

MINUTES OF
CALLED WORK SESSION
February 2, 2015

The called work session meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on February 2, 2015. 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

Others present:

Judy Gilreath	Eric Beavers
Karey Williams	Carolyn Weaver
Rhonda Yim	
Mike Ewton	

Adoption of Agenda

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

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. Bill Worley moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Adjournment

The board members having taken no action in Executive Session adjourned Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. Rodney Lock moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
February 2, 2015

The regular meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on Monday, February 2, 2015. 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	Mike Ewton
Karey Williams	Eric Beavers
Kelly Johnson Coon	Carolyn Weaver
Audrey Williams	

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. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rowan Espy, 4th grade student at Dug Gap Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Louis Fordham asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

Inspiration

Emily Allen, 7th grade student at Valley Point Middle School and a member of the Valley Point Middle leadership team, gave the inspiration. Then the leadership group from Dug Gap Elementary and Valley Point Middle School shared information on the leadership trip that they took to Walt Disney World. Students talked about how this changed their thought process on leadership:

- Global differences is about culture, food, clothes, everything.
- Leadership is about accepting people as they are and guiding them.
- Role models are important.
- Anyone can be a leader.
- Being a good leader is hard work.
- Leaders aren't perfect.
- Leaders stand out.
- Listening and learning from others.
- Stand up for what you believe.
- Making mistakes is okay. You learn from your mistakes.

One of the teachers, sitting in the audience, said that she has seen a difference in her classroom since these students returned from their trip. Robyn Baggett said that while they were at Disney they had a student step up and helps

interpret for someone. This student just did it on their own. Mandy and Robyn said that they are very proud of these students and the way that they have stepped up to be a leader.

Recognitions and Presentations

Kathryn Stafford – State Swimming Qualifier in 100-yd. Backstroke

The board presented Kathryn Stafford, 12th grade student at Coahulla Creek High School, a certificate of congratulations for qualifying for the state swim meet in the 100-yd backstroke.

Hearing of Individuals

Bob Pipkin, a parent from Northwest High School Swim Team, stated that the parents and supporters of the Whitfield County School's Swim Teams are in support of providing our student swimmers and divers with a swimming pool facility they can call home. Right now we practice at the Dalton High School pool along with all of the other swimming teams in the county. He stated that we currently have 5 swim teams in the system. We have 103 swimmers and divers in the program.

Mr. Pipkin handed the board a petition with 400 names in support of the following:

- Facility dedicated to the Whitfield County School System first. Other teams and programs would have secondary scheduling and use.
- We support a competition pool facility that meets statewide rules and regulations with regards to swimming, diving and water polo competition.
- Facility that meets the budgetary responsibilities of the system. We understand that an Olympic 50 meter pool is wanted, but that a Competition 25 yard pool will meet our needs while greatly reducing cost.
- A commitment by the Swim Team Booster Clubs and the formation of special committees of concerned swim supporters to help with the ongoing upkeep costs of a swim facility so that the entire financial burden of annual maintenance costs will not be entirely on the school system.
- Secondary use of the swimming facility: Swim lessons, Red Cross Certification Training, and rental to other area teams. This would help provide income for upkeep as well as providing outreach to the community at large.
- We support the ongoing work of the Whitfield County School Board, in partnership with those committed to a swim facility, as we combine our efforts to realize this ongoing need to our students.

Approval of Minutes – January 5, 2015 Board Meetings and January 22, 2015 Board Governance Training

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the minutes for the January 5, 2015 board meetings and January 22, 2015 board governance training. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Approval of Purchase Order over \$25,000.00

Louis Fordham presented the following purchase order for approval:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Peach State Freight Line, LLC	2015 Thomas Built Bus Purchase	\$347,880.00
Bound to Stay Bound Books, INC	Books for DGE	\$30,641.61

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the Purchase Orders as presented. Rodney Lock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Financial Reports

Kelly Johnson Coon, Director of Finance, presented the General Fund Balance and the Capital Projects report as of December 31, 2014. Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the reports as presented. Thomas Barton

moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0. The financial reports are a part of these minutes.

