



**North Carolina District - DDESS**  
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
855 STONE STREET  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28547



March 18, 2009

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE**  
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2009

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

(Name Removed), Chairperson of the CLDS School Board, called the meeting to order at 1010 hours in the CSO Board Room. Members in attendance were: (Names Removed). The following member was absent: (Name Removed). Command representative, (Name Removed), Base School Liaison Officer was also absent.

Also in attendance were: Ms. Elizabeth Thomas, Assistant Superintendent for NC DDESS-Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools; Ms. Mary Hendrickson and Mr. Eric Steimel CLDS Instructional Systems Specialists; Ms. Dewanda Sholar, Ms. Carol Perry, Ms. Linda Hawes, Ms. Leigh Ann Kapiko, Mr. Dan Osgood, Ms. Wyonia Chevis and Ms. Cassandra White, CLDS Principals; (Name Removed), MCI-East School Liaison Officer, (Name Removed), School Liaison Officer for Marine Corps Air Station, New River; (Name Removed), Lejeune High School teacher, and (Name Removed), Secretary.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

(Name Removed), made a motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2008, seconded by (Name Removed). The minutes were unanimously approved by the Board as presented.

**III. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Carolina Cruisin' Study Trip. (Name Removed), teachers of Brewster Middle School, gave an outline of the upcoming trip and presented a slide show from last year's trip. Students will leave from Brewster Middle School at 6 a.m. on May 27, 2009. They will spend the first day at the Museum of Life and Science, where they will visit indoor exhibits that detail weather, climate trends, mechanical tools, motion and movement, wildlife, global communication and science behind health issues. Students will participate in hands-on experiments and activities in the Science center. Subsequent days will be filled with learning activities related to social studies, language arts and the sciences, in accordance with curriculum standards as outlined by DoDEA. Students will visit woodland habitats, wetland sites, the Bear Zoo and Animal Park, and Linville Caverns. Students will also visit the Nantahala Outdoor Center where they will participate in low level river rafting, Alpine tower climbing and the Ropes Challenge Course, all of which are designed to encourage skill development,

team-building and problem solving. Freeman Owle, a local storyteller, will entertain students with folk tales and talk with them about the life of the American Indian. On May 29, students will visit Oconaluftee Indian Village on the Cherokee Reservation to see American Indian life. Cherokee guides in native costume will explain their history, culture and life-style of their ancestors and answer questions. There will be demonstrations of Indian arts and crafts and a visit to a model Cherokee village from over 225 years ago. In addition to the noted subjects, activities will also incorporate Art, Music and PE curriculum. The safety and security of the students has been considered with great detail, and off-duty police officers have been hired for the overnight hotel stays. A bus with a handicapped lift has been arranged along with regular touring busses. The total cost of the trip for each student is approximately \$250, which has been supplemented by the PTO, Officer's Wives Club and some fund raising events. In addition, parents have been given the option of paying in installments. Last school year, 127 of 142 students participated in the trip. Students not participating due to parental decision will be supervised at school and will have school work to complete. No student will be excluded due to financial needs. (Name Removed) concluded that there is also a lot of journaling done on the trip which leads to much discussion in their Advisory Classes. Based on those discussions from previous trips, she and (Name Removed) feel that students are excited and appreciative of the trip and its opportunities.

- B. (Name Removed), Base Schools Liaison Officer was scheduled, but not present, to offer an overview of resources available on the School Liaison website, [www.mccslejeune.com/schools](http://www.mccslejeune.com/schools). She will present to the Board at the March meeting.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Public Displays of Affection / Handholding (LHS) Revisit.

Ms. Chevis, Lejeune High Principal, reported that students were continuing to hold hands and to be respectful of each other. Students have not been observed doing anything beyond hand-holding. There have been no further parent concerns brought to school's attention. Ms. Thomas commented that in her visits to the school, she has seen only two couples holding hands. (Name Removed) added that she spends a lot of time at the high school and rarely sees students holding hands. (Name Removed) commented that he doesn't see very much hand-holding at the ball games.

- B. Early Release during Extended Learning Period - Revisit. (Students with all As and Bs would be able to leave school about 20 minutes early one day per week.)

Ms. Chevis, Lejeune High Principal, gave out a draft proposal for the Early Dismissal that is a revision of the original draft. The new draft has been distributed to the faculty, staff, and students at the high school. There was a Parent Meeting at the school in January 2009, where the draft was again distributed, but there was not a large turnout. Conversations have resulted in differing opinions. Some parents are in favor and some expressed concerns, especially for students who live at the Air Station or who would not be able to leave campus. Ms. Chevis reminded the

Board that students must be in Extended Learning and must meet specific criteria to be considered for Early Dismissal; early dismissal would be only one day per week, perhaps Friday. Ms. Chevis explained that teachers are looking for more ways to motivate students. Already in place is the “Student Best” assembly, sponsored by the LHS Parent-Teacher Organization. Teachers select 2 students and one alternate from each class to be recognized for a variety of reasons, not just grades. The PTO provides refreshments, a ‘goodie bag’ and certificate to those students. Mrs. Thomas commented that when she attended the assemblies, students seemed proud to be included. Another recognition format in place is ‘Academic Success’, where students with all A’s were treated to pizza and games. Ms. Chevis said that LHS would like to give the Early Dismissal a ‘trial run’ before the end of the school year, to see what refinements/revisions would be needed before implementing the program, possibly next year. She expects to have another evening Parent Meeting in March or April and advertise the program prior to the meeting, to gain a better turnout and discussion.

