

WORK SESSION & MEETING
OF THE
DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 7, 2011

The DeKalb County Board of Education held its work session & meeting on Monday, March 7, 2011 in the J. David Williamson Board Room at the DeKalb County School System's Administrative and Instructional Complex, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain.

INSPIRATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Thomas Bowen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:08pm, and called on Mr. Ryan Lemoine, Student Advisor from Miller Grove High School to present the Inspiration.

Present at the meeting were Mr. Thomas Bowen, Chair, Mr. H. Paul Womack, Vice Chair, Ms. Sarah Copelin-Wood, Mr. Jesse 'Jay' Cunningham, Ms. Donna G. Edler, Ms. Nancy T. Jester, Mr. Donald E. 'Don' McChesney, Dr. Pamela A. Speaks, Dr. Eugene P. 'Gene' Walker and Ms. Ramona H. Tyson, Interim Superintendent.

Also present were: Ms. Janet Kennedy, DeKalb Forum Council Steering Committee Representative, Mr. Terrell Short, DeKalb Auxiliary Employees Forum Representative, Ms. Marcia Coward, DeKalb County PTA Council Representative, Student Advisors Mr. Quenterious B. Tolen and Mr. Ryan Lemoine.

RECOGNITIONS

Exceptional Children's Week Proclamation

Dr. Pamela Speaks, Board Representative, District #8, presented the Exceptional Children's Week Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Exceptional children may be identified as: intellectually disabled, hard of hearing, deaf, orthopedically impaired, speech impaired, visually impaired, severely emotionally and behaviorally disordered, or children with specific learning disabilities who, by reason thereof, require special education and related services, and

WHEREAS, Being consistent with democratic ideals, it is essential that all children, regardless of their differences, receive equal opportunities to education, and

WHEREAS, Exceptional children possess the same need to feel accepted and worthwhile as other individuals, and

WHEREAS, Many DeKalb County students and community residents may not be aware of the needs and true potential of exceptional individuals, and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the DeKalb County School System to provide all students the opportunity to lead meaningful and productive lives, and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County can be proud of its exemplary leadership and endless dedication to exceptional children, and

WHEREAS, The Council for Exceptional Children, a professional organization which promotes the advancement and education of all exceptional persons, has helped and will continue to help make advancements in the field of special education;

THEREFORE, The DeKalb County Board of Education does hereby proclaim March 7 – March 11, 2011, as Exceptional Children's Week.

Youth Art Month Proclamation

Ms. Nancy T. Jester, Board Representative, District #1, presented the Youth Art Month Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Art education and the study of art is basic to the complete education and contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary, middle and high school students; and

WHEREAS, Art Education develops students' creative problem-solving and critical thinking abilities; and

WHEREAS, Art Education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects, interrelates student learning in art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics, gives students deeper understanding of multi-cultural values and beliefs; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of Georgia have indicated a desire to join with the National Art Education Association and the Georgia Art Education Association in supporting the youth of our community in their artistic development; and

WHEREAS, The DeKalb County Board of Education is concerned with maintaining and improving school Visual Art programs for all students regardless of their socio-economic status or their abilities; and

WHEREAS, The DeKalb County Board of Education believes art education is a basic part of our educational system and holds the art programs in our schools to be an essential and viable academic endeavor.

BY THIS ACTION Let it be known that the DeKalb County Board of Education recognizes and commends the DCSS Visual Art Specialists for their concern for and efforts to enhance the quality of art education in DeKalb County Schools

THEREFORE, The DeKalb County Board of Education hereby proclaims the month of March 2011, Youth Art Month and endorses the Annual DCSS Student /Faculty Art exhibit which opens Friday, March 25th, 2011 at Art Station in Stone Mountain, as an opportunity to support the purposes and practices of art education as well as encourage the participation and support of teachers, students, and citizens. It is so proclaimed and in official recognition whereof, we hereby affix our signatures, this 7th day of March 2011.

Music In Our Schools Month Proclamation

Ms. Sarah Copelin-Wood, Board Representative, District #3, presented the Music In Our Schools Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The study of music is basic to the complete education, provides a competitive edge for successful educational reform, engages students in individual and group activity, develops creativity, problem-solving, and critical and evaluative skills; and

WHEREAS, Music education helps students acquire skills in production and performance of music, as well as an understanding of history and culture; and

WHEREAS, The DeKalb County Board of Education is concerned with maintaining and improving school music programs for all students regardless of their socio-economic status or their abilities;

BY THIS ACTION Let it be known that the DeKalb County Board of Education recognizes and commends the DCSS Music Specialists for their concern for and efforts to enhance the quality of music education in DeKalb County Schools;

THEREFORE, The DeKalb County Board of Education hereby proclaims the month of

March 2011, Music in Our Schools Month as an opportunity to support the purposes and practices of music education as well as encourage the participation and support of teachers, students, and citizens. It is so proclaimed and in official recognition whereof, we hereby affix our signatures, this 7th day of March, 2011.

Social Work Month Proclamation

Mr. Donald E. 'Don' McChesney, Board Representative, District #2, presented the Social Work Month Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Social workers are dedicated to the successful functioning of American society—inspiring community action that improves life for all people, and

WHEREAS, Social workers have the right education and experience to guide individuals, families, and communities through complex issues and choices, and

WHEREAS, Social workers stand up for others to make sure everyone has access to the same basic rights, protections, and opportunities—having been the driving force behind important social movements in the United States, and

WHEREAS, Social workers have been the driving force behind important social movements in the United States—helping to resolve systemic issues that negatively affect community life and believe there are no limits to human potential, and

WHEREAS, Social workers work through private practices, agencies and organizations, hospitals, the military, government, and educational institutions to provide resources and guidance that support social functioning, and

WHEREAS, Social workers make a wide range of social contributions throughout their careers and social work is a career filled with purpose and possibilities, and

WHEREAS, Social workers are on the frontlines, responding to such human needs as homelessness, poverty, family crises, mental illness, physical and mental disability, substance abuse, domestic violence and many other issues;

THEREFORE, In recognition of professional social workers and their commitment and dedication to individuals, families, and communities everywhere through service delivery, research, education, and advocacy, the DeKalb Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of March 2011 as Professional Social Work Month and calls upon all citizens to join with the National Association of Social Workers and DeKalb County School System in celebration and support of social workers and the social work profession.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Referring to the agenda, Mr. Bowen noted that the agenda would be amended to allow an action item ~ Agreement Between the DeKalb County School District and the DeKalb County Board of Health to be presented before citizens comments, and called for a motion for the adoption of the amended agenda.

On a motion by Dr. Walker, seconded by Ms. Jester, and with a unanimous vote, the Board voted to adjust the agenda to allow the presentation of Agenda Item I-1 ~ Agreement Between the DeKalb County School District and the DeKalb County Board of Health before hearing citizen comments.

Mr. Bowen recognized Dr. Sandra Ford from the DeKalb Board of Health.

Dr. Speaks requested that agenda item H-4 ~ Board Policy concerning Gifts, Descriptive Code GAJ and H-5 ~ Board Policy also concerning Gifts, Descriptive Code KHD be pulled from the agenda.

On a motion by Mr. McChesney, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, and with a unanimous vote H-

4 and H-5 were pulled from the agenda.

Mr. Bowen called for a motion to add an action item ~ Approval of Legal Representation to the agenda. On a motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Womack, and with a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

On a motion by Mr. Womack, seconded by Mr. McChesney and with a unanimous vote the agenda for the March 7, 2011 work session & meeting was adopted.

Agreement Between the DeKalb County School District and the DeKalb County Board of Health

Mr. Robert Moseley, Deputy Chief Superintendent, recommended that the Board of Education accept contract number 11-860-Co125-00 with the DeKalb County Board of Health for professional services as part of the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Tobacco Grant.

On a motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Womack, and with a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Approval of Legal Representation

Mr. Thomas E. Bowen, Chair, stated that in the lawsuit of Heery International, Inc., et.al v. DeKalb County School District, Civil Action File No. 1:10-cv-03835-RWS, now pending in State Court, it is recommended that the Board of Education hire Attorneys Aeisha Rodney and Chandra Brock of CA Brock and Associates to represent Patricia Reid in the matter of DeKalb County School District vs Heery Mitchell International, in a hourly rate of \$175 for associates and \$250 for partners pursuant to Board Policy EGD, in the maximum amount to be expended is \$100,000.

On a motion by Dr. Walker seconded by Ms. Copelin-Wood, and with a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

The guidelines for individuals addressing the Board were reviewed by Mr. Bowen. Comments were heard from the following twenty (20) individuals: Loreen Booker Brown, Connie Boone, John Reteneller, Marissa Monty, Suzi Wilkie, David Tulis, Michelle Olsen, Linda Carthan, Leisha Fleming, Julius Brown, Andy Faraca, Thomas Hogan, Khalid Muhammad Ali Farrakhan, Lisa Morgan, Kathryn Wilson, Caroline Lord, Sandy Purkett, Jeff Jackson, Cecil Harmon, Jr. and Terra Powell.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2011 School Redistricting & Consolidation Recommendation

Ms. Tyson presented an update regarding the implementation of the recently approved 2011 School Redistricting & Consolidation initiative. She began by thanking members of the Board for allowing her and staff an opportunity to lead the Redistricting & Consolidation initiative. She also thanked the parents and community for their input and interaction over the past 5 months. Ms. Tyson also thanked Drs. Bill Carnes and Ed Humble of MGT America and the administrative team for the many countless hours of work and meetings to get to the culminating point.

Ms. Tyson recommended that the Board of Education accept the proposed decommissioning of Atherton Elementary School, Glen Haven Elementary School, Gresham Park Elementary School, Medlock Elementary School, Peachcrest Elementary School and Sky Haven Elementary School, formally request the removal of such schools from the State inventory, and discontinue the use of these schools in June 2011. Additionally, it is recommended that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to place Avondale Middle School and Avondale High School in inactive and discontinue the use of these two schools in June 2011. In approving the decommissioning of schools, the Board designates new attendance areas for all schools shown on the two proposed attendance area maps.

Mr. McChensey offered the following statement:

In making this motion, I would like to acknowledge the Superintendent and her staff. They accepted the challenge of school redistricting and consolidation and applied a steady, engaging and professional approach. The community's participation through the charrettes, workshops and public hearings was compelling and thoughtful. We respectfully ask that the community understand that this redistricting process, while a bold step, is the first of many changes to come. We acknowledge that there will be further redistricting and more consolidation as we move towards our Vision 2020 goals.

This amendment retains most of the Superintendent's recommendation, yet it reduces the impact on the number of students by over 25% and retains 100% of the cost savings.

Based on community feedback and in collaboration with the Board members, I offer the following motion:

I wish to support the Superintendent's Recommendation with the following modifications:

1. Maintain the current Flat Rock and Bouie Elementary Schools and their feeder pattern as they exist, while we seek a less disruptive transportation solution.
2. Assign the "Austin 28", as represented on the February 7th Superintendent's recommendation map for elementary schools, to Austin Elementary School.
3. Assign the area, bounded by Womack Road to the south Vermack road to the East, Chamblee Dunwoody Road to the west and Mt. Vernon Road to the north, to Vanderlyn Elementary School.
4. Assign the Camden Apartments to Chesnut Elementary School.
5. Assign the following streets to Sagamore Elementary School, Henderson Middle School, and Lakeside High School (Sagamore 8): Bruce Road, Summit Glen Lane, Brockton Glen, Mt. Royal Dr., Oak Lane, Timothy Drive.
6. Assign the "Laurel Ridge 70", as represented on the February 7th Superintendent's recommendation map for elementary schools, to Laurel Ridge Elementary School; assign the students that are currently in the Medlock Elementary School attendance area, south of North Decatur Road and west of Wynn Way, to Laurel Ridge Elementary School.
7. The portion north of Memorial Drive within the area labeled "72: Avondale MS to Bethune MS 89: Avondale HS to Towers HS" on the February 7th Superintendent's Recommendation Middle and High Schools map shall be assigned to Avondale Elementary, Druid Hills Middle and Druid Hills High Schools.
8. Assign the "Livsey 54", as represented on the February 7th Superintendent's recommendation map for elementary school, to Livsey Elementary School rather than move them to Midvale Elementary School, as represented on the February 7th Superintendent's recommendation map for elementary school.

Ms. Edler offered an amendment to the Mr. McChesney's amended motion, to add Glen Haven Elementary School to the list of schools to remain open. Ms. Copelin-Wood seconded the motion, and with a vote of 3\5, with Ms. Copelin-Wood, Ms. Edler and Mr. Cunningham voting yes, and Dr. Speaks, Mr. Womack, Mr. Bowen, Dr. Walker, Mr. McChesney and Ms. Jester voting no, the motion failed.

Ms. Copelin-Wood requested to amend the motion to keep Avondale Middle and Avondale High Schools opened. The motion was seconded by Ms. Edler, and with a vote of 2\7, with Ms. Copelin-Wood and Ms. Edler voting yes, and Dr. Speaks, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Womack, Mr. Bowen, Dr. Walker, Mr. McChesney and Ms. Jester voting no, the motion failed.

Ms. Copelin-Wood requested that Sky Haven and Gresham Park Elementary Schools remain open. There was no second.

