

**MINUTES
DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
JULY 1, 2009**

The Durham Public Schools Board of Education held its organizational meeting and regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 1, at 4:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m., respectively in the Fuller Administration Building, 511 Cleveland Street, Durham, North Carolina.

Organizational Meeting

Board members present: Minnie Forte-Brown, Heidi Carter, Steve Martin, Pastor Fredrick Davis, Omega Curtis Parker, Dr. Kirsten Kainz and Leigh Bordley

Administration members present: Dr. Carl Harris, Superintendent, H. Hank Hurd, Chief Operating Officer, and Dr. Terri Mozingo, Chief Academic Officer

Attorney present: Ann Majestic

Call to Order

Dr. Harris called the organizational meeting to order. A moment of silence was observed.

Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair

Dr. Kainz nominated Minnie Forte-Brown with a second by Ms. Bordley. Dr. Harris called for additional nominations and hearing none, the nominations were closed. Mr. Martin made a motion to accept the nomination of Minnie Forte-Brown as chair of the Board of Education by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carter and passed unanimously. Dr. Harris congratulated Ms. Forte-Brown and turned the meeting over to her. Chairman Forte-Brown thanked her fellow board members for their vote of confidence. She praised the board as the hardest working board in the U.S.

Pastor Davis nominated Heidi Carter with a second by Ms. Parker. Chairman Forte-Brown called for additional nominations and hearing none, the nominations were closed. Dr. Kainz made a motion to accept the nomination of Heidi Carter as Vice Chair of the Board of Education by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bordley and passed unanimously. Vice Chair Carter thanked her colleagues for the opportunity to continue working with them and the community, describing it as an honor and a gift.

Standing Committee Appointments

Chairman Forte-Brown made the following assignments:

- Instructional Services Committee – Dr. Kainz, Chair; Leigh Bordley, Vice Chair
- Administrative Services Committee – Steve Martin, Chair; Fredrick Davis, Vice Chair
- Support Services – Omega Curtis Parker, Chair; Fredrick Davis, Vice Chair

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Mr. Martin moved to temporarily suspend Policy 1231.2 in order for the committee assignments to be made at this meeting; second by Ms. Carter. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Martin requested that Policy 1231 be referred to the Administrative Services Committee for rewording to make this action unnecessary. He suggested changing the wording to say “no later than the Board’s first regular meeting in August.” On a motion by Mr. Martin, second by Dr. Kainz, the policy was unanimously referred to the Administrative Services Committee for rewording.

Adoption of 2009-2010 Schedule of Meetings

The following schedule was presented:

Instructional Services Committee	Support Services Committee	Administrative Services Committee	Regular Monthly Board Meeting*
			July 1
August 10	August 11	August 13**	August 27
September 3	September 1	September 10	September 24
October 5	October 6	October 8	October 22
November 2	November 3	November 5	November 19*
December 7	December 1	December 3	December 17*
January 4	January 5	January 14	January 28
February 1	February 2	February 11	February 25
March 1	March 2	March 11	March 25
April 12	April 13	April 15	April 29*
May 3	May 11	May 13	May 27
June 7	June 1	June 3	June 24

****Board Retreat – August 13, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
511 Cleveland Street, Durham, NC, Room 307**

The schedule was approved by consensus.

There being no further organizational business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of July was called to order by Chair Forte-Brown at 4:45 p.m. Present were the board members and administrators as recorded in the organizational minutes.

Agenda Review and Approval

Attorney Majestic pointed out that #6 Closed Session should be amended to add consideration of personnel matters protected under N.C.G.S. 115C-319. On a motion by Dr. Kainz, second by Ms. Carter, the agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Public Comment

None

Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) Conference Update

Chairman Forte-Brown reported on the 2009 CUBE Issues Seminar – *Urban Reforms Shaping Federal Education Policy*, which she attended June 25-28.

For more than 40 years, CUBE has been in the forefront in helping urban school districts strive for excellence. CUBE's mission is to create opportunities for urban school board leaders to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be effective policy makers and advocates for excellence and equity in public education. DPS has been a member since 2005 and Ms. Forte-Brown is an elected member of the National CUBE Steering Committee, the only representative from North Carolina.

Talented researchers and reformers in urban education were featured as presenters at the conference including Greg Darnieder, who is the special assistant on college access to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Mr. Darnieder is charged by President Obama with the task of increasing high school graduates by one million by the year 2020. Vickie Phillips was also a presenter. She is director of education for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Ms. Phillips challenged board members to know their core business very well. Very important to the Gates Foundation is the goal of empowering very effective teachers. Questions discussed were, what is an effective teacher? How do we recruit it and how do we reward it?

Chairman Forte-Brown facilitated two workshops: #1) *Mid-Size Urban Districts 30,000 – 60,000*. The discussion was about ensuring success for IB, AP and other advanced courses for under-served population; #2) *The Permanent Campaign* which focused on the permanence of always crafting the message and branding for your district.

The most impressive part of the conference was the 4-hour session on Leadership Training-*Preparing Principal Leaders for Academic Success in Urban Schools*. This discussion spoke directly to DPS Policy 3012 – *Empowering Principals and Teachers to Achieve a Culture and Climate of Excellence*. Ms. Forte-Brown stated, "We are on top of it! Everywhere I went, I could say Durham Public School is right there! I was so proud!

Ms. Forte-Brown provided handouts to the board members.

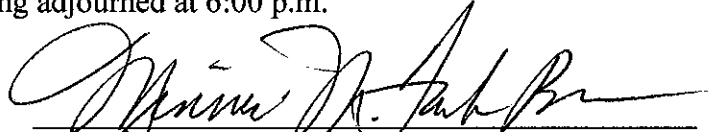
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Closed Session Motion

On a motion by Pastor Davis, second by Ms. Carter, the board convened in closed session to consider confidential student matters as provided in N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (1) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); and to consider confidential personnel matters as provided in N.C.G.S. 115C-319. The motion carried unanimously. The board moved to closed session at approximately 5:00 p.m.

The board returned to open session at approximately 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



Minnie M. Forte-Brown, Chair
Durham Public Schools Board of Education



Carl E. Harris, Ed.D, Superintendent
Durham Public Schools