

BOARD BRIEFS



A Monthly Review of the Actions and Highlights of the Newton County Board of Education Meetings March 2008



District 1
Mr. Johnny Smith



District 2
Mr. Rickie Corley



District 1
Mrs. Cathy Dobbs



District 4
Mr. Almond Turner



District 5
Dr. C.C. Bates

March 11, 2008 Monthly Work Session

Board Approves Purchase of Student Agendas for 2008-2009: The school board approved Pride Enterprises in Blountstown, Florida as the low bidder for the annual contract for the design, printing, and delivery of student agendas. The bids ranged from Pride's bid of \$60,446.70 up to \$99,554.25. Bids were evaluated based on cost, quality of product, checks of past history of businesses, and adherence to specifications.

Executive Session: The school board approved the superintendent's personnel recommendations in Executive Session.

March 18, 2008 Monthly Meeting

The School Board recognized several students and employees for their recent achievements. These included:

Griffin RESA Literacy Days Competition Winners: The school board recognized several middle school students who brought home awards from the district poetry recitation, ready writing, and drama competitions at Griffin RESA. Award winners included: Kimberly Stiers, Cousins Middle, 1st Place, 6th Grade Poetry Recitation; Destiny McKnight, Veterans Memorial Middle, 1st Place, 8th Grade Poetry Recitation; Mary Lathem, Cousins, 2nd Place, 7th Grade Ready Writing; Kristin Adaway, Clements Middle, 3rd Place, 6th Grade Ready Writing; and Stephanie Lightsey, Clements Middle, 3rd Place, 8th Grade Ready Writing.

Also recognized were the members of the Veterans Memorial Middle School Drama Team, who brought home the 3rd Place award in the drama competition. They included: Ian Elliott, D'Lexus Harvey, Hayley Hinton, Drew Kendall, Kaylarose Lindsey, Amber Myles, Chelsea Pilgrim, and Caroline Sink.



BOARD BRIEFS



Eastside High School Wrestling Team: The school board recognized members of the Eastside High School Wrestling team for winning the 2008 AAAA Traditional State Championship. In addition to the team championship, there were 7 state placers on the team, including three runners-up, three fourth-place, and one sixth-place finisher. Members of the team include: Lincoln Temple; Dalton Temple; Patrick George; Dalton Bragg; Michael Green; Brandon Cole; Cody Durden; Jon Palmer, 6th-Place, State Championships; Karl Williams, 4th-Place, State Championships; David Bender, 4th-Place, State Championships; Ardest Carter, 4th Place State Championships; Jamarkus Griggs, Runner-Up, State Championships; Joel Stafford, Runner-Up, State Championships; and Trevor Bailey, Runner-Up, State Championships.



ServSafe Certified Food Management Certification: The school board recognized several members of the Newton County School Nutrition Program for passing the ServSafe training program. Participants were required to take 16 hours of classroom training and pass a 90-question test in order to be certified. The following Newton County SNP Managers and Assistant Managers-in-Training are now Certified Food Safety Managers: Teena Mooney, SNP Central Office; Tyra Aycox, Sharp; Octavia Brown, Veterans Memorial; Cynthia Maughon, Indian Creek; Melanie Crooms, Alcovy; Judy Skinner, Ficquett; Gail Lyle, Cousins; Wende Wigton, Heard-Mixon; Chanda Twilley, Palmer-Stone; Sherry Harty, Livingston; and Susie Padgett, Fairview.



Special Presentation: Dr. Kathy Reese, Director of High School Curriculum presented information on the state's new graduation rule that becomes effective for incoming freshmen in 2008.

Old Business: The school board approved several policy changes that had been on the table for review. The revised policies approved at the meeting included: Policy DIB-Financial Report; Policy GAD-Professional Development Opportunities; Policy IDD-Special Program-Special Instructional Assistance; Policy IDDD-Program for Gifted Students; Policy IEB-Organization for Instruction; Policy IED-Scheduling for Instruction; and Policy II-Testing Programs-Student Assessment. All policies may be viewed on the school system website at www.newtoncountyschools.org or by calling the Public Relations Department.

BOARD BRIEFS



Bid for Electrical Repair: The school board approved R&E Electric, Inc. from Covington, Georgia as the low bidder for the annual renewable contract for electrical contractor services. Bids were evaluated based on average hourly labor rates and cost of parts. The estimated value of the contract is \$100,000.

Furniture for South Salem Elementary: The school board authorized the purchase of furniture for South Salem Elementary School, including student chairs, desks, classroom and computer tables, office furniture, cafeteria tables, teacher desks and chairs, and media center furniture. The board also authorized the purchase of additional furniture as needed due to enrollment changes at other schools.

Certificate of Completion for Alcovy High School: The school board recommended the acceptance of the architect's certificate of completion for the construction of Alcovy High School.

FY 2008 Preliminary Mid-Term Adjustment: The board approved the FY 2008 Preliminary Mid-Term Adjustment and further authorized the superintendent to prioritize expenditures required through the summer and in preparation of the 08-09 school .

Proposed Policy Changes: The school board has placed three policies with proposed changes on the table for a 30-day review. These policies include: Policy IFBG-Use of Computers/Communication Resources; Policy IHE-Promotion/Retention; and Policy IHF-Graduation Requirements/Credentials. Proposed changes to the policies may be accessed through the [Community Feedback](#) quick link on the Newton County School System homepage.

Contractual Agreement with Soliant Health for Speech Services: The school board approved the agreement between the Newton County School System and Soliant Health for providing speech therapy services to students with disabilities in accordance with their Individual Education Programs (IEPs). The contract rates is \$58/hour. Soliant Health will assist in providing services until existing staff vacancies can be filled. Funding for this activity is from the FY08 Federal IDEA funds.

Procedures and Criteria for Modifying Attendance Lines for South Salem Elementary School: Dr. Whatley presented the school board with information regarding the procedures and criteria used for modifying attendance lines for the 2008-2009 school year to accommodate the addition of the new South Salem Elementary School. Public meetings are currently being held at the schools affected in the rezoning.

Executive Session: The school board approved the personnel items presented in Executive Session, including the hiring of Troy Davis as an assistant principal at Alcovy High School and the retirement of Ms. Mary Heard, assistant principal at Indian Creek Middle School.

For a complete listing of presentations and actions of the Newton County Board of Education, check the Board of Education [meeting minutes](#), which are posted on the Newton County School System website.