

BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

June 30, 2009

Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes

Call to Order

Board Chair, Ms. Tracy Norman called the meeting of the Burke County Board of Education to Order at approximately 11:30 a.m. in the Olive Hill Room at the West Concord Resource Center. Other members of the Board who were present included Vice Chairman; Mr. Tim Buff, Mr. Buddy Armour, Mr. Rob Hairfield, Mrs. Karen Sain, and Mr. Sam Wilkinson. Also present for the meeting were Superintendent; Mr. David Burleson, Associate Superintendent; Mr. Rick Sherrill, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Tony Cox, Human Resource Director; Mr. Winston Bagley, Chief Finance Officer; Mr. Keith Lawson, School Board Attorney; Mr. Jon Jones and Special Counsel; Mr. Richard Schwartz.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Buff made a Motion to approve the agenda for the meeting as presented with a Second by Mrs. Sain. The Motion passed 4-2 with Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson in opposition.

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Rev. George Patton of Central Baptist Church offered the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. David Burleson, Superintendent.

Public Comment

Ms. Norman reminded those in attendance that a temporary policy had been adopted at the previous meeting of the BOE, which allowed for a maximum of 60 minutes for public comments. 17 of 22 individuals who signed up for public comment addressed the Board on a variety of topics including public comment policy, the superintendent and his contract, budget issues, SACS, Special Counsel, resolution in reference to Mr. Hairfield, comments made to WBTV, vacated Board seat, and fiscal responsibility of the Board. The public comment period was 11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

Closed Session

Following a Motion by Mr. Buff and a Second by Mrs. Sain the Board went into Closed Session at approximately 12:37 p.m. in accordance with NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with legal counsel for pending litigation on the following lawsuits:

- > Plyler et al. v. Burke County BOE
- > Burleson, David v. Burke County BOE
- > Schoeberle, Stephen v. Burke County BOE
- > Schoeberle, Stephen (Lawsuit #2) v. Burke County BOE

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Buff entered a Motion to table the minutes to allow additional time for review. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Hairfield and passed 4-2. Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson were in opposition.

Informational Items

In the Interest of time, Ms. Norman asked that everyone read the informational items listed on the agenda for the meeting.

Long Range Items/Topics

A. Construction Update – Mr. Tony Cox

Mr. Cox reported that the contract had been awarded to David E. Looper & Co. for renovations to the science facilities at East Burke and Freedom with phase 1 to be completed by August 14, 2009 and phase 2 to be completed by January 11, 2010. The Board was given a complete construction schedule for the science facility renovations at tonight's meeting. Mr. Cox briefed the Board on other projects underway including HVAC

repairs at Liberty Middle and roof replacements at Freedom High, East Burke High, Valdese Elementary, and George Hildebrand Elementary.

School Board Report

A. Audit for 2009-2010 – Mr. Rob Hairfield

Mr. Hairfield reported that requests had gone out for audit firms to submit bids to conduct the school system audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. He reported that two bids had been submitted. He further stated that both audit firms had been informed that the budgeted amount to complete the audit was \$30,000 for a one year contract. Mr. Hairfield noted that only one of the firms agreed to the amount budgeted and based on that information the finance sub-committee was recommending the audit firm of Lowdermilk and Church as the audit firm for 2009-2010. This recommendation came in the form of a Motion by Mr. Hairfield and the finance sub-committee. The Motion passed 5-1 with Ms. Norman opposed. The Motion did not require a Second since the recommendation came from the sub-committee.

B. Report from the NC Department of the State Treasurer – Ms. Tracy Norman, Chair

Ms. Norman read a letter received from the Local Government Commission which outlined the findings of the audited financial statements of the BCPS for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. This letter asked for a written response to the findings outlined in the letter. Mr. Burleson presented a written response to the letter to the Board for their consideration, one that Ms. Norman had requested that he prepare. Ms. Norman stated that she would also be preparing a response to bring back for the Board to review at the next BOE meeting.

C. Consent Judgment with County Commissioners – Ms. Tracy Norman, Chair

Ms. Norman requested that the Board approve Mr. Jones to prepare correspondence to the County Commissioners before they pass their budget. This correspondence would address concerns pertaining to the consent judgment and funding. The Motion to approve came by Mrs. Sain with a Second by Mr. Hairfield. The Motion carried 4-2 with Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Armour opposed.

Action/Discussion Items

A. Board Meeting Schedule for Next Year – Mr. David Burleson

Mr. Burleson presented a Board meeting schedule for the upcoming year to the Board for approval, indicating that historically the Board has met the first and third Monday of the month with the exception of holidays and days that schools were closed. Mr. Hairfield made the Motion to approve the schedule with a Second by Mr. Buff. The Motion carried unanimously by a 6-0 vote.

B. Budget Resolutions – Mr. Keith Lawson

In an effort to close the books for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, Mr. Lawson presented budget amendments 07-06-30-09, 08-06-30-09, 09-06-30-09, and 10-06-30-09 to the Board for approval. Ms. Norman stated that she would like to ask questions of Mr. Jones during Closed Session before voting on these amendments. Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson opposed, with Mr. Armour stating he didn't feel it was a Closed Session issue.

C. Superintendent's Contract

Mr. Buff entered a Motion to accept the resignation and settlement agreement with Mr. Burleson and any mutual settlement of any and all claims. This Motion was Seconded by Mr. Hairfield. Mr. Wilkinson commented that there wasn't a better educator in Burke County than Mr. Burleson and that he was the best friend children in Burke County had ever had. He continued by stating that the loss suffered in Burke County today was a travesty and an irresponsible act. He concluded by stating that the legacy of David Burleson would be in Burke County for a long time to come. Mr. Armour shared many of the same feelings as Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. Armour stated that he had worked with two of the finest superintendents in North Carolina; Dr. Tony Stewart and Mr. David Burleson. He stated that one of the greatest things Dr. Stewart did while he was Superintendent was to appoint Mr. Burleson as his Associate Superintendent. Mr. Armour shared that it had been a privilege to serve with Mr. Burleson and that he knew Mr. Burleson would do well in whatever he did. At this time, the Motion passed by a 4-2 vote with Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson in opposition.

- D. Vacant Board Seat – Mrs. Karen Sain**
Due to the lack of adequate representation by the western district Mrs. Sain made a Motion to appoint Mr. John Aulgur to the vacant board seat. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Buff and passed by a 3-2-1 vote. Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson were in opposition; Mr. Hairfield abstained.

At this time, Mr. Buff made a Motion to amend the agenda as follows:

Open Session Addition:

- Add Superintendent Search as XIX. E. under Action/Discussion

Closed Session Addition and Deletion:

- Delete Litigation
- Add Acting Superintendent under XX. A

The Motion which was Seconded by Mrs. Sain passed by a 4-2 vote; Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson were opposed.

Action/Discussion Items

E. Superintendent Search

Mr. Swartz added that the superintendent search timeline needed to be extended now that the Superintendent's contract had been resolved. Mr. Swartz requested authorization by the Board for the following:

- To advertise an additional month through the AASA website (American Association of School Administrators) at a cost of \$448.00.
- Change the Superintendent timeline search with the following suggested changes:
 - August 10, 2009 – Application deadline.
 - August 17, 2009 – Information to be sent to the Board for their review.
 - August 24, 2009 – Initial meeting to choose interviewees.
 - September 1-4, 2009 – Meetings for initial interviews and to select finalists.
 - September 14-18, 2009 – Meetings for final interviews.
 - September 18-22, 2009 – Contract discussions to announce Superintendent by the September 23, 2009 Board meeting, with employment to begin as soon as possible after October 1, 2009.

Mr. Buff entered a Motion to accept the recommendations made by Mr. Swartz. The Motion received a Second by Mrs. Sain and passed 4-2 with Mr. Armour and Mr. Wilkinson opposed.

Closed Session

At approximately 2:54 p.m. upon a Motion by Mr. Buff and a Second by Mr. Hairfield the Board voted 4-2 to return to Closed Session in accordance to NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1) to discuss confidential matters under NC General Statute 115C 319-321. Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Armour were opposed.

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 4:10 p.m. Mr. John Aulgur who was appointed by the Board earlier in the meeting took his seat with the Board. Mr. Wilkinson was not present when the meeting reconvened to Open Session.

Approval of Personnel Reports

Mr. Hairfield made a Motion to approve the personnel report dated June 15, 2009 as presented with a Second by Mr. Buff. The Motion carried by a 6-0 vote; Mr. Wilkinson was absent.

Mr. Hairfield made a Motion to approve the personnel report dated June 30, 2009 as presented with a Second by Mrs. Sain. The Motion carried by a 6-0 vote; Mr. Wilkinson was absent.

The Motion was made by Mr. Buff and Seconded by Mr. Hairfield to approve Addendum A of personnel report dated June 30, 2009 as presented, pending contract negotiations. The Motion carried by a 6-0 vote; Mr. Wilkinson was absent.

Mr. Buff entered a Motion to appoint Mr. Rick Sherrill as Acting Superintendent at the state's maximum pay scale. Mr. Aulgur Seconded this Motion. The Motion passed by a 5-1 vote with Mr. Armour opposed; Mr. Wilkinson was absent.

Budget Revisions – Mr. Keith Lawson

Ms. Norman shared her concern of what appeared to her as approving the use of money after the money had already been spent. Mr. Lawson clarified that the approximate \$5,500,000 listed on the budget amendments were funds that had been appropriated to close out the year. He further reported that these funds had been identified by line item and budgeted to be spent but that this did not necessarily mean that every dollar reflected had been spent. Mr. Burdson reiterated what

Budget Amendment 07-06-30-09

The Motion was made by Mr. Hairfield to approve budget amendment 07-06-30-09 with a Second by Mr. Armour. The Motion was approved by a 3-2-1, with Mr. Buff and Ms. Norman opposed; Mrs. Sain abstained.

Budget Amendment 08-06-30-09

The Motion was made by Mr. Hairfield to approve budget amendment 08-06-30-09 with a Second by Mr. Armour. The Motion was approved by a 3-2-1, with Mr. Buff and Ms. Norman opposed; Mrs. Sain abstained.

Budget Amendment 09-06-30-09

The Motion was made by Mr. Hairfield to approve budget amendment 09-06-30-09 with a Second by Mr. Armour. The Motion was approved by a 3-2-1, with Mr. Buff and Ms. Norman opposed; Mrs. Sain abstained.

Budget Amendment 10-06-30-09

The Motion was made by Mr. Hairfield to approve budget amendment 10-06-30-09 with a Second by Mr. Armour. The Motion was approved by a 5-0-1, with Mrs. Sain abstaining.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m. following a Motion by Mr. Buff and a Second by Mr. Aulgur. The vote was 5-1 with Mr. Armour opposed; Mr. Wilkinson was absent.


Chaiman, Burke County School Board


Secretary, Burke County School Board

**BURKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MORGANTON, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Public Copy
Personnel Report
for
June 15, 2009**

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: RETIREMENTS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
1.	Hamm, Karen	WCRC/EBHS	Counselor

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
2.	Shade, Allan D.	East Burke HS	JROTC Teacher

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - TEMPORARY

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
3.	Helton, Lorraine	Liberty Middle	EC/Self –contained

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - PART-TIME/TEMPORARY

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
4.	Adkins, JK	Patton High	Instructional Coach
5.	Beck, Jennifer	Draughn High	Instructional Coach
6.	Bradley, Jane	Liberty Middle	Instructional Coach
7.	Duckworth, Gina	Johnson Middle	Instructional Coach
8.	Frizzell, Charmion	Central Office	Instructional Coach
9.	Icard, Carolyn	Heritage Middle	Instructional Coach
10.	Joines, Robin	East Burke Middle	Instructional Coach
11.	McNabb, Tammy	Table Rock Middle	Instructional Coach
12.	Sudderth, Vickie	Freedom High	Instructional Coach
13.	Williams, Charles	Central Office	Instructional Coach
14.	Wright, Denise	Central Office	Instructional Coach
15.	Zuschlag, Michele	Central Office	Instructional Coach
16.	Martin, Daphne	Patton High	Math Remediation

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL: RETIREMENTS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
17.	Crump, Joe	Maintenance	Director
18.	Moore, Millie	Freedom HS	3 rd Shift Custodian

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - FULL-TIME

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
19.	Stillwagon, Jasmine	WCRC	Interpreter

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - TEMPORARY/PART-TIME

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
20.	Hennessee, Chris	Table Rock Middle	Bus Driver

TRANSFERS:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED FROM</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED TO</u>
21.	Lorenzo, Deborah	Freedom High(EC Teacher)	Liberty Middle(EC Teacher)

TEMPORARY/TRANSFERS:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED FROM</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED TO</u>
22.	Amero, Lauren	Chesterfield Elem.	Oak Hill Elem.
23.	Beach, Seth	Drexel Primary	Ray Childers/George Hildebrand Forest Hill/Hallyburton/R. College Elem.
24.	Curtis, Kimberly	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
25.	Dale, Karen	Glen Alpine Elem.	W.A. Young Elem.
26.	Denton, Jane	Icard Elem.	Hildebran Elem.
27.	Brown, Traci	Icard Elem.	Hildebran Elem.
28.	Ellis, Crawford L.	Icard Elem.	Hildebran Elem.
29.	Fowler, Tracey	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
30.	Holder, Amanda	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
31.	Hurst, John	East Burke Middle	R. Childers/G. Hildebrand Elem.
32.	Johnson, Ben	Drexel Primary	Hallyburton Elem.
33.	Ledford, Tiffany	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
34.	Lowman, Michael	George Hildebrand Elem.	Hildebran Elem.
35.	Lytte, Gladys	Chesterfield Elem.	Forest Hill Elem.
36.	Patton, Karen	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
37.	Piercy, Brittany	Glen Alpine Elem.	W.A. Young Elem.
38.	Rankin, Anita	Glen Alpine Elem.	W.A. Young Elem.
39.	Snow, Jennifer	Mull Elem.	Salem Elem.
40.	Thompson, Lauren	Glen Alpine Elem.	W.A. Young Elem.

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CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: RESIGNATIONS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
1.	Carpenter, Dena	East Burke Middle	Music Teacher
2.	Davis, Kristin	Draughn HS	Math Teacher
3.	Howard, Caroline	Icard Elem.	4 th /5 th Grade Teacher
4.	Walker, Kenneth	Liberty Middle	Art Teacher

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - PART-TIME/TEMPORARY

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
5.	Amador, Rebekah	Chesterfield Elem	EC Teacher
6.	Arrowood, Paula	College St.	EC Teacher
7.	Barrier, Patti	Glen Alpine Elem.	EC Teacher
8.	Blanton, Coree	Ray Childers Elem.	EC Teacher
9.	Cavanagh, Millie	Salem Elem.	EC Teacher
10.	Crawford, Suzanne	Burke Middle	College Counselor
11.	Danford, Cathy	Mull Elem. (Home School Services)	EC Teacher
12.	Haithcock, Viviam	WCRC	Psychologist
13.	Kurzer, Jenny	College St.	Pre-K Transition Coord.
14.	Marriott, Margaret	Chesterfield Elem.	Title I/Reading Spec.
15.	Prince, Donna	College St.	Speech Therapist
16.	Rapp, Elizabeth	W.A. Young Elem.	EC Speech
17.	Schoeberle, Leesa	North Liberty	EC Speech
18.	Weider, Jennifer	Table Rock Middle	EC Teacher

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL: LEAVE OF ABSENCE

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
19.	Brickman, Becky	Mull Elem.	Pre-K Teacher Assist.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL: ELECTIONS - TEMPORARY/PART-TIME

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
20.	Dover, Sandy	Salem Elem.	HI Interpreter
21.	Faulkner, Deanna	Patton HS	Activity Bus Driver
22.	Golding Angela	Table Rock Middle	EC Teacher Assist.
23.	Peters, Lisa	W.A. Young Elem.	Sub Bus Driver
24.	Quinn, Monica	Hildebran Elem.	Data Manager
25.	Thibeault, Debbie	College St.	Medicaid Specialist

TRANSFERS:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED FROM</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED TO</u>
26.	Kite, Courtney	East Burke HS	Walter Johnson Middle
27.	Lehn, Alice	George Hildebrand Elem.	Walter Johnson Middle
28.	Watson, Britt	Burke Alternative-West	North Liberty School

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Addendum A

TRANSFERS:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED FROM</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED TO</u>
1.	San Miguel, Leicha	Hillcrest Elementary	Glen Alpine Elem.
2.	McFarlin, Shanda	Patton High	Hillcrest Elem.
3.	Tim Davis	Central Office	Patton High