

**Burke County Board Of Education**  
West Concord Resource Center – Olive Hill Room  
509 West Concord Street  
Morganton, NC 28655

**Wednesday, August 10, 2011**  
**2:30 P.M.**

**Agenda**  
**Special Called Meeting**

- I. **Call to Order – Mrs. Catherine Thomas, Chairman**
- II. **Agenda Review & Approval – Mrs. Catherine Thomas, Chairman**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States**
- IV. **Resolutions for Approval**
  - A. **Report on Student Transfers**
    - a. **Student Transfer Appeal Recommendations**
    - b. **Athletic Eligibility Appeal Recommendations**
- V. **Informational Items**
  - A. **Freedom German Program**
  - B. **Discussion on School Administrator Contracts Policy**
- VI. **Closed Session for Personnel Matters: I hereby move that the Burke County Board of Education go into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 subsection (a)(1) for purposes of conducting confidential personnel hearings and discussing other confidential personnel issues pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321 and 325, and subsection (a)(3) to receive information protected by the attorney client privilege.**
- VII. **Deliberations**
- VIII. **Action related to Closed Session/Motion to Return to Open Session**
- IX. **Action/Adjourn**

BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING  
Open Session Minutes  
AUGUST 10, 2011

The Burke County Board of Education met in open session on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, in the Olive Hill Room at the West Concord Resource Center, located at 509 West Concord Street, Morganton, North Carolina 28655.

The following members were present: Board Chair Catherine Thomas, Karen Sain (who joined the meeting in progress), Buddy Armour, Tim Buff (who joined the meeting in progress), Sam Wilkinson and Susan Stroup. Rob Hairfield was absent. However, Mr. Buff and Ms. Sain were not present for the General Business Items and joined the meeting beginning with the Employee Actions.

- I. Catherine Thomas called the meeting to order at approximately 2:30 p.m.

**General Business Items**

- II. Motion made by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States
- IV. Report on Student Transfers: Superintendent Art Stellar reported that the student transfer policy and procedures appeared to be working.

Student Transfer Appeal Recommendations

- a. Motion made by Buddy Armour and seconded by Susan Stroup that athletic eligibility automatically be granted on any student transfer appeals overturned by the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Sam Wilkinson to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #1. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Sam Wilkinson to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #2. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #3. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #4. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to accept the hearing officer's recommendation to approve the transfer for student #5. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #6. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Catherine Thomas to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #7. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Buddy Armour and seconded by Susan Stroup to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #8. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to reject the hearing officer's recommendation to deny the transfer for student #9. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Athletic Eligibility Appeal Recommendations

Motion by Sam Wilkinson and seconded by Buddy Armour to approve athletic appeal eligibility collectively for appeal #'s: 129, 229, 329, 429, 529, 13, 23, 33, 43, and 10. The motion passed unanimously.

#### V. Informational Items

a. Freedom German Program: Superintendent Art Stellar reported that the German program at Freedom High School would continue. He reported that a German and a French teacher who had been part of the reduction in force had agreed to split a position to maintain the French and German program at Freedom High School.

b. School Administrator Contracts: Motion by Susan Stroup and seconded by Buddy Armour to allow counsel to draft a policy on contracts over a certain dollar amount that would require board approval, leaving the dollar amount to be determined at a later time. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Employee Actions**

At approximately 2:50 p.m., a motion to go into closed session was made by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Susan Stroup pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 subsection (a)(1) for purposes of conducting a confidential personnel hearing pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321 and 325, and subsection (a)(3) to receive information protected by the attorney client privilege.

I. Following the conclusion of closed session at approximately 5:50 p.m. the Board returned to open session. Open Session Action / Personnel Termination:

a. Motion: I move that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding the reduction-in-force of employee Sharyn Brady and find that the grounds for the recommendation are true and substantiated by a

preponderance of the evidence. The Board Attorney shall draft the final written decision of this Board. The motion was made by Susan Stroup and seconded by Sam Wilkinson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to go back into closed session was made at 6:00 p.m. by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Susan Stroup pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 subsection (a)(1) for purposes of conducting a confidential personnel hearing pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321 and 325, and subsection (a)(3) to receive information protected by the attorney client privilege.

II. Following the conclusion of closed session at approximately 8:48 p.m. the Board returned to open session. Open Session Action / Personnel Termination:

- a. Motion: I move that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding the reduction-in-force of employee Monica Mastin and find that the grounds for the recommendation are true and substantiated by a preponderance of the evidence. The Board Attorney shall draft the final written decision of this Board. The motion was made by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Buddy Armour. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to go back into closed session was made at 9:05 p.m. by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Susan Stroup pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 subsection (a)(1) for purposes of conducting a confidential personnel hearing pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321 and 325, and subsection (a)(3) to receive information protected by the attorney client privilege.

III. Following the closed session, the Board returned to open session at approximately 1:05 a.m.

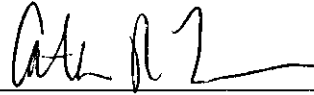
Motion made by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Susan Stroup to buy-out the Superintendent's contract per Paragraph 15 of the Agreement and to instruct the Board Attorney and Finance Officer to determine the amount to be paid and report back to the Board on August 15, 2011. The motion passed 4 to 2 with Tim Buff and Karen Sain voting against.

Motion to go back into closed session was made at 1:10 a.m. by Catherine Thomas and seconded by Susan Stroup pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 subsection (a)(5) for purposes of discussing personnel information and employment contracts pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321 and 325, and subsection (a)(3) to receive information protected by the attorney client privilege.

IV. Following the closed session, the Board returned to open session at approximately 1:15 a.m.

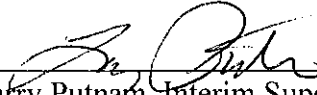
Board Chair Catherine Thomas announced that the Board had a short-list of individuals to serve as Interim Superintendent and an announcement would be made once one of the individuals accepted the position.

Motion to adjourn was made at 1:17 a.m. and unanimously approved.



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Catherine Thomas



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Larry Putnam, Interim Superintendent,  
Secretary

Minutes approved: October 3, 2011.