

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

THOMASVILLE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD BRIEFING

12:00 p.m. September 27, 2017
Huneycutt Administrative Building

Board Members Present: Kevan Callicutt, Keith Raulston, Andrea Walker, James Carmichael, Cheryl Jefferies

Board Attorney Present: Bradley S. Hunt

Also Present: Dr. Patrice Faison, Mrs. Ashton Clemmons, Dr. Cate Gentry, Mr Scott Powell, Dr. Barbara Armstrong, and Mrs. Johnnie Musgrave

Upon the Board Briefing being called to order, Dr. Faison reviewed with the proposed agenda for the October 3, 2017 meeting. Dr. Faison brought to the attention of the Board that the school system has recently received a public records request from the North Carolina Values Coalition requesting any and all communication and correspondence between the school system and several specified third parties as it relates to the “Welcoming Schools” curriculum or program, SHIFT, NC or any other curriculum or program whatsoever that seeks to instruct students in the school system about gender identity, transgender, gender fluidity, sexual orientation, homosexuality or any other sexual lifestyle other than heterosexuality. Dr. Gentry informed the Board of Education that her department is currently searching school system emails and database in order to determine if there is any correspondence or communication that may be responsive to the request. Mr. Hunt informed the Board of Education that the North Carolina School Board Association is aware of this request as it was sent to all school systems in the state and that the North Carolina School Board Association is attempting to contact the North Carolina Values Coalition in an effort to narrow the scope and breadth of said request.

Dr. Armstrong explained to the Board of Education the process associated with the qualified observer list that needs to be approved at the October 3, 2017 meeting and explain to the Board of Education how a teacher may request that an observation be conducted by an outside third party whose name may appear on the qualified observer list.

Mr. Scott Powell briefly discussed with the Board of Education the two proposed budget amendments that he will request approval of at the October 3, 2017 meeting.

Dr. Faison and Dr. Gentry explained to the Board of Education a proposed change to the 2017-2018 school calendar that would add a teacher workday at the end of the first quarter on November 1, 2017. At the request of Mr. James Carmichael the discussion and possible approval of such change to the 2017-2018 school year will be pulled from the consent agenda and will be discussed as a separate action item on October 3, 2017.

Dr. Cate Gentry highlighted the changes that will be suggested to the Board of Education concerning policies 3300 School Calendar and Time for Learning, 4130 Discretionary Admission and Policy 4135 Tuition for Discretionary Admissions.

Upon a motion by James Carmichael, seconded by Andrea Walker and approved 5-0, the Board of Education entered into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to preserve the attorney-client privilege and pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss personnel matters.

Kevan W. Callicutt
Board Chairman

Patrice Faison, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools