

MINUTES
EDGECOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING HELD IN EDGECOMBE COUNTY BOARD
February 12, 1996
7:00 P.M.

Board members present:

Lawrence Bradley
Charlie Cobb
Clifford Coles
Ann Kent
Joe Price
Evelyn Wilson
Glenn Warren

Others present:

Jonathan Blumberg, Board Attorney
David Bryant, Superintendent
Juanita Westry, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order -- The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Evelyn Wilson.

The Board pledged allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Minutes -- On motion by Clifford Coles, seconded by Ann Kent, and unanimously approved, the General Session and Closed Session minutes of the January 22, 1996, meeting of the Board, were approved with corrections on page 4 {4th line, "... Establishment Clause of the United States Constitution."} of the General Session Minutes as noted by Member Clifford Coles.

Items for Information -- Dr. Bryant referred to the Board Retreat which was held in December 1995, stating that Dr. Joyce Edwards, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, had captured the strategies as she foresaw the Board's desires to be for Edgecombe County Schools and had prepared a Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives, and Belief Statements from the information supplied by the Board during the retreat. The Board postponed making recommendations until this item could be discussed more thoroughly. A special meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 1996, at 12:00 noon.

Special Recognition -- The Board recognized Gold Key Students for achievements with certificates presented by Mrs. Evelyn Wilson and Dr. David Bryant, and mementos given by Mrs. Diane LeFiles, Director of Community Schools. Mrs. LeFiles recognized Boy Scout Troop 96 for attending the Board meeting as a part of earning Citizenship badges. Mrs. LeFiles presented a plaque to Superintendent David Bryant for being selected as one of two Superintendents in the nation honored out of 600 school systems for having exemplary status HOSTS Programs. Chairperson Evelyn Wilson offered congratulations to Mrs. LeFiles on behalf of the Board for her work on planning and preparing for Summit '96.

Session Break -- The Board recessed for a short break.

Public Comments -- Mr. Robert Webb informed the Board that two of his children had attended West Edgecombe School and were now being taught at home because of incidents which he stated had taken place at West Edgecombe School over the last 8 months. He stated that the Board should ask what has been done to solve problems instead of who is causing problems.

Mrs. Raine Webb stated she wanted to inform the Board why her children were taken out of public schools. She stated she did not feel the Board was interested in children, only in how schools are perceived. She stated she did not feel that justice was done on the appeal hearing that took place from June to August of 1995 involving her son. She stated she felt her son was punished for something he did not do.

Mrs. Katie Staton stated she was not pleased with the way the Board had handled a situation in which she requested documentation be provided in writing to parents on an athletic issue which she had discussed with the Board last Fall. She stated that the Board had assured her the documentation would be provided in writing and that the credibility of the Board had been damaged.

Additional Item for Information -- Ms. Gerrelene Walker, CPA and Auditor, presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Board. As the Board had been given this information to review prior to the meeting, Ms. Walker asked if there were items to be elaborated on. There were none.

Committee Reports -- The Board discussed policy proposals. On motion by Glenn Warren, seconded by Ann Kent, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the first (1st) reading of the Policy Draft on Promotion to High School, and revisions to Policies 5160.1, 6312, and 6731-R as presented by the Policy Committee.

On motion by Lawrence Bradley, seconded by Ann Kent, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the Calendar changes for 1995-96 due to inclement weather, as presented by Dr. David Bryant.

The Board discussed rescheduling of the April Board meeting due to schedule conflicts. The April meeting of the Board is scheduled for April 1, 1996, at 7:00 p.m.

The Board recommended that the title of the letter drafted to be sent to high school students be changed to: "NOTICE TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS ABOUT PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS AND SUMMER SCHOOL."

Other Items for Action -- On motion by Lawrence Bradley, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved, the Board approved budget amendments as prepared by Mrs. Ann Morris, Director of Finance, and presented by Dr. David Bryant.

Mrs. Susan Hughes, Director of Magnet School Programs, briefly discussed the proposed graduation requirements for the magnet program at North Edgecombe High School which would allow students to sign up for a cluster of classes (6 clusters proposed). The proposal is to provide a more focused school-to-work program. On motion by Ann Kent, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the proposal for graduation requirements at NEHS as presented by Mrs. Susan Hughes.

On motion by Ann Kent, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the contract for staff development by Jim Fitzpatrick, for an approximate amount of \$1600, as presented by Dr. David Bryant.

On motion by Clifford Coles, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the request for staff development funding for Fanette Entzminger, a teacher at Tarboro High School, for an amount up to \$1,300, as presented by Dr. David Bryant.

On motion by Lawrence Bradley, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved requests for field trips for: Carver School's Chorus to Kings Dominion on May 11, 1996; Pattillo School's fourth and fifth grades to Reidsville, NC on March 11 & 12, 1996; South Edgecombe's sixth grade AG class to Reidsville, NC on March 11 & 12, 1996; SouthWest Edgecombe's DECA group to Greensboro, NC from February 28 - March 2, 1996 and the Health Occupations students to Greensboro, NC from March 11-13, 1996; and West Edgecombe's fifth graders to Williamsburg, Virginia on February 28, 1996, as presented by Dr. David Bryant.

On motion by Ann Kent, seconded by Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved the addition of Track to the athletic program at North Edgecombe and the athletic supplements to track coaches (Carter Suggs \$1,512 and Claude Archer \$1,350) as presented by Dr. Bryant.

Closed Session -- A motion was made by Member Lawrence Bradley, under the North Carolina Open Meetings Law, Sections 143-318.11(a)(1) and (a)(6), to go into Closed Session to consider personnel matters and to prevent the disclosure of student records rendered confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g. The motion was seconded by Member Charlie Cobb, and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board returned to Open Session.

Open Session -- On motion by Lawrence Bradley, seconded by Ann Kent, and unanimously approved by the Board, the Board approved personnel recommendations, as presented by Mr. Jay Randall, Assistant Superintendent. (See attached list)

Items Brought By Board Members For Consideration -- There were none.

There being no further business, on motion by Lawrence Bradley, seconded by Ann Kent, and unanimously approved, the meeting of the Board was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. David Bryant, Superintendent

Minutes of the Edgecombe County Board of Education
February 12, 1996
Page 4

Approved by the Edgecombe
County Board of Education

By: _____
Evelyn Wilson, Chairperson

Date: _____