



Domestic Dependents
Elementary & Secondary Schools

North Carolina District - DDESS
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
855 STONE STREET
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28547
(910)-451-2461



October 25, 2008

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 22, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Tina Thoele, Chairperson of the CLDS School Board, called the meeting to order at 1010 hours in the CSO Board Room. Members in attendance were: Ms. Tori Clarke, Ms. Susan Fuquea, and Ms. Traci Crites. The following members were absent: Mr. Tom Vasquez, Ms. Rachael Kramer, Mr. Jeff Davis, Ms. Cathy Close, and Ms. Tamiko McCants. Command representatives, Ms. Julie Fulton, Base School Liaison Officer; and Ms. Courtney Buzzard, School Liaison Officer for Marine Corps Air Station, New River; were present.

Also in attendance were: Dr. Tom Hager, NC District Superintendent; Ms. Elizabeth Thomas, Assistant Superintendent for NC DDESS-Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools; Ms. Mary Hendrickson, CLDS Instructional Systems Specialist; Mr. Dan Osgood, Ms. Carol Perry, Ms. Linda Hawes, Ms. Leigh Ann Kapiko, and Ms. Cassandra White, CLDS Principals; and Ms. Rebecca Humphrey, Administrative Support Specialist.

The Chair extended congratulations to Ms. Leigh Anne Kapiko, Principal of Tarawa Terrace 2 Elementary School.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORT AND STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND EXPENDITURES

Because there was not a quorum at today's meeting, Ms. Thoele announced that the subject items would be forwarded to all members via the e:mail for their review and recommendation for approval.

III. SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

Dr. Stacey Cacace, Instructional Systems Specialist for the CLDS Special Education Program, provided a program overview and how it interfaces with the general education classrooms. The program accommodates 425 students system wide, preschool through grades 12. CLDS accepts students into the Special Education Program from ages 3 through the student's 21st birthday. At this time, there are no SPED students in a self-contained classroom with the majority of services provided within the context of the general education classrooms and activities. CLDS does have one student who is currently receiving special education services in the home due to

being medically fragile. The percentage of students receiving special education services in each of the Camp Lejeune schools ranges from 9% to 25%. There are ranges of levels of severity of the disabilities within a classroom for classes with moderate to severely disabled students; and subsequently, varying amounts of support are provided to appropriately accommodate the specific needs of the students in the class. There are some students who require more intensive instruction in Language Arts, Math or Daily Living Skills who might receive those services within a Special Education Resource Room.

The Special Education Program staffs 116 employees to consist of 36 special education teachers; 61 educational aides; 3 assessors; 3 psychologists; 1 teacher for students with emotionally impairments, a part time hearing impaired teacher, six speech/language pathologists, two occupational therapists and a physical therapist. Because the population of students and their needs continuously change, the staffing across the system fluctuates to address those changes and meet the needs of students. Currently, we have not been able to contract a visually impaired teacher for students who need vision consultation services. Dr. Cacace will continue to attempt to find a contract provider and is also exploring the possibility of partnering with Onslow County Schools to provide this service if contract services do not become available.

Ms. Fuqea inquired if services were provided at the home for the homebound student. The homebound student does receive support from a Special Education teacher as well as several therapists on a routine schedule.

Ms. Fulton, Base School Liaison Officer, interjected that she has learned of sponsors waiting to arrive at Camp Lejeune until they can get housing in an effort to enroll their children in the Camp Lejeune schools due to the outstanding reputation of the Special Education Program.

Assistant Superintendent Thomas asked Dr. Cacace to share information on the growing autistic population in our schools and what impact or influence it has on other students. While there may be significant behavioral challenges, research has shown there is great benefit to both the regular and special needs students when the autistic child is placed in the regular classroom. It is our goal to meet the needs of all students without creating an adverse impact. It is our goal to be collaborative in supporting teachers and students as needed. There are times when it might be appropriate to remove a student from the classroom for a short period of time. As a last resort, appropriate restraint procedures are in place if a student is a danger to himself or others. Staff members have received the required training for appropriately restraining a child in a therapeutic hold.

At the middle and high school levels, SPED students with significant disabilities attend classes in life skills and community living skills to assist the students in becoming as independent as possible in all aspects of their life once they graduate from school. Students with disabilities at Lejeune High School also can participate in a vocational program wherein CLDS and Marine Corps Community Services work in partnership to place SPED students in a work environment aboard the Base during school hours. Students are matched with the best position according to their special needs and skill level.

