

**Board of Education
Yadkin County Schools
Yadkinville, NC**

A regular meeting of the Yadkin County Board of Education was held on Monday, October 4, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board office.

Present: Chair Frank Brown, Rex Baity, Hazel Brown, Diane Hampton, Howard McKnight, Larry Vestal and Joe Dezern

Student Representatives: Emily Winslow, Stephen Walker, Paul Rogers

Administrative: Jim Benfield, Donald Hawks, Rickey Oakes, Gale Hill, Tracy Kimmer

Staff Members: Tammy Miller, Jon Holleman, Mary Sale, Leah Williams

Visitors: Tim Bullard (Yadkin Ripple), Ann Talton, Ric Marshal

#10-101
Closed Session: On motion by McKnight, seconded by Baity, the Board entered closed session at 5:30 p.m.

Yes: All members voted yes.

#10-102
Recess Closed Session: On motion by Baity seconded by McKnight, the Board recessed closed session to return to open session.

Yes: All members voted yes.

Pledge of Allegiance: Molly Gordon – 9th grade student at Yadkin Early College and Will McCraw, 6th grade student and Student Council President from Fall Creek Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: Frank Brown gave the invocation.

#10-103
Approval of Minutes: On motion by Hampton, seconded by H. Brown, the Board approved the August 30, 2010 meeting minutes of the Board of Education.

Yes: All members voted yes.

#10-104
Approval of Joint Meeting Minutes: On motion by Vestal, seconded by McKnight, the Board approved the August 30, 2010 meeting minutes of the Joint Commissioners Meeting.

Yes: All members voted yes.

#10-105
Consent Agenda:

On a motion by McKnight, seconded by H. Brown, the Board approved the consent agenda items listed below:

Yes: All members voted yes.

- Personnel – New Employees

Boonville Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Kala Allen
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – K - 6
Assignment – 2nd Grade Teacher
Experience – Pending
Salary – \$3,043.00/month
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

Candidates's Name – Shannon Steelman
College/Degree – N/A
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Temporary Custodian
Experience – Pending
Salary – \$12.00/hour
Salary Source – Maintenance
New Position – N – Mark McKnight on leave

East Bend Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Kristen Taylor
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – K - 6
Assignment – 5th Grade Teacher
Experience – 0 years
Salary – \$3,043.00/month
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

Fall Creek Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Stephanie Wilkins
College/Degree – N/A
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Child Nutrition Worker
Experience – Pending
Salary – \$10.59/hour
Salary Source – School Food Service
New Position – N – replacing Judy Adams (retired)

Forbush Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Kayla Sizemore
College/Degree – Bachelor's

Certification – K - 6
Assignment – 2nd Grade Teacher
Experience – 0 years
Salary – \$3,043/month
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

Forbush Middle School

Candidates's Name – Nancy Russell
College/Degree – N/A
Certification –
Assignment – Child Nutrition
Experience – 0 years
Salary – \$10.59/hour
Salary Source – School Food Service
New Position – N – replacing Carolyn Jester (retired)

Candidates's Name – Eileen Donovan
College/Degree – Bachelors/Masters
Certification – 9-12 English/6-9 Language Arts
Assignment – 7-8 Language Arts Teacher
Experience – 8 years
Salary – Pending
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

Candidates's Name – James Reavis
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Teacher Assistant
Experience – 0 years
Salary – Pending
Salary Source – Grant
New Position – Y

Forbush High School

Candidates's Name – James Randy Vestal
College/Degree – N/A
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Temporary Custodian
Experience – Pending
Salary – \$12.00/hour
Salary Source – Maintenance
New Position – N – Betty Shaver on leave

Jonesville Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Tonya Livengood
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – K - 6
Assignment – 1st Grade Teacher

Experience – 0 years
Salary –
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

Jonesville Elementary School and West Yadkin Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Janice Frye
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – AIG & Health/PE
Assignment – AIG Teacher
Experience – 0 years
Salary – \$3,043/month
Salary Source – State
New Position – N – replacing Dusti Davis

Starmount High School

Candidates's Name – Scott Blackburn
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – 9-12 English, 6-9 Language Arts, 6-9 Social Studies
Assignment – 9-12 English
Experience – 13 years
Salary – \$3,967/month
Salary Source – Federal
New Position – Y

West Yadkin Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Karen Worley
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Temporary Personal Care Assistant
Experience – Pending
Salary – Hourly
Salary Source – EC Funds
New Position – N – replacing Loretta Andrews

Yadkin County Schools (primarily FHS)

Candidates's Name – Eddie Venable
College/Degree – Masters
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Part-time Driver's Education Instructor
Experience – Pending
Salary – Hourly
Salary Source – Driver's Education
New Position – N/A

Yadkinville Elementary School

Candidates's Name – Wendy Hodge
College/Degree – N/A
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Teacher Assistant

Experience – Pending
Salary – \$1,913.00/month
Salary Source – State
New Position – N – replacing Arla Cutts

Central Office

Candidates's Name – Jane Wooten
College/Degree – Bachelor's
Certification – N/A
Assignment – EC Secretary
Experience – Pending
Salary – Pending Experience
Salary Source – Exceptional Children's Funds
New Position – N – replacing Geraldine Brannon (retiring)

Bus Garage

Candidates's Name – Kathy Wright
College/Degree – N/A
Certification – N/A
Assignment – Bus Monitor
Experience – Pending
Salary – \$10.59/hour
Salary Source – EC
New Position – N – replacing Matthew Wise

- Approval of Substitute Teachers

#10-106 On motion by Baity, seconded by Dezern, the Board approved the 2010-2011
Budget Resolution: Budget Resolution.

Yes: All members voted yes.

Information Items:

1. Administration has received the following resignations:
Kristin Edwards – Speech Pathologist at Forbush Elementary resigning effective August 6, 2010
Heather Wiles – Preschool Teacher Assistant at East Bend Elementary resigning effective September 17, 2010
Ann Talton – ESL Teacher/Data Manager resigning effective September 24, 2010
Beth Holcomb – EC Teacher at Yadkin Success Academy resigning effective September 7, 2010
Bonnie Cockerham – Child Nutrition at Boonville Elementary resigning effective November 21, 2010
Jennifer O'Brien – Teacher at Forbush High resigning effective August 18, 2010
Kim Holland – Teacher at Forbush High resigning effective August 18, 2010

Arla Cutts – Teacher Assistant at Yadkinville Elementary retiring effective October 1, 2010
Geraldine Brannon – EC Secretary at Central Office retiring effective November 1, 2010
Dexter Crater – Crisis Intervention at Yadkin Success Academy retiring effective December 31, 2010
Patti Ratledge – Teacher Assistant at Courtney Elementary retiring effective December 31, 2010
Robin Jones – Bus Driver at Forbush Middle/High resigning effective September 30, 2010
Loretta Andrews – Personal Care Assistant at West Yadkin resigning effective September 14, 2010

2. Administration has transferred the following employees:
 - Caitlynn Finney** from OOST Assistant Director at East Bend Elementary to OOST Director at Jonesville Elementary
 - Josh Loeser** from OOST Summer Group Leader at Yadkinville Elementary to OOST Group Leader at Fall Creek Elementary
 - Matthew Wise** from OOST Summer Group Leader at Fall Creek Elementary to OOST Assistant Director at East Bend Elementary
 - Charles Max Vestal** from Temporary Courier to Permanent Courier
3. Administration has granted the following leave of absences:
 - April Brown** – Teacher at Starmount Middle: Maternity Leave beginning January 23, 2011
 - Dena Jessup** – Teacher at West Yadkin Elementary: Maternity Leave beginning September 23, 2010
4. Donald Hawks presented to the Board our current Energy Management Program. He stated that savings have dropped due to the high cost of oil. Mr. Hawks feels we are doing well to keep the cost at 94 cents per square foot and maintenance will continue to work hard to save energy.
5. Donald Hawks presented to the Board a report on safety and employee accidents. He informed the Board that employee accidents grew last year and they are working hard to get the loss of work time down as well as the accident rate.
6. The Board reviewed the student releases.
7. The Board reviewed contracts/purchases.
8. The Board reviewed field trips.
9. The Board reviewed fundraiser requests.
10. Dr. Benfield informed the Board that as of September 28, 2010, we have 33 students currently in Yadkin County Schools who do not live in Yadkin County. He stated that

letters were mailed to students that we have not received an application form from and once those applications are returned, tuition bills will be sent for payment around November 1, 2010 and will be payable by January 25, 2011.

11. Dr. Benfield discussed with the Board the new law for reporting criminal acts on school property and that a meeting has been scheduled for October 12, 2010 with principals, and local law enforcement leaders to discuss expectations and ways/means to ensure full compliance with this amended law. Frank Brown stated he thought it would be a good idea to also invite Tom Horner, Yadkin County District Attorney, to this meeting.
12. Dr. Benfield discussed with the Board the dropout numbers for our high schools. Dr. Benfield shared with the board a number of things our high schools are doing to keep students from dropping out. Frank Brown indicated he felt we should do an exit survey with the students who drop out and that we should look at students who are at risk for dropping out after their freshman year. He also stated he had seen a report on NBC that a student drops out every eleven seconds. Dr. Benfield also reported to the Board that the initiatives we were currently doing in elementary schools would help decrease the dropout numbers. He stated we need to start working with students as early as possible to keep them in school. Paul Rogers stated that he felt we should also catch students in elementary school and that we need to change their mindset that they can graduate from high school and obtain jobs that pay more than minimum wage. Diane Hampton stated perhaps the high schools could host a career day that would give students an idea of the types of careers they could explore and how those related to the subjects they are required to take in high school. There was also discussion that the vocational training we offer is important and those classes needed to be strengthened for those students who don't see a four-college in their future.
13. Frank Brown discussed with the Board that he had seen an article concerning test scores and that to meet AYP this year around 70% of students would be required to meet AYP versus the 50% that were required this year. He feels that teachers need to realize what they are up against. Dr. Benfield stated that he feels we are in striking distance to attain these goals.
14. The Board reviewed the October Schedule of Activities.
15. Dr. Benfield reviewed with the Board the Race to the Top (RttT) money that we will receive. He stated it would be approximately \$600,000 and that he would present the plan at the November Board meeting. He also informed the Board that the plan has to be based on the goals set by the State. At this time, the State is pushing for local school systems to use "cloud" technology and we will need to improve our current infrastructure to be able to get onboard with this technology. He also discussed that the Yadkin Valley Regional Career Academy may get part of the RttT money and that our Board would need to decide if they wish to go forward with this project. Diane Hampton stated at the district meeting she saw a presentation on using iPods in schools and she thought we should have someone from Mt. Airy Schools to come do a presentation to our Board. The Board asked that the State goals be given to each member.

Board Comments

Emily Winslow stated she had a meeting with Dr. Nichols today during lunch to discuss what was going on at Forbush High School. She stated that one thing that has been a hindrance this year is the computers. She informed the Board that the computer system is very slow and it is hard for teachers to get on and get anything done. She stated that it takes twice as long to do something at school. Mr. Brown asked what we needed to do and Emily said to speed them up. Donald Hawks stated that he had talked with Yadkin Valley Telephone and they are working to help us with this situation. He also stated that we are having problems with power surges on the eastern part of the county. Frank asked Emily to report back in November about the computers.

Steven Walker stated he had also noticed the websites and browsers are slower to pull in information. He also informed the Board that he has heard no complaints from students and that everything is going great at Starmount High. He did state that he has heard from Coach Macemore that he would like to see the tennis courts fixed. Frank Brown stated that he had talked with Mr. Luffman and the cost would be approximately \$100,000 to put in the six courts. He also stated that Coach Macemore could possibly get some outside help with the funding, but with our current money situation it is simply hard to find the funds needed to repair the courts.

Paul Rogers stated he had seen no problems with computers at the Yadkin Early College. He stated that if we have technical difficulties Surry Community comes in and takes care of it. He also informed the Board that they have a laptop cart that goes around so if students need to get on computer at school this cart was available, especially if they do not have computers at home. He advised the Board that everything is going well and that his schedule has picked up with the addition of college classes. Frank Brown asked Paul how the new cafeteria was and Paul reported that the students liked having a place to eat that had room.

Hazel Brown stated she had a good trip to Las Vegas.

Howard McKnight stated that he had attended the district board meeting and learned a lot of useful information. He also thanked Ann Talton for her contribution and wished her good luck in her new job.

Rex Baity stated that last month Darrell Bryant talked with the Board about the television network through Yadkin Valley Telephone. He stated that he contacted David Nance and spoke to him about this. He asked that the Board give approval for David to come back in November to discuss this topic again. Frank Brown stated that if he can provide all schools with the service then we are in favor, but if he cannot provide to all schools then we are not in favor and that David Nance would need to address that issue before we can move forward. Rex Baity also informed the Board that he attended Northwood Church on Sunday for Public Official Day. He also thanked Ann Talton for her work in Yadkin County Schools and welcomed her back anytime.

Diane Hampton thanked Ann Talton for her service to Yadkin County Schools. She also stated that she had attended the district meeting and went to the iPod presentation and would like for Mt. Airy and Apple to come talk to us about this. She thinks this idea is very exciting and relatively inexpensive.

Larry Vestal informed the Board that Ric Marshall, candidate for the North Carolina Senate, was in the audience and turned the floor over to him.

Ric Marshall stated that the dropout rate has always been something he has thought about. He also discussed the vocational classes and felt these were good classes for those students who would not go on to college. He also stated that he thought it was great that we have student representatives on our Board. He wanted to assure the Board that when he gets to Raleigh and they are working on the budget that education will not be the first to go. He encouraged Yadkin County Schools to do everything they could to keep kids in school because it is not easy out in the world. He also stated he feels the Regional Career Academy is a great program. He informed the Board of his website www.ricmarshall.org.

Frank Brown also thanked the student representatives and Board members for what they do. He encouraged the student representatives to always feel free to speak what is on their minds and what is going on in their schools. He stated that the schools are for the students.

#10-107 On motion by Baity, seconded by Vestal, the Board adjourned the open session
Adjournment: meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Yes: All members voted yes.

Jim Benfield, Secretary

Motion to approve October 4, 2010 open session minutes:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Motion by: _____	_____	_____
	Baity	
	Brown, F.	_____
Second by: _____	_____	_____
	Brown, H.	
	Dezern	_____
	Hampton	_____
	McKnight	_____
	Vestal	_____