capital Projects report as of June 30, 2014. The financial reports are a part of these minutes. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the report as presented. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0. The financial reports are a part of these minutes.

Superintendent's Reports

Teaching & Learning

Compass Learning Odyssey Renewal Contract

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, recommended that the board renew the contract with Compass Learning Odyssey for 2014-2015. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Audrey Williams, Chief Officer for Assessment and Accountability, said that as a school system we need to have a strategic plan and we do not have one. She said that a strategic plan is to improve your school system by planning the

direction you wish the system to take, identifying issues impacting on our school system and deciding on the priorities for action. Audrey presented the following information on developing a Strategic Plan for Whitfield County Schools:

Strategic Plan

- Our Timeline (August - December 2014)
- Our Committee
- Our Task
 - Revisit Vision, Mission, & Beliefs
 - Survey Stakeholders
 - Identify Needs and Expectations
 - Community Participation
 - Ongoing Planning and
 - Creation of Strategic Goals

Audrey told the board that we plan to start surveying our stakeholders on August 11th and plan to have results after Labor Day. We will revisit the Vision, Mission, & Beliefs to see if there are areas that we may need to change. We will look at plans that we already have in place. We will pick out things that we feel will help us as a system. We will look at this yearly.

Georgia Milestone Sample Test Items

Dr. Audrey Williams, Chief Officer for Assessment and Accountability, presented a slide presentation on sample test items for the Georgia Milestone. Audrey gave the board copies of the Parents' Guide to New Tests in Georgia. This is done by the National PTA. She said that this guide is very helpful and will be posted on our website. She then presented the following information:

- Grades 3 – 8
 - End of Grade (EOG) in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies
- High School
 - End of Course (EOC) in 9th Grade Literature & Composition, American Literature & Composition, Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry, Physical Science, Biology, US History, and Economics

Transition to Online

- Online administration will be the primary mode of administration for Georgia Milestones, with paper/pencil serving as back-up
 - transition will occur over time
- Administration procedures will change
- Online practice center will be available for students

Transition to Online - (District-wide) more guidelines to come on mixed modes of testing.

- Year 1: minimum of 30% online
- Year 3: minimum of 80% online
- Year 5: minimum of 100% online

Transition to Online – Items to think about

- Continue collecting cell phones; but now we need to begin turning all devices OFF.
- Technology enhanced test items in 2016-2017.
- iPads
 - No Mini iPads
 - Begin thinking about keyboard devices

Item Types

- Selected-Response [aka, multiple-choice]
 - all content areas
 - evidence-based selected response in ELA
- Constructed-Response
 - ELA and mathematics
- Extended-Response
 - ELA and mathematics
- Technology Enhanced
 - to begin in 2016-2017

Constructed- response is a general term for assessment items that require the student to generate a response as opposed to selecting a response.

Extended-response items require more elaborate answers and explanations of reasoning. They allow for multiple correct answers and/or varying methods of arriving at the correct answer. Writing prompts and performance tasks are examples of extended-response items.

Audrey said that sample items of Constructed -response items and Extended-response items will be placed on our website for review. She said that parents and students will be given a Rubric so they will know what is expected of them. Georgia Milestones represents a significant change and importantly – *an opportunity* – for our state.

This opportunity allows us to *recalibrate*, as a state, and *refocus* on **teaching and learning** as a primary emphasis with assessment and accountability serving a *supporting* role. The board thanked Audrey for this important information.

Operations

R.K. Construction Agreement Between Owner and Contractor

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, recommended that the board approve the R.K. Construction Agreement. Mike said that this is for the kitchen renovations at Dug Gap Elementary School, Antioch Elementary School, Varnell Elementary School, and Valley Point Middle School. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the R.K. Construction Agreement. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

R.K. Construction General Conditions of the Contract for Construction

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, recommended that the board approve the R.K. Construction General Conditions of the Contract for Construction on the kitchen renovations at Dug Gap Elementary School, Antioch Elementary School, Varnell Elementary School, and Valley Point Middle School. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the R.K. Construction General Conditions of the Contract for Construction. Tony Stanley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Support Services

Memorandum of Understanding with Family Resource Agency of N. Georgia Children's Assessment and Preschool Special Education Services (CAPS)

Wanda Phillips, Chief Officer of Support Services, recommended the board approve the Memorandum of Understanding (CAPS) for the 2014-2015 school year. Thomas Barton moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Memorandum of Understanding with Family Resource Agency of N. Georgia Food Service Agreement for Head Start Program

Wanda Phillips, Chief Officer of Support Services, recommended the board approve the Memorandum of Understanding Food Service Agreement for Head Start Program for the 2014-2015 school year. Rodney Lock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Afterschool Care Workers for 2014-2015

Wanda Phillips, Chief Officer of Support Services, presented the After School Care Employees, and the After School Care Employees for overtime payment from their individual school After Care Budgets for 2014-2015 for board approval. Dr. Gilreath recommended the board approve the After School Care Employees. Tony Stanley abstained from voting. One of the after care workers is related to him. Louis Fordham moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Personnel

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

Previous Business

New Business

Local Plan Budget for Northwest Georgia College and Career Academy

Dave Moeller, CEO of the Career Academy, presented the local plan budget allotment from the state. These funds are provided through the Perkins Grant.

Carl D. Perkins IV

- Federal Grants Total Allocation - \$106,595.00
- CTAE State Grants Total Allocation – \$117,587.00
- State Agricultural Education Grants Total Allocation - \$71,492.00

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the local plan budget provided by the Perkins Grant. Thomas Barton moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Southeast High School's Parking Lot Lights

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$178,250.00 for new parking lot lights at Southeast High School. Tony Stanley moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Antioch Elementary School's Bus Loop

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$194,532.00 for the bus loop at Antioch Elementary School. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Valley Point Middle School Sports Equipment

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$57,000.00 for sports equipment at Valley Point Middle School. Thomas Barton moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Southeast High School's Teacher Leadership Course

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$1000.00 for Teacher's Leadership Course at Southeast High School. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman

MINUTES OF CALLED BOARD MEETING
September 2, 2014

The Whitfield County Board of Education held a called meeting at the Whitfield County Central Office on September 2, 2014. Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.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

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Louis Fordham recommended the board members adopt the agenda as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Executive Session

Superintendent Judy Gilreath recommended the board move into executive session for the purpose of real estate and a tribunal appeal. Tony Stanley moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Return to Regular Session

The board having taken no action in executive session returned to regular session at 7:46 a.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

Kinard Realty Contract for Sale of Westside Property

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, recommended the board approve the contract with Kinard Realty for the sale of the Westside Property located on Utility Road for the amount of \$150,000.00. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Purchase Orders over \$25,000

Superintendent Judy Gilreath presented the following purchase orders for approval:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Arts Music Shop	Band Equipment for VPM	\$31,666.01

Louis Fordham said that a recommendation has been made for approval of a purchase order with Arts Music Shop in the amount of \$31,666.01. Rodney Lock moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NCS Pearson	SIOP Initial Blended Training	\$25,000.00

Louis Fordham said that a recommendation has been made for approval of a purchase order with NCS Pearson in the amount of \$25,000.00. Tony Stanley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Revised Promotion, Placement, Retention Policy

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, recommended the board approve the Revised Promotion, Placement, Retention Policy for the 2014-2015 school year only. Dr. Gilreath said that the revision is in place due to the Waiver that was granted to the Georgia Department of Education by the State School Board to not include the new Georgia Milestones Assessment for Promotion, Retention, and Placement for Georgia students only for the 2014-2015 school year. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Student Tribunal Appeal Decision

Louis Fordham made a motion to uphold the decision of the tribunal panel. The board approved 5-0 to uphold the decision of the tribunal panel.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary