

MOUNTAIN EDUCATION CENTER, INC.
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Video Conference
August 12, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Richard Behrens – Superintendent, Towns County
Ms. Debra Seabolt for Dr. Paul Shaw – Superintendent, White County
Mr. Mitchel Barrett – Superintendent/Principal, Mountain Education Center High School
Ms. Anita Middleton – Collaborative Board Member
Mr. Randy Parson – Superintendent, Gilmer County
Dr. Lewis McAfee – Superintendent, Union County
Ms. Wendy Reynolds for Mr. Mark Henson – Superintendent, Fannin County
Mr. Mike Ballew - Superintendent, Pickens County

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Shook, MEC Technology Director	Carol West, MEC Administrative Assistant
Andrea Hulsey, MEC Finance Director	Tighe Day-Lewis, MEC Assistant Principal/SPED Director
Aundrea Wilson, MEC Personnel Director	Carol Reid, MEC Administrative Assistant

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Mr. Dewey Moye – Superintendent, Lumpkin County
Representative Stephen Allison - Collaborative Board Member
Dr. Franklin Johnson - Collaborative Board Member
Mr. Barry Pritchett, Collaborative Board Member
Dr. Paul Shaw – Superintendent, White County
Mr. Mark Henson – Superintendent, Fannin County

The Mountain Education Center, Inc. Governing Board met in a regular meeting by video conference on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 5 pm.

Mr. Mitchel Barrett gave the invocation and Dr. Richard Behrens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM I:

Motion by Mr. Mike Ballew, seconded by Mr. Randy Parson **to approve the agenda.**
Motion carried. All voted yes.

ITEM II:

Motion by Mr. Mike Ballew, seconded by Mr. Randy Parson **to approve the July 8, 2009 Governing Board minutes.**
Motion carried. All voted yes.

Report

Mr. Mitchel Barrett reported the first MEC audit was very successful. The audit was nearly perfect except a few minor issues, which have already been corrected. He thanked and commended Myra Underwood for an excellent job.

Old Business:

Mr. Mitchel Barrett explained the need to revise the 2009-2010 calendar. Due to State budget cuts, the revised 2009-2010 MEC school calendar would reflect 3 extra school closing days.

ITEM III:

Motion by Mr. Randy Parson, seconded by Mr. Mike Ballew **to approve the revised 2009-2010 calendar.**

Motion carried. All voted yes.

New Business

Financial Report

Ms. Andrea Hulsey presented the July financial report. She explained in her report that MEC has not yet received final confirmation from the State on what our budget cuts will be; therefore, this budget does not reflect reductions in State funding for furlough days or for funding cuts made by the Governor. In anticipation of the finding cuts, MEC has provided each site with a budget that includes a built in 3% cut.

This report reflects that after completing 1/12 of the fiscal year, MEC is on track with actual expenditures, even with the payment of a three-year NovaNet license renewal paid in the month of July 2008 that over the course of three years will save MEC approximately \$150,000.

ITEM IV:

Motion by Dr. McAfee, seconded by Ms. Anita Middleton **to approve the financial report.**

Motion carried. All voted yes.

Up for Nomination

Ms. Anita Middleton and Mr. Barry Pritchett agreed to serve another two-year term on the MEC board.

ITEM V:

Motion by Mr. Mike Ballew, seconded by Mr. Randy Parson **to approve Ms. Anita Middleton and Mr. Barry Pritchett's renewal of two-year terms.**

Motion carried. All voted yes.

Zero Period Request

Ms. Debra Seabolt, White Co. Asst. Superintendent, made a request for a Zero Period class for Math I students at the MEC White County site. There will be approximately 13 students for one semester. Ms. Seabolt explained this class would be evaluated after one semester to determine if it should be continued.

ITEM VI:

Motion by Mr. Mike Ballew and seconded by Ms. Anita Middleton **to approve the Zero Period class for White County school system.**

Motion carried. All voted yes

ARRA IDEA Funds

Mr. Tighe Day-Lewis reported on the preliminary budgets for ARRA and the IDEA programs. Ms. Andrea Hulsey and Ms. Aundrea Wilson helped prepare primary draft budgets. The budget can be amended when needs change. The deadline on submitting budget to the State is later this fall. The final budgets will be presented to the board at a future meeting.

Habersham update

Mr. Barrett reported the new Habersham site is up and running well with 80 active students. The Math I class is full.

No Executive session

ITEM VII:

Motion by Mr. Randy Parson, seconded by Dr. Lewis McAfee **to approve the hiring of the following personnel for the Mountain Education Center, Inc. upon completion of fingerprinting and criminal background checks.**

Motion carried. All voted yes.

New Personnel:

- 1. Carla Porter-Paraprofessional, Habersham Site**
- 2. Kathleen Clement-Social Worker, Habersham Site 4 hrs per week**
- 3. Michelle Blackburn-Social Worker, Habersham 4 hrs per week**

ITEM VIII:

Motion by Dr. Lewis McAfee, seconded by Mr. Randy Parson **to adjourn the Governing Board meeting.**

Motion carried. All voted yes.

Dr. Behrens, Governing Board Chairperson

Dr. Paul Shaw, Governing Board Secretary

MEC, Inc. Governing Board will meet on Wednesday, September 9 at 5 pm for a Video Conference