Superintendent's Reports

Teaching & Learning

2014-2015 Sex Education Committee Members

Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, recommended the board approve the 2014-2015 Sex Education Committee Members. The committee is made up of parents, students and representatives from each school. Louis Fordham moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Assessment, Accountability, and Technology

Accountability Report Winter 2015 – Dr. Audrey Williams

Dr. Audrey Williams, Chief Officer for Assessment and Accountability, said that this is our 2015 winter edition of the Whitfield County Accountability Report. We have changed the format so it goes along with our Strategic Plan. This Accountability Report contains the following information:

- School Board Approves Strategic Plan:
 - This plan will prioritize the district's greatest challenges, specify what students need to learn to be successful, and define the evidence that will evaluate the quality of education in Whitfield County Schools.
- Georgia Milestones Assessment:
 - This is the new test that students will take this year. Georgia Milestones is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school. This is the first statewide test that will be administered online. This test will slowly allow districts to upgrade their computers and infrastructure to handle the increased usage. The state's goal is to test 30% of students online followed by incremental increases each year until 100% of students are taking the test on computers at their school by 2019.
- College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI):
 - This is a comprehensive school improvement, accountability, and communication platform for all educational stakeholders that will promote college and career readiness for all Georgia public school students.
- Georgia High School Writing Test (GHSWT):
 - Whitfield County students penciled in an average score of 95% on the annual exam, only one percentage point behind the state average. This is the last year that high school students will be required to take the state writing assessment. Writing skills will be measured as part of the End-of-Course exams in the Georgia Milestones Assessment.
- District Governance:
 - Districts must declare their intent to operate as one of three types of districts by June 30, 2015:
 - Investing in Educational Excellence School System (IE²) – Local district has a performance contract with the SBOE granting the district freedom from specific Title 20 provisions, SBOE rules, and GaDOE. Flexibility granted does not include a requirement for school level governance, but it does require specified minimum targets each year for each school.
 - Charter System – A local system that has an executed charter form the SBOE granting it freedom from almost all of Title 20, SBOE rules, and GaDOE guidelines.
 - Status Quo – A local District that has elected not to request increased flexibility in exchange for increased accountability and defined consequences and opted to remain under all current laws, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.
- Whitfield Education Foundation:
 - The Whitfield Education held their 2nd annual Celebrity Spelling Bee. It was a great success. The foundation raised \$21,000 to support it innovative teaching grants.
- Demographics
 - National reports indicate this is the first year students of color comprise the majority of students in public school.

- Free Breakfast Participation
 - Whitfield County elementary school students have more students eating breakfast than ever before. Breakfast is provided through a federal grant that provides free breakfast to all elementary students regardless of their family's income.

Dr. Gilreath and the board thanked Audrey and Eric for a great report.

Operations

Inventory Control Project Update – Betsy Clem

Mike Ewton, Chief Officer for Operations, introduced Betsy Clem to give the update on the Inventory Control Project. Betsy said that this will allow identified district users to retrieve the data they need for reporting, planning, and budgeting. She said that we have made progress but we have a lot to go. Accessing what needs to be kept and what needs to go. She presented the following information:

NEEDS

- Planning and Budgeting
- Reporting
- Sharing District Resources
- Insurance
- Good Stewardship

RESEARCH

- Contact with other school districts
- Site visits
- Vendor product demonstrations



BARCODE TECHNOLOGIES

WASP INVENTORY CONTROL & MOBILE ASSESST

- Cost
- Reporting
- Data Access
- Inventory Control Component

PROCESS

- Assessment of Current Status
- Software and Equipment Research, Acquisition, Installation and
- Licensing
- Personnel
- Training
- Cleaning
- Organizing
- Restructuring Storage Spaces
- Building records
- Counting

AREAS IN THE WAREHOUSE

TECHNOLOGY, SOUTERHN MANAGEMENT, and OTHER AREAS IN THE WAREHOUSE

(Pictures are located on the Whitfield County Website showing the progress)

- Purge and clean-up area
- Organized and determine area layout

- Move to other areas if needed

OPERATIONS: TRANSPORTATION

(Pictures are located on the Whitfield County Website showing the progress)

- Purge and clean-up area
- Organized and determine area layout

OPERATIONS;

Includes Storage Areas for all Operations Specialties:

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Lawn care
- Painting

Support Services

No Report

Personnel

Louis Fordham recommended the board approve the personnel actions as discussed in executive session. Louis Fordham moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Previous Business

None

New Business

First Reading of Changes in Board Policy IBB: Charter Schools

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, said that the State Board Rules now require a policy on Charter Schools. Tony Stanley moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

First Reading of Changes in Board Policy IHE: Promotion and Retention Policy

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, said that this is to align LBOE policy with state changes. This changes CRCT to Georgia Milestones. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

First Reading of Changes in Board Policy EEE: Wellness Policy

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, said that this is to align with federal requirements. Designee to assure compliance with the policy. Rodney Lock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Mary Stephens – Paraprofessional in Kindergarten and a Certified Teacher at New Hope Elementary School Request to Tutor

Parents of a student at NHES have requested tutoring for their child. Mary Stephens has agreed to provide tutoring. The student was in the kindergarten classroom two years ago where Mrs. Stephens served as a paraprofessional, but she was not the teacher of record. We are requesting your permission to allow Mrs. Stephens to tutor our student. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Ratification on the North American Master Services Agreement for Language Line Services

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Superintendent, said that this is to be used for service to interpret conversations over the phone.

Tony Stanley moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for New Principal Leadership Classes through UGA

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$11,000.00 for the Principals Leadership Classes through UGA. Louis Fordham moved approval and Rodney Lock seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Dug Gap Elementary School Gym Mats

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$2,215.00 to purchase gym mats for Dug Gap Elementary School. Bill Worley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Cedar Ridge Elementary School's Soccer Field Goals and Concrete

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$112,700.00 for soccer field goals and concrete at Cedar Ridge Elementary School. Thomas Barton moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Dug Gap Elementary School Camera Scope

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$10,000.00 for a camera scope for Dug Gap Elementary School. Louis Fordham moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Cedar Ridge Elementary School's Computers and iPADS

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$68,000.00 for computers and iPADS at Cedar Ridge Elementary School. Tony Stanley moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Valley Point Middle School's Savannah Trip Scholarships

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$4,900.00 for Valley Point Middle School's Savannah Trip Scholarships. Louis Fordham moved approval and Rodney Lock seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Southeast High School's Baseball Equipment, Batting Barn, and Scoreboard

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$62,000.00 for Southeast High School's baseball equipment, batting barn, and scoreboard. Louis Fordham moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for New Hope Elementary School's Archery Equipment and Water Filtration

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$5,000.00 for archery equipment and water filtration for New Hope Elementary School. Bill Worley moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation Check for Southeast High School's Locker Room Repainting

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$4,500.00 to repaint Southeast High School's locker room. Thomas Barton moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donations for North Whitfield Middle School's Golf Program from November, December 2014, and January 2015

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the golf donations for North Whitfield Middle School in the amount of \$300.00 for the months of November 2014, December 2014, and January 2015. Louis Fordham moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donations for North Whitfield Middle School's Angel/Indigent Fund

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the donations for North Whitfield Middle School's Angel/Indigent Fund in the amount of \$837.30 for the months of August 2014 through January 2015. Rodney Lock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Cedar Ridge Elementary School's 2014-2015 STEM Lab Donations

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the donations for the STEM Lab at Cedar Ridge Elementary School. Rodney Lock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Target Field Trip Grant for Northwest High School

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$500.00 for the 2015 Target Field Trip Grant for Northwest High School. Louis Fordham moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation for Northwest High School's Football from Anna & James Kirk Foundation

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the check in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the Northwest High School Football Program. This is contribution from the Anna and James Kirk Foundation. Thomas Barton moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Donation for Valley Point Elementary School's Indigent Fund from Marilyn Lance

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board accept the donation for Valley Point Elementary School's Indigent Fund in the amount of \$300.00 from Marilyn Lance. Louis Fordham moved approval and Tony Stanley seconded. The board approved 5-0.

2015 Legislative Liaison for Whitfield County Schools

Dr. Gilreath recommended the board approve board member Rodney Lock as their 2015 Legislative Liaison for Whitfield County Schools. Louis Fordham moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 5-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman