

MINUTES
THE ASHEVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING DECEMBER 13, 2012

The Asheville City Board of Education ("Board") held a special meeting at 7:30 a.m., on Thursday, December 13, 2012 in Training Room #203 of The Asheville City Schools Administrative Offices, 85 Mountain Street, Asheville, North Carolina.

Members present were:

Al Whitesides, Vice-Chairman, presiding
Gene Bell
Peggy Dalman
Jacquelyn Hallum

Member absent was:

Precious Folston

Comprising a quorum of the Board.

Allen H. Johnson, Secretary/Superintendent.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman, Al Whitesides called the special meeting to order at 7:39 a.m., after which, he then turned the meeting over to the architects.

OPENING REMARKS

Architect, John Legerton of Legerton Architectures informed the group that they were going to watch a three and a half minute movie showing the design of the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School. The movie will be used over the next three years as a promo for the new school. They were also made aware that Mr. Mallet and his publishing group have granted their permission for the song featured in the movie, "Garden Song" to be used in the movie.

Others that have seen the movie:

- The City of Asheville
- Isaac Dickson (staff, third grade classroom, PTO)
- The movie will be shown during the Dickson Party on December 20th

PRESENTATION

Mike Nicklas of Innovative Design walked the group through the design and the different aspects of the new school, detailing from the heating system to the furnishings in a presentation that was prepared in booklet format, reflective of all the prior meetings that were held with the Isaac Dickson staff, parents, administration and the Board and with their suggestions and recommendations.

Following the presentation, architect, John Legerton made his recommendation to the Board for the projected budget amount for the building of the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School. The Board deliberated over what was reviewed and discussed during the meeting and unanimously agreed based on the questions and answers, and the inputs received from the Isaac Elementary School's administration staff members also present at the meeting, and the movie promo, to approve the budget of \$18.9 million for the new Isaac Dickson Elementary School.

Mr. Nicklas shared that his brother who is a professor in Atlanta, GA would like to donate a 30 foot Hadrosaurus Dinosaur to the new school and the only cost to the district would be the installation.

Chairman Bell shared the following remarks concerning the new school for Isaac Dickson:

- It is important that the community supports what the district is doing and why
- The Board needs to know the square footage for the new school in comparison to other schools in the county, and
- why is the cost to the school more for less students

The Board briefly discussed pointers for their presentation approach when they meet with the Buncombe County Commissioners to request the funds for the two new schools.

Ms. Grady informed the Board that in order for the architects to proceed with the design and developmental phase of the project, an approval from the Board must be noted that they have approved the budget of \$18.9 million for the new Dickson Elementary School project.

Al Whitesides made a motion to approve the budget of \$18.9 million for the Isaac Dickson Elementary School project. The motion was seconded by Peggy Dalman and carried.

Superintendent Johnson reminded everyone that the next talking point would be the square footage cost.

Mr. Legerton assured the Board that he has met with the Department of Public Instruction concerning the plans and that he has received their approval.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:35 am., Peggy Dalman made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Sections 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (3) of the General Statutes of North Carolina to consult with legal counsel regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege; to receive advice from the attorney regarding the Haven lawsuit; and to discuss confidential student information. The motion was seconded by Al Whitesides and carried

At 9:55 a.m., the Board returned to open session.

OPEN SESSION

Superintendent Johnson shared with the Board an email he received concerning the opening of a charter high school in Asheville and the school would like to hear his views on the matter.

The Board was also made aware of the following scheduled meetings:

- County Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2013.
The time was not yet known.
- Meeting with Asheville Middle School teachers on Tuesday, January 8, 2013
at 4:00 pm.

Chief Finance Officer, Donna Watson reported back to the Board regarding the cost per square footage for the two new Buncombe County Intermediate schools.

Board Chairman, Gene Bell provided the other Board members and Superintendent Johnson with an update on both the parent and the student at Asheville High School who made remarks on their homelessness situation during the Good News portion of the regular Board Meeting that was held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:10 a.m., the special meeting was adjourned.

Gene Bell, Chairman

Allen H. Johnson, Secretary/Superintendent