Further concerns expressed by the Board include:

- participation by all grade levels (should it just be seniors?);
- is there a consensus of all teachers to support early release;
- using the A/B format for regular classes, what about AP students who are graded on a point scale?
- More input by parents as well as students – poor parent showing at the last meeting. Suggest that LHS inundate parents with announcements about the meeting and the agenda. Use newsletters, the One Call Now, send notices home with students, etc. Would like to know how students feel about the issue, as well.
- School Board should also be invited to the meeting, as a whole.

Ms. Chevis indicated that another evening meeting will be held in April or May.

Ms. Thomas suggested to Ms. Chevis that #13 on the draft be revised. Though the *intent* of the statement, “Any students who pester teachers about grades in relation to this program will not be eligible to participate” is understood, it might need to be rephrased.

Ms. Chevis was asked to provide an update at the Board meeting following the next parent meeting.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

A. The Chair polled the members with respect to receiving meeting minutes and school Newsletters electronically, rather than delivery of hard copies. The Board agreed to delivery by email of meeting minutes and newsletters.

## **VI. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. One Call Now . Ms. Thomas asked everyone whether they had received the One Call Now messages in relation to cancellation of school on Jan 20 and 21 due to snow. Everyone had received the calls and were delighted that cell phones were called in addition to home phones. (Name Removed) were appreciative that the Exam schedule changes at Lejeune High School were announced via the One Call Now system. Ms. Thomas commended Ms. Chevis and (Name Removed) in making revisions to the schedule so quickly. Ms. Thomas went on to explain that

some calls were received afterward regarding incorrect numbers and that each school has made refinements to the data as entered into the system. Board Members suggested use of the One Call Now system for other announcements (i.e., student attendance, school events, Customer Satisfaction Survey). Ms. Thomas agreed that Administrators are considering those options, as well as notification of Emergency Lunch Loan balances. In addition, each school Principal can send announcements to their school community about school events or news. A suggestion was made that One Call Now be used to notify LHS parents of the meeting about Early Release during Extended Learning. The consensus of the Board is that One Call Now works very well as a community notification system, and will be a valuable tool for the school system.

- B. Read Across America, March 2-9, 2009. Contact any school if you would like to read to students anytime. Dr. Miles, Director for DoDEA is scheduled to read at one or more Camp Lejeune schools on March 3.
- C. Customer Satisfaction Survey for parents will close on February 27. We need parents to go online and take the survey. (Name Removed), (Base Executive Officer) are helping at the command level by placing a message on the Base Wide Area Network (WAN). (Name Removed) are working with the Family Readiness Officers to encourage parents to participate. (Name Removed) commented that she knew at least one school is rewarding classes with the most participation. (Name Removed) commented that the Delalio PTA members had made phone calls to the Delalio parents.

## **VII. AGENDA BUILDING**

- Presentation by (Name Removed), PEERS (Parent Education Empathy Rapport & Support), March 2009
- (Name Removed), SLO Resources, March 2009
- EL Early Release Revisit (Wyonia Chevis), April / May
- Attendance Policy Review, April / May

## **VIII. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the CSO Board Room. The members will meet in an executive session beginning at 0930.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1205 hours.

## **X. SCHOOL BOARD ITEMS RECEIVING APPROVAL**

The following items were presented to the members requesting their review and recommendations.

A. Financial Reports of November, December 2008 and January 2009 – After a review, the members recommended approval of the Financial Reports as presented. The subject reports were unanimously approved. (Tab J)

B. Student Activity Fund Expenditures:

1. A check request in the amount of \$3,120.00 payable to American Coach Lines for charter buses for Bitz Intermediate School 4<sup>th</sup> Grade study trip to Raleigh. Request for payment form shows the funds are designated in account 614 for this expenditure. Funds have been verified and are available for this payment.
2. A purchase order of \$4085.00 to American Coach Lines for charter buses for Bitz Intermediate School 5<sup>th</sup> grade study trip to the Life and Science Museum in Durham. Purchase order #112 shows the funds are designated in account 614 for this expenditure.
3. A check request in the amount of 1164.18 payable to T.S. Outfitters, Inc for the purchase of LHS Senior Sweatshirts. Purchase order #110 shows the funds are designated in account 203 for this expenditure. Funds have been verified and are available for this payment.

The School Board unanimously approved the expenditures noted above.

(Name Removed),  
Chair, CLDS School Board

cc: Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba