

**DECATUR DISTRICT 61 BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES**

DATE/TIME: March 30, 2010

5:32 PM

LOCATION: Keil Administration Building
3rd Floor Conference Room

PRESENT: Dan Winter, President
Dr. Jan Mandernach, Vice President
Terry Robinson
D. R. Roberts

Dan Oakes
Kevin Moore
LaVell Peete

STAFF: Superintendent Gloria J. Davis
Board Secretary Melinda J. Harrington
Everett Nicholas, Attorney
and Others

President Winter called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call for Closed Executive Session	President Winter moved to go into a Closed Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, sale and/or lease of property and collective bargaining concerns; no action will be taken during the closed session, seconded by Dr. Mandernach. President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Winter, Mandernach, Moore, Oakes, Peete, Robinson, Roberts Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent	Session began at 5:32 PM.
Return to Open Session	President Winter moved to return to Open Session, seconded by Mr. Oakes. All were in favor.	Board returned to Open Session at 7:05 PM.
Pledge of Allegiance	President Winter noted that the Board had been in Closed Executive Session for the purposes mentioned earlier. President Winter led the Pledge of Allegiance.	Information only.
Approval of Agenda, March 30, 2010	Superintendent Davis recommended the Board approve the March 30, 2010 Agenda as presented. Mr. Moore moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Dr. Mandernach. All were in favor.	Agenda was approved as presented.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Public Hearing	<p>Mr. Winter called the Public Hearing to order noting it was time for the Board to hold an official public hearing to allow the citizens of the community to have input on our budgeting process as it relates to staff, programs and other budgetary needs. He thanked all of those who had taken the time to give input to the Board and to those present. Mr. Winter shared that this is not an easy time for any of us.</p> <p>Mr. Winter noted that the Board of Education would be taking specific action tonight on the possible reduction of staff, programs, and other related items that reflect on our education fund needs, including many areas from reduced hours, to Schedule B reductions, eliminating discretionary funding and more. A series of meetings have been held with a budget committee which had representation from all union groups, other staff members, administration and the board.</p> <p>This hearing now provides another avenue for the public to submit additional information and/or comments. He called upon Mrs. Harrington, Board Secretary for any written comments for the Board. She had received two written comments as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cheryl Wiseley emailed “WeListen” and stated, “When considering additional budget cuts this evening, please keep in mind that the after school activities offered (e.g. team sports, scholastic bowl, newspaper club, etc.), are all important at the very critical ages of middle school and high school students. Unfortunately, Decatur does not have a lot to offer in the area of entertainment for youth at these ages, and school activities fill a huge amount of their time and energy in positive ways. Additionally, with the nation’s obesity rate on the rise, an increase in inactive times will certainly cause those numbers to continue to go in the wrong direction. At your meeting last night, you spoke of different grants that would be supplementing services that had to be cut from the district’s budget. Are those more grants available to fund after school activities? Do parents need to help acquire these grants? As you have considered how the cuts will affect the students in the classroom, please consider their leisure time as well. It too will impact their futures and the future of Decatur Public Schools enrollment. Respectfully, Terry and Cheryl Wiseley (Carlie and Jess) 2. Email Received 3/30/2010 at 2:40 PM: Dear Budget Committee Members: My husband and I attended the meeting last night...We realize things can get ‘heated’ when talking about cuts (especially when discussing what is really 	<p>Official Public Hearing was held with public participation being opened to all those present and those who had submitted written comments.</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>necessary and what is ‘icing on the cake’. I DO HAVE A SUGGESTION...Is it really necessary for DPS to pay for high school students to take AP exams (given by the College Board to possibly receive academic college credit?) In the past, this expense was picked up by the parents (or the student) which also served as an incentive for studying. In fact, when talking with universities (or students who have completed college), the true advantage of taking these exams are questionable. Picking up the expense of AP exams is a very NICE gesture...but I feel this is really just ICING ON THE CAKE! Perhaps this money could be better utilized for ‘meat and potatoes’! Just a thought! Vickie Vieth</p>	
	<p>Mrs. Harrington noted that no one had signed up to speak at the hearing. Mr. Winter called for anyone who had not signed up to come forward if they would like to offer any further information to the Board.</p>	
	<p>He asked the Board members if they had any written or oral comments they wished to make at this time regarding these matters noting they would have time as they moved through the action items as well.</p>	
	<p>Hearing no further requests for addressing the Board at this hearing, he called the public hearing closed.</p>	
<p>Roll Call Action Items</p>	<p>President Winter asked the Board members if they were in agreement that the Superintendent would read the brief version of the Resolution referring to it by number and going through all of them in this manner rather than reading everything in its entirety. All members were in favor of working through the Resolutions by number.</p>	<p>Information only.</p>
<p>Resolutions for Reduction and/or Dismissal of Staff: Macon/Piatt Special Education Cooperative</p>	<p>The following Resolutions are for Macon/Piatt Special Education Cooperative. RESOLUTION #1 Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #1. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are first, second, and third year full-time, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	<p>Information only.</p>
	<p>Mr. Oakes moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Roberts, Moore, Winter, Robinson, Mandernach, Peete,</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #1 was approved as presented.</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Oakes	Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent	
	<u>RESOLUTION #2</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #2. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employee listed, who is fourth year full-time , that the employee will be dismissed at the end of the 2009-2010 school term.”	Motion carried. Resolution #2 was approved as presented.
	Mr. Moore moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Oakes. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mandernach, Moore, Oakes, Peete, Winter, Robinson, Roberts Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent	
	<u>RESOLUTION #3</u> superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #3. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are non-tenured full-time retired teachers , that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”	Motion carried. Resolution #3 was approved as presented.
	Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Robinson, Roberts, Oakes, Moore, Winter, Mandernach, Peete Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent	
	<u>RESOLUTION #4</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #4. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are non-tenured part-time retired teachers , that they will not be re-employed for the 2010- 2011 school term.”	Motion carried. Resolution #4 was approved as presented.
	Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Moore. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Moore, Robinson, Peete, Mandernach, Winter, Roberts,	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Oakes	Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent	
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #5</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #5. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are assigned to part-time after school private/parochial extra duty positions, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Mr. Moore asked for clarification on the positions in this Resolution which Superintendent Davis clarified? Hearing no further discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mandernach, Moore, Oakes, Peete, Winter, Robinson, Roberts Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #5 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #6</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #6. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are job coaches through the STEP grant, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Winter, Roberts, Robinson, Mandernach, Peete, Moore, Oakes Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #1 was approved as presented</p>
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #7</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #7. Resolution to ...”advise the Macon-Piatt Special Education District employees listed, who are teaching assistants, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<p>Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Robinson, Peete, Oakes, Moore, Mandernach, Roberts, Winter Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #7 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p>Superintendent Davis noted that this was the last Resolution for the Macon/Piatt Special Education staff.</p>	
Resolutions for Reduction and/or Dismissal of Staff: Decatur Public School District #61	<p>Superintendent Davis began her recommendations for the Resolutions presented for the Decatur Public School District.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION #1</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #1. Resolution to ...”advise the employees listed, who are first, second, and third year full-time, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Winter, Roberts, Mandernach, Moore, Oakes, Peete, Robinson Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #1 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #2</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #2. Resolution to ...”advise the employees listed, who are first, second, and third year part-time, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Mr. Peete moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Roberts. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Roberts, Winter, Mandernach, Robinson, Oakes, Peete, Moore Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #2 was approved as presented.</p>

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DISCUSSION

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RESOLUTION #3

Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #3. Resolution to ...”advise the employees listed, who are **fourth year full-time**, that they **will be dismissed** at the end of the 2009-2010 school term.”

Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Winter, Roberts, Mandernach, Moore, Oakes, Peete, Robinson

Nay: None

Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent

Motion carried.
Resolution #3 was approved as presented.

RESOLUTION #4

Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #4. Resolution to ...”advise the non-tenured full-time retired teacher listed, that the teacher **will not be re-employed** for the 2010-2011 school term.”

Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Oakes, Mandernach, Peete, Roberts, Robinson, Winter, Moore

Nay: None

Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent

Motion carried.
Resolution #4 was approved as presented.

RESOLUTION #5

Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #5. Resolution to ...”advise the **non-tenured part-time retired teachers** listed, that they **will not be re-employed** for the 2010-2011 school term.”

Mr. Roberts moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Roberts, Oakes, Mandernach, Peete, Moore, Winter, Robinson

Nay: None

Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent

Motion carried.
Resolution #5 was approved as presented.

RESOLUTION #6

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #6. Resolution to ...”advise the extended days staff employees listed, that they will not be re-employed for extended days for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #6 was approved as presented</p>
	<p>Mr. Roberts moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Peete, Moore, Winter, Robinson, Mandernach, Oakes, Roberts Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #7</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #7. Resolution to ...”advise the Schedule B – PDI and Department Reps staff employees listed, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #7 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p>Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Oakes. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Robinson, Peete, Oakes, Moore, Mandernach, Roberts, Winter Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #8</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #8. Resolution to ...”advise the full-time Intervention Coordinators listed, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #8 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p>Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Winter, Oakes, Roberts, Peete, Moore, Robinson, Mandernach Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #9</u></p>	

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<p>Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #9. Resolution to ...”advise the full-time Home Educators listed, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Peete. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Roberts, Mandernach, Winter, Oakes, Peete, Robinson, Moore Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #9 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #10</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #10. Resolution to ...”advise the TEACHING ASSISTANTS listed, that they will not be re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term.”</p>	
	<p>Mr. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Dr. Mandernach. Mr. Moore asked for clarification on the teaching assistants which Superintendent Davis explained. Hearing no further discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Peete, Mandernach, Moore, Roberts, Robinson, Oakes, Winter Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #10 was approved as presented.</p>
	<p><u>RESOLUTION #11</u> Superintendent Davis recommended that the Board approve #11 .Resolution to ...”advise the Educational Support Personnel that they are hereby honorably dismissed from their full-time positions and re-employed for the 2010-2011 school term in part time positions.”</p>	
	<p>Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Oakes. Hearing no discussion President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Winter, Oakes, Robinson, Roberts, Moore, Mandernach, Peete Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Motion carried. Resolution #11 was approved as presented.</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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Budget Reductions For Decatur Public Schools	<p>Superintendent Davis began by thanking her District Leadership Team (DLT) staff, the unions, other staff members and her own assistants for all that they had done to prepare for this evening. She noted all have been working under tremendous pressure and all would be dealing in the future with doing more with less. However, she reminded everyone that in the midst of all of these talks, research and concerns, the big picture was to always keep the children as the top priority.</p>	
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Superintendent Davis asked the Board to review the REVISED Budget Reduction Sheets which indicate a total savings from these recommendations of \$7,041,893 (see attached Revised Sheet). She told the Board that Dr. Blount would be presenting a PowerPoint to review all of these reductions in more detail for their information and prior to a vote on them.

Dr. Mandernach moved to approve the Education Budget Reductions as recommended, seconded by Mr. Oakes. Dr. Blount presented a PowerPoint presentation and took questions from the Board. Additional District Leadership Team members and the Superintendent shared points on various aspects on the reductions.

Board members shared concerns, asked questions and commented as follows:

- As we look at cuts we need to spread them out to various employees groups – acknowledge that the Teaching Assistants are taking a big “hit” in comparison to other groups – look at spreading cuts out – perhaps administrators should take a freeze – let’s examine our costs and the impact that would have on our budget.
- Spread some of these cuts across the board and be sure we look at this picture in a more proactive manner to save as many jobs as possible.
- Commendation to all groups involved – we have been very successful in maintain the integrity of the classroom and our “direct teaching staff”
- Staff has done a wonderful job in working on these reductions and how we could save jobs – it is always disappointing and unpleasant when it comes to this – please remember to avoid the temptation of looking at one group to another – all must share the burden – commend everyone involved for looking at the big picture.
- Obviously the big picture was in mind in finding these

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	reductions – great job by staff.	
	Hearing no further comments, questions, President Winter called for a Roll Call Vote: Aye: Roberts, Peete, Mandernach, Robinson, Winter, Oakes, Moore Nay: None Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Absent	Motion carried. Education Fund – Budget Reductions – were approved as presented. (see attached)
Adjournment	Mr. Moore moved to adjourned, seconded by Mr. Peete. All were in favor.	Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Daniel Winter, President

Melinda J. Harrington, Secretary