

MOUNTAIN EDUCATION CENTER, INC.
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
DAHLONEGA, GA. 30533
September 17, 2008

The Mountain Education Center, Inc. Governing Board met in a regular Governing Board meeting in person in Dahlonega, Georgia on Wednesday September 17, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

Members present were: Mr. Mark Henson-Superintendent, Fannin County; Mr. Randy Parson-Superintendent, Gilmer County; Mr. Dewey Moye-Superintendent, Lumpkin County; Mrs. Anita Middleton-C.I.S. of NGA; Dr. Lewis McAfee-Superintendent, Union County; Dr. Richard Behrens-Superintendent, Towns County; Mr. Barry Pritchett-Collaborative Board Member; Dr. Paul Shaw-Superintendent, White County; Mr. Gary Steppe-Superintendent, Stephens County; and Mr. Tommy Qualls-Assistant Superintendent, Pickens County (for Mike Ballew); Dr. Franklin Johnson-Collaborative Board Member; Mr. Mitchel Barrett-Superintendent/Principal, Mountain Education Center; Mr. Tighe Day-Lewis-Assistant Principal-Mountain Education Center High School.

Dr. Richard Behrens welcomed Dr. Franklin Johnson as new governing board member.

Dr. Richard Behrens called the meeting to order. Mr. Mitchel Barrett gave the invocation and Dr. Richard Behrens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Paul Shaw made a motion, seconded by Dr. Franklin Johnson **to approve the agenda.**

The motion carried.

Mr. Gary Steppe made a motion, seconded by Mr. Randy Parson **to approve the August 13, 2008 Governing Board minutes.**

The motion carried.

Mr. Jeremy Williams of Pioneer RESA presented the findings on the study of possible expansion sites for MEC. These studies included Banks, Hart, Habersham and Franklin counties. Mr. Williams gave a thorough report explaining Franklin has vacant rooms for MEC.

Ms. Debbie Day Lewis reported on the results of her discussions with MEC staff members concerning pros and cons on expansion of the MEC program. These staff members responded positively towards MEC expansion.

The Board members discussed the results from Mr. Williams and Ms. Day-Lewis. It was the consensus of the Board that MEC would not open a new site this year.

Mr. Dewey Moye made a motion, seconded by Dr. Paul Shaw **to offer membership into the MEC consortium to the four counties Banks, Hart, Habersham and Franklin**

interested in joining MEC. The cost of joining the consortium is \$15,000 for each system. These counties would have non-Board membership. MEC would offer some transportation funding to these counties to aid in busing their students to present MEC sites.

The motion carried.

Ms. Aundrea Wilson presented a report on current Graduation Coach Supplements to the Board. Mr. Dewey Moye made a motion, seconded by Dr. Franklin Johnson adopted the attached supplement sheet for graduation coaches which includes a **supplement of \$1,000 to Mr. Will Craig, Graduation Coach at the MEC Lumpkin site.**

The motion carried.

Dr. Richard Behrens recommended that MEC hire a Financial Director. The pay would be based on the educational degree of the person hired. Mr. Dewey Moye made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Steppe to **approve the position of MEC Financial Director and advertise for that position.**

The motion carried.

Dr. Richard Behrens and Myra Underwood explained the financial report, discussed the current QBE allotment sheet and possible cuts the state is considering at this time.

Ms. Underwood presented a Capital Asset Policy and Guidelines for MEC. Mr. Dewey Moye made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mark Henson **to approve to set the policy on the table.**

The motion carried.

After discussion concerning changing the name of MEC from Mountain Education Center High School to Mountain Education Charter High School, the Board decided this was not feasible.

Mrs. Debra Seabolt presented a progress report from the Curriculum Committee.

Mr. Barrett reported that MEC had met their AYP and we should have an official report by the next Board Meeting.

Dr. Paul Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dewey Moye **to go into Executive Session.**

The motion carried.

Mr. Dewey Moye made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mark Henson **to come out of Executive Session.**

The motion carried.

Dr. Lewis McAfee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Steppe **to approve the hiring of the following personnel for the Mountain Education Center, Inc. upon completion**

of fingerprinting and criminal background checks. Dr. Richard Behrens abstained from voting.

1. Patricia Rogers Cook – Teacher, Union Site
2. JoAnn Hamby – Teacher, Union Site
3. Amy Rossner – Social Worker, Union Site
4. Camie Lynn George - Special Education Teacher, Union Site
5. Jere Lynn Whitfield - Special Education Teacher, White Site
6. Edna Chisena – Counselor, Lumpkin Site
7. Theresa Anderson – Counselor, Lumpkin Site
8. Cynthia Behrens – Teacher, Lumpkin Site
9. Crystal Cannon – Science Teacher, Stephens Site
10. Kelly Adams-McBride – Hourly Social Studies Teacher, Gilmer Site

The motion carried.

Mr. Tommy Qualls made the motion, seconded by Dr. Paul Shaw **to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion carried.

Dr. Behrens, Governing Board Chairperson

Dr. Paul Shaw, Governing Board Secretary

Next meeting:

Video Conference meeting at 5 p.m., Wednesday, October 8, 2008.