

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
ALBEMARLE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD
AND CENTER BOARD**

May 19, 2009

At 6:34 p.m., Mrs. Diantha McKeel called to order the meeting of the CATEC Center Board. Mr. Brian Wheeler called to order the Albemarle County School Board and Mr. Ned Michie called to order the Charlottesville City School Board.

CENTER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Brian Wheeler, Mrs. Llezelle Dugger, Mrs. Pamela Moynihan, Mr. Ned Michie, Mrs. Leah Puryear, and Mrs. Diantha McKeel.

CENTER BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALBEMARLE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Steve Koleszar, Mrs. Diantha McKeel, Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly, Mr. Brian Wheeler, Mr. Ron Price, and Mrs. Pamela Moynihan.

ALBEMARLE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Jon Stokes.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Colette Blount, Ms. Kathleen Galvin, Mrs. Llezelle Dugger, Mrs. Leah Puryear, and Mr. Ned Michie.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Alvin Edwards and Mr. Juandiego Wade.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Darah Bonham, Director; Ms. Staci England, Assistant Principal; Mrs. Deborah Gannon, Career & Instructional Technology Coordinator; and Ms. Leslie Chisholm, Administrative Assistant.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent Albemarle County Schools; Dr. Rosa Atkins, Superintendent Charlottesville City Schools; Mrs. Sue Sheffield, Albemarle County Technical Education Coordinator; and Mr. Dan Fielding, City of Charlottesville Technical Education Coordinator.

AGENDA ITEM 09-33

AGENDA

Mr. Price offered a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Puryear seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 09-34

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No community participation.

AGENDA ITEM 09-35

**DIRECTORS COMMENTS – STUDENT
COMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Bonham recognized the Technical Education Honor Society Inductees, the CATEC

Scholarship recipients for 2008-2009, and the Entrepreneurship Challenge winners. In addition, he explained the criteria for each award as he called the Board's attention to the program and introduced the students. The Board took a break to congratulate the winners.

AGENDA ITEM 09-36

ENROLLMENT UPDATE/STUDENT INTEREST

Mr. Bonham called the Boards' attention to Page 104 in the Board Book. He explained that he looked at trends by providing a "snap shot in April." The chart was broken down by school and program of applicants for this year. In addition, he discussed 2009-10 totals for Year I applications and stated that some Year II students will be coming back. 2008-09 and 2007-08 information was given at the same "snap shot" in time for comparison. Acceptances have been granted for next year; the scheduling is being worked out. Mr. Bonham felt that the overall total numbers are great, though there are some programs that are heavy in enrollment, while masonry and dental are low. Mr. Bonham compared the total number of applicants for this year and last year. He finished by saying he is encouraged by the numbers and will update the Board throughout the summer about the enrollment figures.

AGENDA ITEM 09-37

WORK STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Mr. Bonham summarized pages 105 and 106 in the Board Book. In January, he gave the Center Board information about one of the measures of the students being in the work force and getting authentic opportunities was having the students participate in part-time jobs, internships, job shadows, and work studies. Out of 141 students in January's "snap shot," 49 were doing something on a part-time basis in their trade. Charlottesville City Council allocated funds to continue job related experience for the students to provide opportunities for them. Mr. Bonham called attention to a comprehensive list of additional opportunities that were offered this last quarter in work related areas. CATEC has been able to make positive connections with employers by putting in place a strategic plan to get the students out in the community. The partnerships with the members of the various CATEC Business Councils have aided in this process. There were three different ways internships were procured: through the students, the teachers, or the CATEC staff. Economically right now, not many paid internships are available. Funds that came from the Charlottesville City Council were used exclusively for city students and Mr. Bonham secured funds for the County students as well. The Charlottesville City Council initiative pushed the idea forward and there is a plan to continue it next year. Mr. Bonham stated that he will come back to the Board if there is not enough money to get the County students out into the work place.

AGENDA ITEM 09-38

INITIATIVE REVIEW 08/09

To push CATEC forward, attention was paid to the workplace soft skills sets that employers were asking for. Mr. Bonham gave an update on the three areas of concentration this year and he went into detail about each one and what it entailed. The students need to enhance their transferable skills (along with the technical skills that have always been taught) with a relevant and natural fit in their trade which increases their engagement. Areas of improvement were also discussed.

1. Literacy Development

Mr. Bonham highlighted the desired results, deliverables and outcomes. Thinking Maps have been a big part in terms of the Literacy Specialist assisting the instructors and the students in learning new information and understanding areas that are challenging. The students' reading and writing skills were certainly enhanced and more authentic through technology tools.

2. Innovative and Functional Technology

CATEC is using technology for a number of purposes including from an engagement and a learning perspective. There have been some great first steps in this arena such as classroom blogs and the use of Flip Video cameras. Functional technology is critical because it is the root of understanding how to use Excel and other programs and is not necessarily something that the students have been exposed to. These tools have a place in all of CATEC's programs.

3. Entrepreneurship

This was a great exercise in having students go through the process that they didn't want to go through initially. Ownership made a big difference in the students' interest. It was a challenge to sell it to the students and teachers at first. Ultimately, there were a lot of unintended student outcomes such as student engagement, and the use of transferrable skills has been exciting. The students' presentation skills need to be worked on in the future. The suggestion was made to have graduates come back and speak about how what they learned at CATEC applied once they were out of school.

Mr. Bonham explained that CATEC has talked to local business people (and looked at the data from Weldon-Cooper) about how to prepare students for a changing economy. The suggestion was made that Mr. Bonham bring in representatives from County and City Economic Development to speak at a future Board meeting about these concerns. CATEC needs to think about not only what jobs, but also the skills that, will be applicable. The students need to be taught how to do the complex thinking – individually and/or as a team. Weldon-Cooper Center's analysis of future jobs has led to changes being made to the course offerings at CATEC.

AGENDA ITEM 09-39

PLANS FOR 2009-10

Mr. Bonham reviewed plans for next year. Jim Duran, with the School of Engineering, has connected Mr. Bonham with a \$2,000,000 grant, of which CATEC would receive \$100,000, to develop/offer an additional course to provide training in automotive electric technology. UVa. is putting a lot of effort into the notion of their Engineering program creating alternative sources of electrical and solar power for automobiles. Mr. Bonham went into detail about how the grant money would be spent.

Mr. Bonham suggested the idea of a Creation Studio in the Auditorium area to serve as a resource for the students at all times to enhance their class work as a way to create and produce. He would continue to improve the ratio of computers to students as well as the training of the adults so that the students continue to have the opportunities to use the technology in the proper way.

The Health and Medical Development is also important and CATEC will continue to connect with local providers as Business Partners to promote and create programs for CATEC students. Mr. Wheeler stated that he thought Homeland Security and employment with NGIC are potential areas of growth for CATEC. One Board member pointed out that the authentic quality of learning is what motivates and drives the students.

Mr. Bonham concluded by stating that he feels confident that CATEC is headed in the right direction through the blending of workforce data and essential 21st century skills to best prepare CATEC students. The last area of improvement is the communication with, and the interest level of, the students to promote and share what the pathway looks like in order for them to view CATEC programs as a viable option.

It is possible that there will be a Center Board meeting in June to discuss Meadowcreek Parkway issues. Mr. Bonham called the Boards' attention to two articles that were handed out about CATEC students.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Ms. Moynihan offered a motion to adjourn the Joint Board meeting and Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Chairperson

Clerk

Date

Date