Ms. Fuqea asked about the procedures in place for teachers to respond to parents when they have a concern in the classroom or an incident has occurred that

involves a special needs student. The general education and special education teachers work together to respond to concerned parents to ensure them that a plan is in place to handle difficult situations. If classroom changes are needed, they will be acted upon while keeping confidentiality at the forefront. Ms. Thomas added that the SPED staff members are very well trained in meeting the needs of SPED students; however, communication is critical. Parents should feel comfortable speaking with the general or special education teachers and the School Principal regarding any concerns. Dr. Cacace announced that this is the nineteenth school year for the inclusion program at CLDS; and with the program, there is constant turnover. Continuous efforts are in place to keep everyone up-to-date on appropriate procedures to follow.

The Chair expressed full support of the inclusion model as she has seen the program greatly benefit the general education students. There are friendships and positive bonds that occur with the students especially with the on-going war and those returning with disabilities.

Dr. Miles, Director for DoDEA, was complimentary of the Special Education Program during her recent visit with Camp Lejeune Schools. Dr. Hager added that the CLDS Special Education Program will become a model for all of DoDEA.

Ms. Kapiko shared a testimonial about the implementation of the inclusion model and how the program significantly improved test scores in a previous school district where she worked.

A video presentation showcased the inclusion model and the interactions among all students.

The School Board was appreciative for the overview and thanked Dr. Cacace and the Special Education staff for an outstanding program.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Projected Growth for CLDS

The 35% design meeting for the new elementary school is slated for December 2 and 3.

The gym addition for Delalio Elementary School is on schedule with a completion date of July 2009.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Renaissance Faire, Oct 23, 8:30– 10:20, LHS Commons Area

B. LHS Homecoming Game, Friday, Oct 24, 7:30 p.m. Ms. Clarke added that winner of the hallway decorations would be announced during the game.

- C. Recently, the Sophomore class placed first in a History project as the 'class with the most registered voters' in conjunction with the Election year.
- D. No Student Days, Oct 27-28, 2008
- E. Parent Conferences, Nov 3-5 for grades K-8; Nov 4-5 for grades 9-12
- F. DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey – Parents and students will be asked to complete the DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey beginning November 1 through February 28, 2009. The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete; and DoDEA will use this feedback to better serve all stakeholders. Parents will have access to computers in the schools in order to take the survey.
- G. Influenza Vaccine Handout – In partnership with the Naval Hospital, the influenza vaccine will be available to school employees and families free of charge. A schedule of available times was provided. (Tab T) Dr. Hager gave recognition to the Naval Hospital for their outstanding efforts and support as they are the only entity to provide this opportunity within a DDESS school district. Thank you for your time and commitment to provide this service to our schools and families.
- H. Video Presentation. The video 'I Believe' was shared with the School Board. Ms. Thomas reminded everyone that this video speaks to what we're all about; and thanked the School Board for their continuous support to ensure we do what is best for all students.

VII. AGENDA BUILDING

The following presentations/items were confirmed for the November meeting:

- FOCUS Project
- Resource Programs
- Utilization of Educational Aides
- One Call Now Update
- Lunch Prepay Update
- Parent Portal Update

VIII. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 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 1100 hours.

X. SCHOOL BOARD ITEMS RECEIVING APPROVAL

The following items were forwarded to the members via e:mail on October 22, 2008 requesting their review and recommendations.

- A. School Board Minutes – The members unanimously recommended approval of the September 24, 2008 and September 30, 2008 School Board minutes as presented. The minutes were approved. (Tab A)
- B. Financial Report of September 2008 – After a review, the members recommended approval of the September 2008 Financial Report. The subject report was unanimously approved. (Tab J)
- C. Student Activity Fund Expenditures:

The following expenditures were forwarded for review/approval:

1. A check made payable to MCCS Officers' Club in the amount of \$3,524.00 to cover the cost of the MCJROTC Birthday Ball on November 15, 2008. Purchase Order #048 shows the funds are designated in account 232 for this expenditure. Funds have been verified and are available for this payment.
2. A check made payable to Jostens in the amount of \$18, 705.00 to cover the cost of the 2009 Devilpup Yearbook. The final invoice will reflect a lower cost when taking out pre-pay and credits. PO #049 shows the funds are designated in account 206 for this expenditure. Funds have been verified and are available for this payment.
3. A check made payable to Great American Opportunities in the amount of \$6,000.00 in support of the MCJROTC Cookie Dough Fundraiser. PO #044 shows the funds are designated in account 232 for this expenditure. Funds have been verified and are available for this payment.

In response to Mr. Vasquez's inquiry in making a total payment upfront for the 2009 Devilpup Yearbooks prior to their receipt; and the cost effectiveness of the JROTC Cookie Dough fundraiser, the Chair explained that only approval is being sought at this time so that when the invoice is received the bill can be paid in its entirety. Neither group is paying the cost until sales are completed and a final invoice is received.

The School Board unanimously approved the expenditures noted above.

//original signed//
Kristina Thoele
Chair, CLDS School Board

cc: Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba