

Fairfield City Board of Education
Special Called Meeting
August 3, 2009

MINUTES

The Fairfield City Board of Education met for a Special Called Meeting on Monday, August 3, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Central Office. Mr. Seth Goldman, Board chair, presided. Members present: Mr. George E. Turner, Ms. Ella M. Williams, and Secretary to the Board and Fairfield City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Anthony C. Greene. Mr. Donald B. Sweeney, Jr., Board attorney was also present. Members absent: Mrs. Marion O. Easley and Dr. Barbara A. Lloyd.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the August 3, 2009 Special Called Meeting. **Motion Passed.**

V. Purchases

On the motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of a Printronix P7205 printer for Business Services. (This printer is required to replace the current printer that will be obsolete when Business Services converts to NextGen accounting software in August 2009.) Amount: \$4,847.00. Fund Source: Local. **Motion Passed.**

Discussion:

Mr. Turner: Is this printer required for the accountant to send information to the state?

Dr. Greene: We will convert to a new software program next month and this printer is required to interface with the new program. The old printer will become obsolete when the new system is implemented.

VI. Executive Session

On the motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner, the Board voted by roll call to convene Executive Session at 10:37 a.m. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes), and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams the Board unanimously approved to reconvene its August 3, 2009 Special Called Meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Motion Passed.

VII. Personnel

Salary Schedule

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved the Technology Specialist Salary Schedule (242 days contract) by roll call. Williams (yes), Turner (yes) and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

Transfer of Unit

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved transfer of a Special Education unit from Donald Elementary School to a Special Education unit at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective August 3, 2009. The transfer of this unit is due to Special Education enrollment at the high school. Salary: State Matrix. Fund Source: IDEA. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes) and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

Discussion:

Mr. Turner: As far as the transfer is related to Donald Elementary School, do we know the number of students to be served in this area? Do we have any idea at this point?

Dr. Greene: That has been an open unit the whole year according to the Special Education Department. Their numbers are within acceptable limits for the two units remaining.

Mr. Turner: The individual that we are transferring from Donald Elementary to the high school does he or she have compatible credentials?

Dr. Greene: We are transferring a unit only.

Mr. Turner: No personnel?

Dr. Greene: Correct, the transfer is for the unit only.

Staff Member Loan to SDE

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved consideration of loan status to the SDE for Lisa Stewart, English/Language Arts teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School to serve as a member of the ARI regional staff for the 2009-2010 school year.

Discussion:

Atty. Sweeney: I have a legal concern for verification. In the letter from Dr. Morton asking that Mrs. Stewart assumes this responsibility as a regional Reading Specialist (ARI), it states that she will be on a twelve month contract with the Fairfield City Schools. Ms. Stewart is presently a nine month employee with the Board. The arrangement with the state is for the money that the state provides to flow through the Fairfield School System. But, we need to clarify in writing from both the state and from Mrs. Stewart that at the end of her year on loan to the state as an ARI specialist that she acknowledges and agrees that she will return to a nine month position; the position that she leaves as a teacher. My recommendation would be that you accept the superintendent's recommendation on the condition that Mrs. Stewart states in writing that when she finishes this year as an ARI regional specialist that she will resume her position as a nine month teacher with the Fairfield System. And further, that we get permission in writing from the SDE that is acceptable to them as well.

Following these recommendations from Atty. Sweeney Mr. Turner made a substitute motion that the attorney's recommendation, that we receive written agreements from Mrs. Stewart and the SDE that Mrs. Stewart will return to the school system not as a twelve month employee, but as a nine month employee; and carry both the substitute and the previous motions.

Atty: Sweeney: I think that is appropriate, but I think the superintendent must agree to the substitute motion.

Dr. Greene: I agree to the substitute motion as stated.

Mr. Turner: Is there any wording that we need to add to the motion.

Atty. Sweeney: I think probably the best practice would be for you to amend your recommendation to the Board that Mrs. Stewart be approved as a regional ARI Specialist on the conditions subsequent that she agrees in writing that at the end of this term that she comes back to the Fairfield School System. She will do so on a nine month teaching contract, the same contract that she leaves with and that the state department acknowledges that is an acceptable arrangement from the state department's point of view.

Dr. Greene: I amend my recommendation as noted by the attorney.

Mr. Turner: I withdraw my original motion.

Ms. Williams: I withdraw my original second on Mr. Turner's motion.

Mr. Goldman: The original motion and second have been withdrawn from consideration.

Dr. Greene recommended approval of loan of the listed individual, secondary English/Language Arts teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School, to the state department to serve on the regional ARI staff for 2009-2010 contingent upon written acknowledgement from the individual and the state department that the individual will return as a nine month contract employee.

Mr. Turner moved and Ms. Williams seconded the superintendent's recommendation. The **motion carried** on a roll call vote. Williams (yes), Turner (yes) and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. (*See Appendix A*)

Resignation

On the motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner the Board unanimously accepted the resignation of Tim Vakakes as Head Baseball Coach at Fairfield High School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. **Motion Passed.**

Maternity Leave

Consent Agenda

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved all requests for maternity leave by consensus. Roll call: Turner (yes), Williams (yes), and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

Granted maternity leave requests to the following:

1. Jacinta Jackson-Little, 4th grade teacher at Donald Elementary School, August 5, 2009 through August 28, 2009.
2. Tacie Bibbs-Williams, 3rd grade teacher at Robinson Elementary School, August 5, 2009 through September 11, 2009.
3. Tandra Clark, 5th grade teacher at Robinson Elementary School, September 14, 2009 through October 30, 2009.

Transfers

Consent Agenda

On the motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner, the Board approved all transfers by consensus. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes), and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

1. Approved the transfer of Jamal Finkley, Alabama High School Graduation Exam Coach at Fairfield High Preparatory School, to system-wide Attendance/Truancy Officer effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Contract Term: 184 days. Salary: Attendance/Truancy Officer Salary Schedule @ \$28,336.00.
2. Approved the transfer of Cedric Eatmon from Library Media Aide at Forest Hills Middle School to Special Education Paraprofessional at Forest Hills Middle

School effective beginning 2009-2010 school year. Salary: Paraprofessional Salary Schedule @ \$13,536.00. Fund Source: IDEA.

Employ

Consent Agenda

On the motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner, the Board approved employ items #1-14 by consensus. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes) and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. ***Motion Passed.***

1. Appointed Christopher Turk as a secondary mathematics teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$42,053.00 (pending verification of experience). 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
2. Appointed Chutney Forbes as a secondary science teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$36,144.00. 9 Months Teacher Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
3. Appointed Judith Gulley as Library Media Specialist at Forest Hills Middle School (.5) and Fairfield High Preparatory School (.5), effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$52,201.00 (pending verification of experience). 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
4. Appointed Amanda Brown as elementary music teacher effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$39,756.00 (pending verification of experience). 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
5. Appointed Morris Packer, III as system-wide Technology Specialist effective August 3, 2009. Salary: \$46,775.00 (pro-rated to start date). Technology Specialist Salary Schedule. Contract Term: 12 months.
6. Appointed William Dozier as a Paraprofessional at Fairfield High Preparatory School, effective beginning 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$13,536.00 (pending verification of experience). Paraprofessional Salary Matrix. Fund Source: IDEA.
7. Appointed Agnita McCaslin as a Paraprofessional at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$13,219.00. Paraprofessional Salary Schedule. Fund Source: IDEA.
8. Appointed Jerry Stephens as Fairfield City Schools Maintenance Worker effective August 4, 2009. Salary \$21,538.03. Maintenance Worker Salary Schedule. Contract Term: 12 months. Fund Source: Foundation.

9. Appointed Ronald Otey as Art teacher at Forest Hills Middle School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$51,012.00 (pending verification of experience). 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
10. Appointed Shepherd Townsend, III as Special Education teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$47,721.00. 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
11. Appointed Gerald Bowie as Special Education teacher at Fairfield High Preparatory School beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$41,564.00. 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
12. Appointed Beatrice Dickey as secondary mathematics teacher at Forest Hills Middle School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$36,144.00. 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
13. Appointed Talisa Erskine as secondary mathematics teacher at Forest Hills Middle School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$36,144.00. 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
14. Appointed James Vakakes as the Athletic Director at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective beginning the 2009-2010 school year. Salary: \$1,600. Supplemental Salary Schedule.

Regular Agenda

15. On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms Williams, the Board approved the appointment of Shun Williams as a two year probationary contract principal at Forest Hills Middle School effective August 3, 2009. Salary: \$73,139.00. Administrative Salary Schedule. Fund Source: Foundation. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes) and Goldman (yes). 3-0-0.
Motion Passed. (see Appendix B for revised agenda item and signed contract).
16. On the motion by Ms Williams, seconded by Mr. Turner, the Board approved the appointment of Sidney Brown, Ph.D., as a three-year probationary contract principal for Fairfield High Preparatory School effective August 3, 2009. Salary: \$94,000.00, Negotiated. Contract Term: Three years: Fund Source: Foundation. **Motion Passed.**

Discussion:

Atty: Sweeney: Mr. Goldman, with regard to the two contract principals, both of those contracts will be embodied in a formal contract. They are contract principals and that will be a contract that will be presented for the superintendent and for you to sign on behalf of the Board with the contract principal, too, so that the terms as you've just approved are specified .I think

the minutes should reflect that the contract will be memorialized in a written contract for the signature of the superintendent and the Board chairman.

Mr. Turner: In terms of the signing of those contracts with the Board having already taken a vote and designated the superintendent to employ.....

Atty: Sweeney: The contract will just memorialize what you've just done. The employment is not contingent on that; it will just memorialize the terms. What the contract does, it's a pretty standard contract, and it just tracks the statute.

Vacancies

Consent Agenda

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved all vacancies by consensus. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes), and Goldman (yes): 3-0-0. ***Motion Passed.***

Declared Vacant:

1. Secondary English/Language Arts position at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective August 3, 2009. Salary: 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: Foundation.
2. Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE) Coach position at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective August 3, 2009. Salary: 9 Months Teacher Salary Matrix. Fund Source: School Improvement Section 1003 (g) Grant.
3. Head Baseball Coach at Fairfield High Preparatory School effective August 3, 2009. Salary: Supplemental Salary Schedule. Fund Source: Local.

VIII. Board Inquiries and Comments

Ms. Williams: Good morning. I would like to thank everyone for thinking of me during my recent illness and hospitalization. I am progressing well; thank you again for your kindness and consideration. It is good to see all of you.

Mr. Turner: Good morning and thank you for your time to come to this Board meeting. It is our hope that as new employees are brought into the system that our uppermost desire and focus will be on improving our system. And having the system of Fairfield be the best that it can be. I hope that at Institute we can articulate how important it is for us to start the school year having the public to understand that the school system is in good hands and that when we will move forward to make whatever progress we can make this year and if possible, the following year. And those consequences of not doing that is that the public will hold us accountable for anything that's not done. I pray that our school system and the start of school will be one that we all can be proud of.

Mr. Goldman: Good morning and thank all of you for coming. We look forward to a great school year. Institute is Wednesday and we look forward to your presence there and a good beginning to this school year.

Mr. Goldman: Dr. Greene, can we schedule the walk thru of all schools?

Dr. Greene: Mr. Curry, what date did we schedule for the walk thru?

Mr. Curry: We need to know the date the Board members are available.

Dr. Greene: We will get with the members to select a date.

IX. Adjourn

On the motion by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved to adjourn the August 3, 2009 Special Called Meeting. Roll call: Williams (yes), Turner (yes), and Goldman (yes). 3-0-0. **Motion Passed.**