Mr. Cunningham offered a friendly amendment to Ms. Copelin-Wood's recommendation and asked that only Gresham Park Elementary School remain open. Dr. Walker seconded the motion, and with a vote of 3\6, with Ms. Copelin-Wood, Mr. Cunningham and Dr. Walker voting yes, and Dr. Speaks, Ms. Edler, Mr. Womack, Mr. Bowen, Mr. McChesney and Ms. Jester voting no, the motion failed.

Ms. Edler inquired about annexes and if annexes would remain intact in their current locations. A brief discussion ensued. Dr. Walker expressed concern about this discussion as it was not

germane to redistricting and consolidation.

Ms. Edler requested that Peachcrest Elementary School remain open. The motion failed lacking a second.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Bowen called for a seconded to Mr. McChesney's amended motion. The motion was made by Mr. Womack, and with a vote of 7\2, with Dr. Speaks, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Womack, Mr. Bowen, Dr. Walker, Mr. McChesney and Ms. Jester voting yes and Ms. Copelin-Wood and Ms. Edler voting no, the motion passed.

Ms. Tyson thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to lead the redistricting and consolidation initiative. She also thanked Dr. Bill Carnes and Dr. Ed Humble of MGT of America and the administrative team for their countless number of hours of work and meetings to complete this task. Ms. Tyson reiterated her commitment to proceed with the Board's direction with establishing an Implementation Team to ensure that equitable instructional offerings, textbooks, school nutrition, transportation, athletics, Title I, finance, human resources will follow the students. She also noted that work will commence with local governments, community organizations and Charter Schools to provide a re-purpose plant to ensure that no empty buildings are left in the communities. She stated that the implementation will be completed in an open and transparent manner with continuous communication to affected parents, communities, teachers, staff and students.

Ms. Edler requested a point of personal privilege to read the following statement forwarded to her by the DeKalb Chapter of the NAACP:

As a staunch supporter of public education and an advocate for neighborhood schools, the DeKalb County Branch of the NAACP wishes that no public school in DeKalb would have to be closed. The Branch recognizes, however, that changes in population patterns and economic realities may warrant some redistricting and some consolidation of the DeKalb schools. It is the determination by the DeKalb County NAACP, however, that the school board has not presented evidence to support the proposition that such financial crisis exists to warrant the wholesale closing of schools at this time.

If the proposed school closings are done as a preemptive move, the DeKalb NAACP finds this unacceptable and urges the Board's reconsideration. If the proposed closings are intended as a cost-saving procedure, the NAACP contends that extensive studies of school closings in other school districts do not support the position that closing schools result in appreciable cost savings.

If the proposed closings are intended to address the purported decrease in enrollment in the targeted schools, the NAACP urges the school board to look at this as an asset in stead of a liability. Numerous studies have confirmed that students are taught more easily when they are in a small class. Small classes can be more beneficial to students from low-economic communities; and the targeted schools are primarily located in low-middle and low-income areas of DeKalb. The NAACP strongly urges the school board to seize this opportunity to provide these students with a quality, intensive and individualized education, of which they would be deprived by being bussed to a larger class setting.

The targeted schools are also located in communities in which the residents tend not to be very vocal or have a history of intense involvement with the school board. It is the NAACP's hope that the school board's decisions are not based on its insensitivity to these residents.

If, however, any redistricting and school closings are done, it is the position of the DeKalb NAACP that the process is done in a fair and objective manner adhering to established criteria. The NAACP desires that the redistricting and consolidating decisions include such criteria as operational efficiency, documented cost savings, critical loss of student enrollment, facility conditions, and public comments, among others.

The NAACP further urges the DeKalb County Board of Education to consider the impact that vacant schools may have on their surrounding neighborhood, the safety hazards they may pose, and the possible deterioration and vandalism the vacated buildings may encounter.

Ms. Copelin-Wood expressed serious concern with the redistricting and consolidation plan with regard to Board Policy AD concerning School Attendance Areas. She noted that the

closing of schools and moving students would violate the Board’s policy.

Dr. Walker offered the following statement:

I would like to first like to sincerely thank our Interim Superintendent Ms. Tyson and staff, with special thanks to Mr. Dan Drake as well as the MGT Consultants for all of the hard work that went into our redistricting and consolidation process and plan. I would also like to thank my fellow Board members for their support and concerns of our community members, communities, and neighbors and of course our students. Do I feel redistricting and consolidation are necessary ~ absolutely. Do I feel it is long overdue ~ absolutely. Do I think there could be a plan proposed that would make everyone happy ~ absolutely not!

This process on the one hand brought out the best in us with communities coming together to support their school. On the other hand in some communities it pitted neighbor against neighbor. Tonight the Board has spoken and voted a plan in place. It is done now and we need to move on from here. Let’s all roll up our sleeves and begin focusing on the critical task of student achievement! Everyone has a roll to play in this next step. I believe it is not the brick and mortar that makes a successful school or that produces the impressive test scores. Rather, it is the students, parents, faculty and staff that make a school successful or causes it to be a failure. Tonight, let’s pledge to make all not just some of our schools successful. A place that any parent would be proud to send their child!

If you presently attend a low performing school, let’s identify why it’s low performing and do what it takes to make that school a high performing one. If you presently attend a high performing school and have contributed to that success, but now will be moved to another building – take that enthusiasm, dedication and support with you into that new building. You and only you can make success happen. Together we can make this school system, even in this spiraling economy, a school system and hear me clearly ~ I said system, not just a particular school one we can all be proud of!

After a brief discussion, Mr. Bowen called for a recess at 8:52pm.

The meeting reconvened at 9:10pm

AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS & POLICIES: INITIAL REQUEST

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Short Term Notes, Descriptor Code DFE

Mr. Marcus Turk, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed amendment to Board Policy DFE regarding Short Term Notes.

**Board Policy
Short-Term Notes**

Descriptor Code DFE

The Board, as it deems necessary, may adopt a resolution authorizing the borrowing of money for school purposes. Tax receipts may be pledged and committed for the repayment of such loans.

The aggregate amount of all such loans outstanding at any one time shall not exceed 75% of the total property tax revenue collected by the Board in the previous year. Such loans shall be payable on or before December 31 of the calendar year in which the loan was made. The Board shall not incur in any one calendar year an aggregate of loans, contracts, notes, or other obligations for current expenses in excess of the total anticipated revenue for such calendar year.

The resolution authorizing the borrowing of funds shall state the amount of money to be borrowed, the length of time the money is to be used, the interest rate to be paid, the purpose for which the money is to be borrowed, and from whom the money is to be borrowed.

After the resolution has been adopted by the Board, the Board Chair and the

Superintendent shall execute a note or notes in the name of the Board consistent with the resolution.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Rescind Policy ~ Short Term Notes, Descriptor Code FFB

Mr. Marcus Turk, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Board of Education rescind Board Policy FFB regarding Short Term Notes.

Board Policy

Descriptor Code FFB

Short-Term Notes

CONTRACTS, NOTES, CHECKS, AND DEPOSITS

MISSION: To ensure proper accounting procedures for all DeKalb County School System funds

The DeKalb County Board of Education shall authorize applications for bank loans for the operation and maintenance of the DeKalb County School System. Tax receipts may be pledged and committed for the repayment of the loans for the maintenance and operation of the DeKalb County School System for the fiscal or calendar year.

All notes or other evidence of indebtedness of the Board, unless specified otherwise by law, shall be signed by the Chair and by the Secretary, and shall be limited as prescribed by law.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Political Involvement, Descriptor Code GAHB

Ms. Josie Alexander, Attorney, Alexander & Associates, recommended that the Board of Education approved the proposed amendment to Board Policy GAHB regarding Political Involvement.

Board Policy

Descriptor Code GAHB

Staff Political Involvement

The DeKalb County Board of Education recognizes that its employees have the same civic privileges as any other citizen, including the privilege of campaigning for and holding elective public office and actively supporting candidates and causes in the political arena. The Board of Education also recognizes that its employees have the responsibility to uphold the public trust and that an employee's political involvement must not interfere or conflict with the employee's job or the best interests of the District. This policy has been established for employees, including those who are candidates for any elected, public office.

A. DEFINITIONS

1. "Employee(s)" mean all individuals employed by the DeKalb County School District.
2. "School Facilities" means all facilities, grounds, vehicles, property, and athletic areas owned by the DeKalb County School District.
3. "Equipment" means all physical resources purchased by or donated to the DeKalb County School District. Examples of "equipment" include, but are not limited to, copy machines, paper, other supplies, public address systems, telephones, computer systems, and internet service.

B. EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

1. School facilities, or equipment, may not be used to promote an employee who is a political candidate, unless the employee is in a leave of absence or leave without pay status authorized by the Superintendent and the use is otherwise allowed by this policy, or is in compliance with Board Policy "Use of School Facilities," Descriptor Code "KG."
2. The transferring or promoting of a school employee, or the promise to do so, may not be based on the employee's campaign assistance, including campaign contributions, to another school employee.

3. Time during normal working hours may not be used for campaigning or for the promotion of political candidates, unless the employee is in a leave of absence or leave without pay status authorized by the Superintendent.
4. The use of District equipment or the use of individuals, in their capacities as employees of the District, on behalf of any candidate, is expressly forbidden, unless in compliance with Board Policy "Use of School Facilities," Descriptor Code "KG."
5. School-sponsored functions, that involve employees or Board of Education members as qualified candidates for any elected office shall not be structured in such a manner as to provide the employee or Board of Education member an advantage over other candidates.
6. Employees who are elected officials shall take every reasonable step to differentiate between their duties and responsibilities as a District employee and their duties and responsibilities as an elected official.
7. Employees shall not display any political billboards, pictures, signs, posters, badges, buttons or any other political advertisement at any school facility or on their person during normal business hours or while performing job duties. This includes tee-shirts, caps, cards, etc. This paragraph shall not apply to students, except where their conduct constitutes a substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities.
8. Employees are prohibited, on school facilities, from soliciting or attempting to coerce votes or anything of value from anyone in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office.
9. Employees may express opinions as individuals privately and publicly on political subjects, issues, and candidates. In any public statement, employees are prohibited from exerting or attempting to exert influence by identifying themselves in any manner as employees of the District. Employees engaging in political activity shall make it clear that they are speaking and acting as individuals and that they do not represent a school, the DeKalb County School District.
10. Employees shall not attempt to use their position or authority as District employees to exert political pressure on behalf or against candidates for elected office.
11. Employees may be candidates for the Board of Education, but may not continue as an employee of the District while serving as a member of the Board of Education. If an employee is elected to membership on the Board of Education, he/she shall either retire or resign, prior to being installed as a Board member. If the employee does not retire or resign, then the District will deem him/her as retired or resigned in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-51. Continued employment with the DeKalb County Board of Education, upon election to any other Board or public office, shall be governed by the capacity of the employee to perform his/her job duties, while holding public office.
12. With respect to the prohibitions outlined in this policy, employees are prohibited from soliciting or conspiring with others to do that which they are prohibited from doing.

C. EMPLOYEES IN VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY

Violation of this policy by employees may be considered good and sufficient reason for disciplinary action, up to and including termination, by the Board of Education.

D. EXCEPTIONS

1. Political activities within the instructional program are not prohibited under this policy. Employees and students may participate in mock elections, including the displaying of campaign materials.
2. Employees may place political advertising on their vehicles, which are driven to work and parked on school facilities. Bumper stickers displayed on vehicles of non-employees who may be on District property periodically for the purpose of conducting District-related business or to attend school-sponsored activities shall be permitted. Employees may not display political advertising on themselves during their normal working hours.

3. School facilities may be used for political activities by political parties and by individual candidates, and elected officials, and for political forums, provided the use of the facilities is in compliance with Board Policy "Use of School Facilities," Descriptor Code "KG," and provided the activity does not occur during instructional times, unless approved by the Superintendent. During these activities, political material may be displayed and distributed, provided they are removed from the facility when the activity ends.
4. During school-sponsored activities at any school facility, political campaigning and the distribution of political campaign materials shall be permitted only in the public parking areas of these facilities. The obstruction of traffic, ticket booths, and entrances of any school facility will not be allowed.
5. Any employee who plans to campaign for an elective public office shall notify the Superintendent in writing at the earliest possible time of his/her intentions. This notification shall include an estimate of the number of annual working days, if any; the employee will be absent if elected to public office. If possible and in the best interests of the District, the Superintendent shall determine the terms and conditions under which the employee may continue employment when seeking or holding an elected public office. Such terms and conditions, may include, but are not limited to, a flexible leave without pay work schedule or a grant of leave of absence without pay. Accordingly, the Superintendent, or his or her designee, shall meet with and discuss these matters with the employee involved, and may fashion a proposed flexible work schedule. A leave of absence, however, is not mandatory.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Board Member Conflict of Interest, Descriptor Code GHA

Ms. Judith O'Brien, Attorney, Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan, recommended that the Board of Education approved the proposed amendment to Board Policy GHA regarding Board Member Conflict of Interest.

**Board Policy
Board Member Conflict of Interest**

Descriptor Code: BHA

Members of the DeKalb County Board of Education shall adhere to these Conflict of Interest provisions as set forth in state law.

A. Financial Governance

1. No Board member shall use or attempt to use his or her official position to secure unwarranted privileges, advantages, or employment for himself or herself, for any member of his or her immediate family, for any business organization with which the Board member is associated, or for any others.

2. No Board member, or any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization with which he or she is associated shall sell supplies or equipment used, consumed, or necessary in the operation of the DeKalb County School District. Any member violating this paragraph shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(a) It shall not constitute a violation of this paragraph for a Board member to sell supplies or equipment used, consumed, or necessary in the operation of the DeKalb County School District if there are fewer than three sources for such supplies or equipment within the county.

(b) Any such purchase of \$10,000.00 or more shall be approved by a majority of the Board members in an open public meeting.

3. No Board member shall act in his or her official capacity in any matter in which he or she, any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization in which he or she is associated has a material financial interest, if such interest would reasonably be expected to impair his or her objectivity or independence of judgment. Acts that comply with subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 above shall not constitute a violation of this paragraph.

4. No Board member or any member of a Board member's immediate family may be an officer of or have any financial interest in any for-profit organization that sells or leases goods or services to the District except as provided in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 above.

5. No Board member shall solicit or accept, or knowingly allow any member of his or her immediate family or any business organization in which he or she is associated to solicit or accept, any gift, favor, loan, political contribution, service, promise of future employment, or other thing of value based upon an understanding that the gift, favor, loan, contribution, service, promise, or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing that Board member in the discharge of his or her official duties.

(a) This paragraph shall not apply to the solicitation or acceptance of campaign contributions by a Board member who has announced that he or she is a candidate for Board office if the Board member has no knowledge or reason to believe that the campaign contribution, if accepted, was given with the intent to influence the Board member in the discharge of his or her official duties.

(b) For purposes of this paragraph, a gift, favor, loan, contribution, service, promise, or other thing of value shall not include the following items:

- (1) Food or beverage consumed at a single meal or event, provided all meals are reasonable in price;
- (2) Legitimate salary, benefits, fees, commissions, or expenses associated with a Board member's nonpublic business, employment, trade, or profession;
- (3) An award, plaque, certificate, memento, or similar item given to a Board member in recognition of his or her civic, charitable, political, professional, or public service;
- (4) Food, beverages, and registration at group events to which all Board members are invited;
- (5) Actual and reasonable expenses for food, beverages, travel, lodging, and meeting registration which are provided to permit a Board member to participate in or speak at the meeting;
- (6) A commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business;
- (7) Any gift, whether from an individual or from a group, with a value less than \$50.00;
- (8) Promotional items generally distributed to the general public or to Board members;
- (9) A gift to a Board member from that Board member's immediate family; or
- (10) Food, beverage, or expenses provided to Board members, members of their immediate families, or others that are associated with normal and customary business or social functions or activities.

6. No Board member shall use, or knowingly allow to be used, his or her official position or any information not generally available to the public which he or she receives or acquires in his or her capacity as a Board member for the purpose of securing financial gain for himself or herself, any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization with which he or she is associated.

7. No Board member, any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization in which he or she is associated shall represent any person or party other than the Board or the District in connection with any matter pending before the Board or in any proceeding involving the Board or the District.

8. No Board member shall be prohibited from requesting information on behalf of a resident of the District if no fee, reward, or other thing of value is promised to, given to, or accepted by the Board member, any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization with which the Board member is associated in return therefore.

9. No Board member shall be deemed in conflict with the provisions of this policy if, by reason of his or her participation in any matter required to be voted upon by the Board, no material or monetary gain accrues to him or her or any member of his or her immediate family as a member of any profession, occupation, or group to any greater extent than could reasonably be expected to accrue to any other member of that profession, occupation, or group.

10. This Board shall not do business with any bank or financial institution where a Board member or any member of his or her immediate family is an employee, director, or officer, or where such Board member, any member of his or her immediate family, or any business organization with which the Board member is associated, owns 30% or more of the capital stock in that institution.

11. No Board member, or any member of his or her immediate family or any business organization with which the Board member is associated, may have a financial interest in school buses, bus equipment or supplies, provide services for buses owned by the Board, or sell gasoline to the Board for use in school buses owned by the Board.

12. No Board member shall accept a monetary fee or honorarium in excess of \$101.00 for a speaking engagement or for participation in a seminar, discussion panel, or other activity which directly relates to the Board member's official duties or his or her office as a Board member. Actual and reasonable expenses for food, beverages, travel, lodging, and registration which are provided to enable the Board member's participation in such an activity shall not be counted toward the monetary fee or honoraria limit.

B. Conduct As Board Member

1. No Board member shall disclose information or materials that are subject to the Board's attorney-client privilege to anyone other than other Board members, the Board attorney, the Superintendent, or persons specifically designated by the Superintendent, unless such privilege has been waived by a majority vote of the whole Board. Each Board member acknowledges that individual Board members do not have the right or the power to waive the attorney-client privilege belonging to the Board.

2. No Board member shall vote on the employment or promotion of any member of his or her immediate family. A public, recorded vote must be taken separately from all other personnel matters before a member of a Board member's immediate family may be employed or promoted.

3. No Board member may be employed in any position in the District.

4. No Board member shall hold another county office.

5. No Board member shall be employed by the State Department of Education or serve concurrently as a member of the State Board of Education.

6. No Board member shall serve on the governing body of a private elementary or secondary educational institution.

C. Disclosure of Conflicting Interest Policy

Whenever a Board member is required by this policy to refrain from voting on a matter, the Board member shall fully disclose the reason for not voting to the other Board members and the public.

D. Enforcement of Board Member Conflict of Interest Policy

This policy shall be enforced in the manner set out in the Board Member Code of Ethics Policy, Descriptor Code BH, Paragraph L.

E. Board Eligibility

Each member of this Board understands and acknowledges that no person shall be eligible for election as a member of this Board unless he or she:

1. Has read and understands the Board Member Code of Ethics (Policy BH) and the provisions of this Board Member Conflict of Interest (Policy BHA), and has agreed to abide by them; and
2. Has agreed to disclose annually his or her compliance with the State Board of Education's training policy, code of ethics, and conflict of interest provisions for school board members.

Before any person may qualify to run for office as a member of the DeKalb County Board of Education, he or she shall file an affidavit with election officials, affirming that he or she meets all of the qualifications required by law, including the provisions stated in this policy. This requirement shall apply only to Board members elected or appointed on or after July 1, 2010.

F. Definition of Immediate Family

As used in this policy, the term “member of immediate family” or “immediate family member” means a spouse, child, sibling, or parent or the spouse of a child, sibling, or parent.

G. References

1. 20-2-63(a)(1-6, 7-8): Board Member Conflict of Interest
2. 20-2-505: School board members prohibited from selling school supplies or equipment to county board
3. 20-2-505.1: Board transacting business with bank or similar institution in which member has interest
4. 20-2-1072: Financial interest in transportation services by board members/superintendent prohibited
5. 21-5-11: Acceptance by public officers of monetary fees or honoraria
6. 20-2-63(a)(7): Board member conflict of interest
7. 20-2-58.1: Employment of family members
8. 20-2-51(c)(2): Eligibility for office
9. 45-2-2: Person to hold only one county office
10. 20-2-51(c)(3): Eligibility for office
11. 20-2-51(a): Eligibility for Office
12. 20-2-51(e): Eligibility for office

Dr. Walker inquired as to why was this item before the Board as it had just be amended a few months either. Ms. O'Brien noted that there was proposed legislation that would have impact on the recently approved policy.

Dr. Walker moved that this item be removed from the agenda until such time it is necessary to review and modify to be in compliance with state law. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cunningham, and with a 6\3 vote, with Ms. Copelin-Wood, Dr. Speak, Ms. Edler, Mr. Bowen and Dr. Walker voting yes, and Mr. Womack, Mr. McChesney and Ms. Jester voting no, the motion passed and the item was pulled from the agenda.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Policy Development & Adoption, Descriptor Code BDC

Ms. Judith O'Brien, Attorney, Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan, recommended that the Board of Education approved the proposed amendment to Board Policy BDC regarding Policy Development & Adoption.

Board Policy Policy Development & Adoption

Descriptor Code BDC

It shall be the responsibility of the DeKalb County Board of Education to enact written policies for the efficient and effective governance of the District.

Development of appropriate policies is a cooperative process involving the Superintendent and the Board. Either the Board or the Superintendent may identify the need for a new or

revised policy.

Once a need is identified, the Superintendent or designee will conduct any necessary research, consult with others as the Superintendent deems appropriate, and prepare a preliminary draft of the proposed policy or revision. The preliminary draft will be submitted to the Board Instruction & Policy Committee for review and input, with copies to all Board members.

After receiving input from the Committee, the Superintendent shall incorporate the Committee's recommendations in a final draft to be presented to the full Board. Except for matters of unusual urgency, proposed policies or revisions will be presented for first reading at one monthly work session or business meeting and for action at the next month's or a later work session or business meeting.

Board members may offer changes to a draft policy proposal at any time prior to Board action. Changes receiving a majority vote of Board members present will be incorporated into the draft proposal. The Board may, but is not required to, postpone action on a policy proposal if extensive changes have been made.

Following first reading, the policy proposal will be posted online in a manner that allows parents, students, staff, and community members to submit written comments. All comments submitted by the specified deadline will be distributed to Board members in advance of the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

Adoption of a new or revised policy requires a majority vote of Board members present. New and revised policies become effective immediately upon adoption unless the Board specifies a different effective date. New and revised policies shall not be retroactive. All new and revised policies adopted by the Board shall be attached to and made a part of the minutes of the meeting at which they were adopted. Only those new and revised policies so adopted and recorded shall be regarded as official Board policy. In matters of unusual urgency, the Board may expedite or otherwise alter the policy-adoption process.

The rescission of a policy follows the same procedures as the adoption of new and revised policies.

Staff shall ensure that the Online Board Policy Manual is updated to reflect additions, revisions, rescissions approved by the Board. Any Board action that appears to be in conflict with Board policy shall remain valid and effective. The conflicting policy will be deemed suspended to the extent and for such time as may be required by the action taken by the Board. However, such actions shall not otherwise constitute an amendment of these policies.

The Superintendent annually shall review the policy manual of the Board and report recommended changes to the Board.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Rescind ~ Duplicative Policy Drafting Policies, Descriptor Codes BDBB, BDBC and BDBD

Ms. Judith O'Brien, Attorney, Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan, recommended that the Board of Education rescind Staff Involvement in Policy Drafting (BDBB), Community Involvement in Policy Drafting (BDBC) and Student Involvement in Policy Drafting (BDBD).

**Board Policy
Staff Involvement in Policy Drafting**

Descriptor Code BDBB

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MISSION: To promote a positive environment in DeKalb County schools in which there is an awareness of, involvement in, and support for the system and its educational mission.

Parents, students, staff, and others may, at any time, offer suggestions on policies by submitting in writing the suggested additions, changes, or deletions, to the policies to the Office of the Superintendent for consideration and possible recommendation to the Board.

The DeKalb County Board of Education believes (1) that the public schools belong to the people who create them by consent and support them by taxation; (2) that the schools are only as strong as the informed DeKalb citizens and knowledgeable school system staff; and (3) that this support is based on knowledge of, understanding about, and participation in the aims and efforts of the public schools.

The Board affirms, through policies and goals, its commitment (1) to keep the citizens and staff of the system regularly and accurately informed, through appropriate means of communication, about policies, programs, problems, and planning of the school system; (2) to solicit the advice and counsel of parents, students, staff, and others on basic issues through appropriate channels (such as Parent Teacher Associations, advisory councils, and other community groups); (3) to charge the administrative, instructional, and operational staff with the duty to carry out this policy as an integral part of regular activities and responsibilities; and (4) to cooperate with the news media as the primary purveyors of public information, recognizing their right to all the facts and their obligation to publish them in a responsible manner.

Board Policy

Descriptor Code BDBC

Community Involvement in Policy Drafting

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MISSION: To promote a positive environment in DeKalb County schools in which there is an awareness of, involvement in, and support for the system and its educational mission.

Parents, students, staff, and others may, at any time, offer suggestions on policies by submitting in writing the suggested additions, changes, or deletions, to the policies to the Office of the Superintendent for consideration and possible recommendation to the Board.

The DeKalb County Board of Education believes (1) that the public schools belong to the people who create them by consent and support them by taxation; (2) that the schools are only as strong as the informed DeKalb citizens and knowledgeable school system staff; and (3) that this support is based on knowledge of, understanding about, and participation in the aims and efforts of the public schools.

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Board Policy

Descriptor Code BDBD

Student Involvement in Policy Drafting

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MISSION: To promote a positive environment in DeKalb County schools in which there is an awareness of, involvement in, and support for the system and its educational mission.

Parents, students, staff, and others may, at any time, offer suggestions on policies by submitting in writing the suggested additions, changes, or deletions, to the policies to the Office of the Superintendent for consideration and possible recommendation to the Board.

The DeKalb County Board of Education believes (1) that the public schools belong to the people who create them by consent and support them by taxation; (2) that the schools are only as strong as the informed DeKalb citizens and knowledgeable school system staff; and (3) that this support is based on knowledge of, understanding about, and participation in the aims and efforts of the public schools.

The Board affirms, through policies and goals, its commitment (1) to keep the citizens and staff of the system regularly and accurately informed, through appropriate means of communication, about policies, programs, problems, and planning of the school system; (2) to solicit the advice and counsel of parents, students, staff, and others on basic issues through appropriate channels (such as Parent Teacher Associations, advisory councils, and other community groups); (3) to charge the administrative, instructional, and operational staff with the duty to carry out this policy as an integral part of regular activities and responsibilities; and (4) to cooperate with the news media as the primary purveyors of public information, recognizing their right to all the facts and their obligation to publish them in a responsible manner.

Amendment to the Bylaws & Policies ~ Student Assignment, Descriptor Code JBCC

Mr. Robert Moseley, Deputy Chief Superintendent, School Administration, recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed amendment to Board Policy JBCC regarding Student Assignment.

**Board Policy
Student Assignment**

Descriptor Code JBCC

A student is usually assigned to the school serving the geographic attendance area in which the student resides. (A student's residence is defined in Policy JBC, and attendance areas are discussed in Policy AD.) However, the DeKalb County Board of Education desires to enhance the educational opportunities available for students of the DeKalb County School District and therefore has established numerous school choice options through which District students may be assigned to schools outside their attendance area. Additionally, students may be eligible for assignment to a school other than the school in their attendance area pursuant to state or federal law.

Instances in which students may attend school outside their attendance area are outlined below. The District will publish written and/or electronic materials further explaining each of these options.

Students who do not reside in the District are not eligible for enrollment in a District school, except as required by state law or as provided below.

A. ESEA/NCLB Public School Choice

Pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind Act ("ESEA/NCLB"), students attending a school designated as Needs Improvement may be eligible to transfer to another school that is on the District's list of receiving schools. Each year, the District provides notice to parents or guardians of students who are eligible for ESEA/NCLB transfer.

B. Special Needs Students

In certain circumstances, special needs students requiring special education student services will be placed in a school other than the school serving their attendance area, in accordance with special education procedures.

C. Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program (Senate Bill 10)

Qualifying special needs students may attend another public school within the District that has available capacity and that has a program with the services agreed to in the student's existing individualized education program.

D. Limited School Choice (House Bill 251)

Students may enroll in certain schools outside of their attendance area where space is available. The House Bill 251 receiving schools to which a student may transfer are publicized each year after seat availability has been determined.

E. Other School Choice Programs

The District offers a number of academic options for students, including, for example, charter schools, magnet programs, and theme schools; these options are referred to as School Choice Programs. The available School Choice Programs and the relevant admissions criteria are published yearly. Every eligible student, regardless of circumstance, must follow the published criteria and process.

The Board, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, and as allowed by applicable laws and regulations, may move a School Choice Program to a different facility or cease

the operation of a School Choice Program.

F. Children of Full-Time School-Based Employees

The following provisions apply only to a child whose custodial parent or legal guardian is a full-time school-based employee of the District. These provisions do not apply to pre-K programs.

1. Subject to paragraphs 3 and 4 below relating to theme schools and magnet programs, a child whose custodial parent or legal guardian is a full-time school-based employee of the District will be allowed to attend the school at which the parent or legal guardian is employed. The Office of Student Assignment must be notified before the child is enrolled. Transportation will not be provided by the District. Payment of tuition will not be required even if the employee and child reside in another school district. This option is available only to school-based employees.
2. Subject to paragraphs 3 and 4 below relating to theme schools and magnet programs, a child whose custodial parent or legal guardian is a full-time school-based employee of the District will be allowed to attend another school within the vertical feeder pattern of the school at which the parent or legal guardian is employed only if space is available at that school. The employee must apply to the Office of Student Assignment so that space availability can be determined. Transportation will not be provided by the District. Payment of tuition will not be required even if the employee and child reside in another school district. This option is available only to school-based employees.
3. Children seeking to attend a theme school under this provision must enter the lottery and comply with all other admissions procedures applicable to that school. Transportation will not be provided by the District. Payment of tuition will not be required even if the employee and child reside in another school district.
4. Because of the unique nature of magnet programs, which have special admission criteria and competitive selection processes, children of employees will be given no special preference in seeking admission to a magnet program. Children wishing to enroll in a magnet program must follow the published admission procedures and meet the admission criteria for the program. Moreover, because of the special cost to the District in providing magnet programs, these programs are limited to students who reside in the District. Transportation will not be provided by the District.

Employees' children who, at the time this Policy is enacted, are attending a school that they would not be allowed to attend under this Policy shall be allowed to remain in their current school until they have completed the highest grade at that school.

G. Hardship Transfers

In exceptional circumstances, and on a case-by-case basis, hardship transfer requests will be considered. Upon receiving documentation of an extenuating situation, the Superintendent or designee may approve a recommendation by the Office of Student Assignment that a student be allowed to attend a school other than the school serving the student's attendance area. State law allows for transfer requests in certain circumstances based on placement in a nonpermanent classroom or excessive travel time or distance, as specifically defined by state law and the rules of the Georgia Department of Education, and such requests may be considered by the District. For all hardship transfer requests, available capacity in the requested school at the time of the request will be considered. If capacity is not available, the Superintendent may approve transfer to another school in the District. Transportation will not be provided by the District.

H. Unsafe School Choice Option

1. A student who is the victim of a violent criminal offense, as defined by state law, while in or on the grounds of a public elementary school or secondary school that the student attends, may transfer to another school within ten days of the offense.
2. Federal law also provides for transfers out of a school that is designated as a "persistently unsafe school." If a District school is designated as "persistently

unsafe,” the District will provide procedures for students wishing to transfer from the school.

I. Seniors Moving out of the District

A current or rising senior at a District school who moves out of the District may complete his or her senior year at the District school if the student furnishes transportation, maintains regular attendance, and pays tuition as set forth in Policy JBCBA.

REVIEW OF ITEMS FOR THE MARCH 14, 2011 BUSINESS MEETING

09.01

Ms. Ramona H. Tyson, Interim Superintendent, recommended that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011 public budget input hearing, February 7, 2011 called meeting (executive session), February 7, 2011 work session & business meeting, February 10, 2011 called meeting (executive session), February 15, 2011 called meeting (executive session), February 15, 2011 called meeting, February 18, 2011 called meeting (executive session) and February 25, 2011 called meeting (executive session)

09.02

Mr. Marcus Turk, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Board of Education accept the January 2011 Financial Report.

09.03

Dr. Jamie L. Wilson, Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer recommended that the Board of Education approve the Human Resources Report dated January 17, 2011 through February 15, 2011.

09.04

Dr. Jamie L. Wilson, Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer recommended that the Board of Education approve to continue the teaching services agreement with Global Teachers Research & Resources and In-talage, Inc. teaching agencies for the 2011-2012 schoolyear.

09.05

Dr. Jamie L. Wilson, Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer recommended that the Board of Education approve the hiring of up to 75 TFA teachers and 2 Fellows (Administrative Interns) for the 2011-2012 school year.

09.06

Dr. Audria Berry, Executive Director, Office of School Improvement, recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of technology equipment in the amount of \$109,296.38 to support the School Improvement Grant (1003g) at McNair High School.

09.07

Dr. Audria Berry, Executive Director, Office of School Improvement, recommended that the Board of Education approve three new service agreements for a total payment of \$29,937.60 for contracted services with University Instructors for Towers High School, Stone Mountain Elementary School and Oak View Elementary School.

09.08

Dr. Audria Berry, Executive Director, Office of School Improvement, recommended that the Board of Education approve payments to the Georgia State Board of Education approved vendors to provide Supplemental Educational Services to low income students who attend Title I schools that qualify. The cost of these services will not exceed \$5,872,142 (\$2,162,242 was approved in August 2010). We are seeking approval of an additional cost for 2,300 students at \$1,613 (GADOE allocation rate) per student, resulting in \$3,709,900.

09.09

Mr. John O'Connor, Executive Director, Department of Special Services, recommended that the Board of Education approve the combined expenditures of Federal funds not to exceed a total amount of \$225,000 between Culture Connect, Inc., Translation Station and Language Line that will provide contracted services to schools, centers and district office personnel serving parents and students who speak a language other than English.

09.10

Ms. Rosalind Dennis, Director, Educational Media, recommended that the Board of Education approve bids meeting specification submitted by the following vendors: Nisewonger Audio Visual, Atlanta Soundworks, Inc., Technical Services Audio Visual, Lightspeed Technologies, Inc., Classroom Technology Solutions, Smiley's Audio Visual, Troxell Communications, Lakeshore Learning Materials, and Learning Services. These nine vendors can provide the best prices for the audio visual needs of the district's libraries, Career Technology labs, classrooms, and departments. Individual purchases that exceed the \$50,000 limit, from one or all nine vendors, will be submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

09.11

Ms. Stacy Stepney, Director of High Schools, recommended that the Board of Education grant authorization to exceed \$50,000 to the attached list of vendors in order to comply with Board Policy on Purchasing, Descriptor Code DJE (list included in the official meeting file).

09.12

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Teaching & Learning, recommended that the Board of Education approve the 2011-2012 adoption of (a) 6-12 Social Studies, (b) K-12 Health and Physical Education, (c) K-12 Fine Arts, and (d) grade 12 Advanced Mathematics textbooks and the purchase of previously adopted or newly adopted textbooks as prioritized by Teaching and Learning not to exceed \$11,000,000.00.

09.13

Dr. Sonja Alexander, Director, Professional Learning, recommended that the Board of Education approve payment to reimburse The University of Georgia (UGA) Quarterly for expenditures incurred from the PACES Project for the period of 1/1/2011 – 12/31/2011. The total amount to be reimbursed shall not exceed \$145,279.00.

09.14

Mr. David Guillory, Executive Director, Transportation, recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 19 Special Needs school buses at the cost of \$74,232.00 each, from Yancey Bus Sales and Service through the Georgia Statewide Contract, utilizing state bond bus funds.

09.15

Mr. Steven Donahue, Executive Director, Plant Services, recommended that the Board of Education approve a General Funds Budget Reallocation as follows:

From:	To:
101.38.53.31.000101.752.0000 (\$20,000.00)	101.57.50.31.000101.752.0000 46,000.00
101.57.55.28.000101.752.0000 (\$26,000.00)	

This reallocation includes for an external adjustment for the Sam A. Moss Service Center project to reallocate funds from Supplies and Supplies/Materials – Environmental Services to Supplies/Materials - Warehouse to allow the necessary funds to be available in the proper code. This is the code required for DCSS to pay for our custodial supplies.

09.16

Ms. Barbara M. Colman, Interim CIP Operations Officer, recommended that the Board of Education approve the award to Rycars Construction, LLC., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Bid Documents, for the roof replacement project at Evansdale Elementary School, for the lump sum of \$505,685 This is also notification to the Board for expenditures in various cost codes to various vendors to complete the project.

09.17

Ms. Barbara M. Colman, Interim CIP Operations Officer, recommended that the Board of Education approve the award to Rycars Construction, LLC., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Bid Documents, for the roof replacement project at Flat Shoals Elementary School, for the lump sum of \$524,590 This is also notification to the Board for expenditures in various cost codes to various vendors to complete the project.

09.18

Ms. Barbara M. Colman, Interim CIP Operations Officer, recommended that the Board of Education approve and accept donated funds from the Lakeside High School Foundation, "The Valhalla Project",

per Board Policy DFK to fund additional design services for added athletics and exterior items to enhance the current addition and construction project. It is further recommended that the Board of Education enter into an agreement with Manley Spangler Smith Architects for the initial design fees in the not to exceed amount of \$47,105, as well as an agreement with Hogan Construction for clearing, grubbing, and temporary reseeding of the hill between the practice fields in the not to exceed amount of \$12,000, for a total donation amount of \$59,105.

09.19

Ms. Barbara M. Colman, Interim CIP Operations Officer, recommended that the Board of Education approve the award to Mechanical Services, Inc. the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Bid Documents, for the HVAC Improvements project for Sequoyah Middle School, in the lump sum amount of \$59,180.

OTHER BOARD COMMENTS

The following announcements were made:

1. Exceptional Children's Week ~ **Monday, March 7 – Friday, March 11, 2011**
2. National School Breakfast Week ~ **Monday, March 7 – Friday, March 11, 2011**
3. National School Social Work Week ~ **Monday, March 7 – Friday, March 11, 2011**
4. Music in Our Schools Month ~ **March 2011**
5. Youth Art Month ~ **March 2011**
6. Exceptional Children's Week Recognition Program, **7:00pm, Tuesday, March 8, 2011**, AIC Auditorium, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain
7. Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, **5:00pm, Thursday, March 10, 2011**, Sam Moss Service Center, 1780 Montreal Road, Tucker
8. Family & Consumer Science Regional STAR Event; **9:00am, Friday, March 11, 2011**, DeKalb Technical College Conference Center, 495 North Indian Creek Road, Clarkston
9. DeKalb Board of Education Business Meeting, **6:00pm, Monday, March 14, 2011**, J. David Williamson Board Room, AIC, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Chair Bowen called for a motion to adjourn the March 7, 2011 work session and meeting. On motion by Mr. Womack, seconded by Ms. Jester, and with a unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 11:28pm.