

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, January 14, 2016

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m.

The Cherokee County Board of Education called its regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2016 in the Historic Canton High School/School Board Auditorium, 111 Academy Street, Canton, Georgia. Present were: Interim Chairman Kyla Cromer; Vice-Chairman Patsy Jordan; Members Mike Chapman, John Harmon, Clark Menard, Kelly Poole and Robert Rechsteiner; Superintendent Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo; and, Attorney Tom Roach.

Call to Order

The call to order by Kyla Cromer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, led by Michael Gustafson, Student Delegate from Etowah HS.

Selection of 2016 School Board Vice-Chairman

Patsy Jordan was selected as 2016 School Board Vice-Chairman.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Kyla Cromer, seconded by Kelly Poole and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the Superintendent's recommended agenda (*7-0 vote*).

Minutes for Approval

On a motion by Clark Menard seconded by Mike Chapman and carried, the Board approved the minutes from the December 3, 2015 School Board Meeting and the December 18, 2015 Called School Board Meeting (*7-0 vote*).

Consent Agenda

Following identification of those agenda items, Board Members and members of the public indicated they would like considered separately, a motion was made by John Harmon, seconded by Mike Chapman and carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, for the remaining items - identified by asterisks (*7-0 vote*).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CCSD teacher Anita Geoghagen thanked Dr. Petruzielo for his outstanding service to the children and employees of the Cherokee County School District.

Cherokee County Educational Foundation Board Chair Billy Hasty and members of the CCEF Board announced a new professional development grant honoring Dr. Petruzielo. The “Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Leadership Award” in the amount of \$1,500 will be awarded annually by CCEF to the most outstanding graduate of the Superintendent’s Leadership Academy for teacher-leaders. The winner will be selected by his/her peers in the Academy class. The award will enable the winner to participate in additional professional development opportunities of his/her choice (as approved by the CCSD Office of Professional Development, which will receive the grant check).

A. RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

A-1. Recognize Cherokee County School District for Annual AP District Honor Roll Recognition

(Recognized)

A-2. Recognize Teasley MS as a Georgia 2015 Reward School

(Recognized)

A-3. Recognize Johnston ES as Platinum-Level Fit Friendly School

(Recognized)

A-4. Recognize Amy Aenchbacher as Recipient of 2015 BlazeSports Triumph of the Human Spirit Award

(Recognized)

A-5. Recognize 2015-16 Reinhardt University/CCSD Mathematics Tournament Winners

(Recognized)

A-6. Recognize State and Region Champions

(Recognized)

B. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS/STUDENT ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

B-1. Board Adoption of Georgia Education Coalition (GEC) 2016 Legislative Priorities

(Approved)

Motion was made by Mike Chapman, seconded by Patsy Jordan and carried to Adoption of Georgia Education Coalition (GEC) 2016 Legislative Priorities *(7-0 vote)*.

Mr. Chapman thanked Dr. Petruzielo for founding the GEC, which is comprised of all of urban school districts in the State of Georgia, and for his unprecedented leadership in GEC meetings with Board Chairs and Superintendent's from all participating school districts.

B-2. Board Recognition of Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo, Superintendent of Schools

B-3. Board Approval of Resolution Honoring Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo and Naming of New Educational Services Facility

(Approved)

Motion was made by Mike Chapman, seconded by Kelly Poole and carried to Approve a Resolution Honoring Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo and Naming of New Educational Services Facility *(7-0 vote)*.

**Resolution of the Cherokee County
Board of Education Honoring Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo**

WHEREAS, Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo (“Dr. P”), has announced his retirement as Superintendent of Schools for Cherokee County, Georgia after 17 years of providing exceptional leadership to our School District during difficult times of unprecedented student growth and state budget shortfalls, and;

WHEREAS, Dr. P has devoted 50 years to public education serving as the Superintendent for the Houston Independent School District in Texas and the Broward County School District in Florida; Associate Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in Dade County, Florida together with various teaching and administrative assignments beginning as a high school English teacher in Dade County, Florida, and;

WHEREAS, Dr. P shepherded the School District from a period of probation imposed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a result of matters occurring prior to Dr. P’s appointment to an era of educational renaissance marked by student performance achievements in excess of state and national averages, and;

WHEREAS, Dr. P has successfully addressed the approximate ninety percent increase in student population over the past 17 years by aggressively pursuing a long needed strategic plan of conservative financing that enabled the School District to build 19 new or replacement schools in addition to six schools additions, and;

WHEREAS, despite unwarranted reduction in state contributions to local public education, Dr. P has tenaciously advanced student achievement and educational rigor as exhibited by the recent *Washington Post* article naming all six of the School District’s traditional high schools among “America’s Most Challenging High Schools”, and;

WHEREAS, the School Board has recently approved the construction of a new administrative support facility on the Bluffs Parkway in Canton, that will replace the prior administrative office of the District that was located in the Historic Canton Cotton Mill Office in downtown Canton, Georgia and;

WHEREAS, School Board Policy FDC provides guidelines for the naming of board owned facilities including a guideline that suggests board owned facilities should not be named after living individuals, and;

WHEREAS, School Board Policy BDH provides among other things that School Board Policy may be suspended upon the majority vote of the School Board, and;

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that a suspension of School Board Policy FDC is warranted by Dr. P’s exemplary record of educational service.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED as a result of the unanimous vote of the Cherokee County School Board in recognition of Dr. P’s five decades of academic achievement, educational innovation and dedication to excellence in education including 17 years of service, leadership and educational success in Cherokee County the School Board does hereby resolve, approve and declare that the new educational support facility be hereafter named and referred to as the *Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility*.

So resolved and approved on the 14th day of January, 2016

Seal



Kyla Cromer, Chairperson
Cherokee County School Board

C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

***D-1. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of November 2016 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

(Approved)

E. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, STUDENT SUPPORT AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

E-1. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of 2015-16 School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

(Approved)

Motion was made by Patsy Jordan, seconded by John Harmon and carried to Approve 2015-16 School Improvement Plans (SIPs) (7-0 vote).

***E-2. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel**

(Approved)

***E-3. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips**

(Approved)

F. SUPPORT SERVICES AND FACILITIES/CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

***F-1. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Update on Capital Outlay Projects**

(Approved)

G. PERSONNEL

***G-1. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel and Reappointments for Certified and Classified Personnel**

(Approved)

H. SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY

- *H-1. Approval of Three-Year Employment Contract for Dr. Brian V. Hightower to Serve as Superintendent of Schools from February 1, 2016 through January 31, 2019**

(Approved)

H-2. School Board Discussion of Training Schedule

Tom Roach, with agreement of School Board Members, indicated that a Whole Board/Superintendent Training Retreat would be scheduled soon and that the March 24, 2016 Board Member Training would occur as scheduled.

I. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- *I-1. Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Proposed Annual Update of Cherokee County School District Five-Year Strategic Plan**

(Approved)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kyla Cromer to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

School Board Chair

Secretary