

The Orange County Board of Education met on the above date in its offices located at 200 East King Street, Hillsborough, NC with the following business taking place:

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ted Triebel with the following persons in attendance: Ted Triebel, Chair; Susan Hallman; Al Hartkopf; Dennis Whitling; Patrick Rhodes, Superintendent; Dr. George McFarley, Jr., Associate Superintendent for Support Services; Dr. Denise Morton, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Pat Harris, Finance Director; Dr. Greg Hicks, Certified Personnel Director; Mike Gilbert, Public Information Officer; approximately 29+ various staff, patrons and media. Members absent: Anne Medenblik, Debbie Piscitelli and Elizabeth Brown.

Public Charge / Moment of Silence – The Public Charge was read and a Moment of Silence was observed.

Recognitions – Public Information Officer Mike Gilbert recognized 8th grade A.L. Stanback Middle School student Casey Ward for her numerous accomplishments in the sport of golf. Orange County Finance Director and State Representative of the National Government Finance Officers Association Ken Chavious presented a certificate of achievement and a certificate of excellence in financial reporting to Pat Harris, Finance Director for Orange County Schools.

07-11-(2)-01 Agenda Adoption – Upon motion by Dennis Whitling, second by Al Hartkopf and unanimous approval, the agenda was adopted as presented.

07-11-(2)-02 Public Comments – Public comments were heard from the following individuals speaking on behalf of the Northern Orange Education Task Force in support of the Raising Achievement and Closing the Gap report:

1. Keith Cook
2. Lawrence Sanders, Sr.
3. Rev. Dr. Patti Thompson
4. Thea Whitted
5. E'Vonne Coleman-Cook – also requested additional information.

Chairman Triebel announced the Board of Education will hold a special work session on December 10, 2007 from 5-7 p.m. to continue discussion on the Raising Achievement and Closing the Gap task force report.

07-11-(2)-03 Minutes – Upon motion by Susan Hallman, second by Dennis Whitling and unanimous approval, the November 5, 2007 Board meeting minutes were approved.

07-11-(2)-04 Superintendent Comments – The following comments were heard:

1. Congratulations to Clara Daniels, Gary Thornburg, Steven Weber and Patricia Harris for becoming certified as Professional Learning Community trainers.
2. Partnership Academy Alternative School has received funding to construct an outside learning amphitheatre which will be built on Martin Luther King Day, 2008.

Consent Agenda – Upon motion by Dennis Whitling, second by Al Hartkopf and unanimous approval, the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

07-11-(2)-05 Personnel Approval CONSENT AGENDA – The following personnel recommendations were approved:

Licensed Recommendations

Piper, Sheila	Media Coordinator	HE
Scott, April	Title I Instructional Coach	System

Classified Recommendations

Lau, Lisa	Teacher Assistant	GAB
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The following licensed transfers were reported for information:

Romska, Elizabeth	From: Social Worker (NH)	To: Social Worker (PE)
Scully, Aviva	From: Social Worker (PE)	To: Social Worker (ALS)

07-11-(2)-06 Field Trip Request(s) CONSENT AGENDA – The following field trip request was approved: fifth grade students at Hillsborough Elementary to Washington, DC June 3-4, 2008.

07-11-(2)-07 Central / Hillsborough Elementary Task Force Report – Dr. Denise Morton, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented a preliminary report from the task force recognizing members of the task force who were present. The initial two meetings were devoted to questions, discussion and looking at data concluding with a brainstorming session. An analysis of the input was conducted to determine the top three brainstorming ideas. The consensus thoughts that emerged were { the idea of investigating Central Elementary as a magnet school and the application and selection procedure for Hillsborough Elementary to be revised. Merger of the two elementary schools is not supported by the task force.

Chairman Triebel indicated that since the two Board member representatives on the task force were not present at the Board meeting tonight due to family emergencies, the next discussion and action to be taken by the Board will be at the December 3, 2007 meeting.

07-11-(2)-08 Block Schedule Report - Steven Weber, Secondary Education Director, provided a summary report on the first year of the block schedule to include the following: data from the First Year Implementation in the Orange County Schools: Testing and Accountability Data on ABC's and AYP Measures; Graduation Rate; Attendance Rate; AP Enrollment; Honors Enrollment; Career and Technical Education Enrollment; VOCATS Data; World Languages Enrollment; Suspensions. Information presented also included: Why Do Schools Change to Block Scheduling, Advantages of the 4 X 4 Block Schedule, Traditional Schedule vs. Block Schedule; Future Opportunities and Considerations with the Block Schedule; Ongoing Issues with Block Scheduling.

Board member discussion included, but was not limited to: additional opportunities for core courses and electives the block schedule allows; additional funding needs; accessibility of advanced courses for minority students; resistance/lack of resistance to block scheduling; difficulty for students having to wait 3-4 months between completing a course and when tests are taken – use of tutoring and review sessions; restrictions due to the state calendar law; support for block scheduling by the high school principals and continued growing support by teachers; loss of instructional time due to early release for athletics – teacher availability before school for instructional review/make-up; block schedule effects on student suspension rates – use of Pyramid of Intervention.

07-11-(2)-09 District Technology Budget – Angie Veitch, Director of Media and Technology, reviewed unfunded CIP technology needs in order to move forward with the 2005-09 school system technology plan. Administration requested the Board consider approving budget needs totaling \$650,000 (\$300,000 from capital projects budget and \$350,000 from fund balance).

Board discussion included, but was not limited to: extended contracts and equipment warranties; server replacement schedule; server needs for system backup/storage; computer replacement needs; use of lottery funds for CIP projects freeing CIP monies for use in technology; immediate monetary needs for invoices now due; possible options for combination of funding sources.

Upon motion by Dennis Whitling, second by Susan Hallman and unanimous approval, the motion to delay the technology discussion and consideration for funding approval until December 3, 2007 was approved. Administration will bring additional detailed information back to the Board outlining technology needs and associated costs along with a list of CIP projects that could be delayed until later in the school year.

07-11-(2)-10 Support Services Policy Updates – 2nd Reading - Dr. Greg Hicks, Director of Certified Personnel, presented Support Services policies for second reading approval. Upon motion by Dennis Whitling, second by Susan Hallman and unanimous approval, policies 7100 through 7930 were approved on second reading.

07-11-(2)-11 Support Services Policy Updates – 1st Reading - Dr. George McFarley, Associate Superintendent for Support Services, presented the following policies for 1st reading approval:

7220 Employee Complaints and Grievances
7235 Sexual Harassment
7405 Extracurricular and Non-instructional Duties
7410 Career Status
7430 Professional Personnel Substitute Teachers
7431 Student Teaching and Internships
7530 Military Leave
7800 Professional Development and Assistance
7810 Evaluation of Licensed Employees
7811 Action Plan for Certified Employees
7820 Personnel Files

7900 Resignation
7901 Non Professional Personnel Resignation
7910 Retirement
9175 Complete Projects – Board Inspection and Acceptance
9200 Long Range Maintenance Program
9210 Buildings and Grounds Management
9215 Building and Grounds Security
9220 Building and Grounds Safety
9222 Playground Safety
9235 Building and Grounds Management Fire Prevention
9240 Building and Grounds Management: Traffic and Parking Controls
9250 Emergency Closings
9251 Emergency Closing of Schools – policy recommended for deletion.
9260 Emergency Drills
9261 Emergency Drill Procedures
9265 Warning Systems
No number – Respiratory Safety
No number – Employee Health and Safety
No number – Cleaning and Sanitation

Following discussion and suggested changes, upon motion by Al Hartkopf, second by Susan Hallman and unanimous approval, the above listed policies were approved for 1st reading.

07-11-(2)-12 Board Reports, Comments and Discussion – Reports were heard related to the following:

Susan Hallman – District Safe and Environmental Committee meeting; Orange High School Governance development of a Student Advisory Committee.

Board comments and discussion were heard related to:

Al Hartkopf – Hillsborough Elementary Outdoor Landscaping Day; Christmas Parade –December 1 at 2:00 p.m.

Ted Triebel–joint collaboration meeting discussion of preliminary budget calendar for Board of County Commissioners; December 3 Board meeting time change to 6:00 p.m.; Board member discussion of Board goals.

07-11-(2)-13 Closed Session – Upon motion by Al Hartkopf, second by Susan Hallman and unanimous approval, the Board moved into closed session at 9:54 p.m. to discuss personnel in accordance with N.C.G.S. 115C-321 and 143-318.11(a)(6).

The Board adjourned out of closed session at 10:33 p.m.

Upon motion by Ted Triebel, second by Susan Hallman and unanimous approval, the following personnel recommendation was unanimously approved:

Valerie Green Child Nutrition Director System

Adjournment – Upon motion by Al Hartkopf, second by Dennis Whitling and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

_____, Chair

_____, Secretary