

BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING

January 18, 2006  
9:00 a.m.

Nell C. Hallford Memorial Board Room  
North Georgia RESA  
Ellijay, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS

Charlotte H. Pipkin, Chairman, Murray County Schools..... Present  
Frank Petruzielo, Superintendent, Cherokee County Schools.... Present  
Orval Porter, Superintendent, Dalton City Schools..... Absent  
Sandra Mercier, Superintendent, Fannin County Schools..... Present  
Raiford Cantrell, Superintendent, Gilmer County Schools..... Present  
Mike Ballew, Superintendent, Pickens County Schools..... Present  
Katie Brochu, Superintendent, Whitfield County Schools..... Absent  
Sanford Chandler, President, Appalachian Technical College... Absent  
James Burran, President, Dalton State College..... Absent  
Joe B. Forsee, Northwest Georgia Regional Library System..... Present  
Larry G. Harmon, Secretary, North Georgia RESA..... Present

Dr. Pipkin called the January RESA Board of Control meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Karen Walker, guest speaker for the meeting.

On a motion by Frank Petruzielo, seconded by Sandra Mercier, the January Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

On a motion by Frank Petruzielo, seconded by Mike Ballew, the November Board of Control Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved as presented. There were no minutes to be approved for December as a quorum was not present for that meeting and no business was conducted.

Larry Harmon presented the RESA November and December 2005 Financial Reports and briefly discussed the contents of each. He noted that all accounts appear to be in order and fund balances where they would be expected to be at this point in the fiscal year. He asked the board members to review the reports at their convenience and contact him with any questions. On a motion by Frank Petruzielo, seconded by Sandra Mercier, the board unanimously approved the RESA November and December 2005 Financial Reports.

Mr. Harmon introduced Karen Walker, Georgia Department of Education, who gave a presentation on the Georgia School Performance Review (GSPR) process and brought the board up to date on reviews that have been conducted and those that have been scheduled within the North Georgia RESA systems. She distributed copies of the GSSP with Elements (short version) and a sample certified staff survey which is being used. Ms. Walker discussed the advantages of the program in preparing for upcoming challenges to be encountered with the assessment of a standards-based curriculum in the classroom. Several superintendents had very positive comments regarding the program and Mr. Harmon discussed the benefits of serving on a review team. In closing, Ms. Walker advised the board that the contact person at North Georgia RESA for scheduling these school reviews is Lisa Smith and she encouraged each to follow up with comments and/or questions. Mr.

Harmon also recommended that all interested principals, central office staff, etc. be encouraged to participate as a member of a review team.

Dr. Petruzielo provided a report on the recently held Little Bootstrap meeting and identified participants. Among items discussed at the meeting were: unintended consequences of federal laws on local systems, unfair references made to the systems= poor care of the state=s disadvantaged and challenged children, to which he took exception, and the possibility of school systems being exempted from state taxes on fuel. Dr. Petruzielo encouraged each superintendent to compute the approximate savings that would be recognized by their system as a result of an exemption from state taxes on fuel, adding that this information should then be shared with their legislative representatives.

Dr. Petruzielo next presented his legislative report. He discussed the governor=s budget, austerity cuts that will not be restored, the proposed 4% pay raise for teachers and the cost of continuing class size reductions. In closing, Dr. Petruzielo encouraged the superintendents to keep the lines of communication open with legislative representatives in order to keep them informed and enlightened on issues of interest to the educational community both locally and state-wide.

Mr. Harmon then presented his monthly RESA Director=s report. He updated the board on the vacancy at RESA for a Professional Learning Consultant and alerted the superintendents to companies attempting to write Worker=s Comp insurance very loosely and with no regard for the system=s well-being. He noted that he would be forwarding more information on this scam as he receives it. Mr. Harmon distributed the salary survey data disks to each superintendent and apologized for the delay in getting this report completed. He asked that all information be completed on the disk and it be returned to RESA by January 27 so that the information can be compiled and summarized and put back in the hands of the systems by the first week in February. In closing, Mr. Harmon distributed and discussed test analysis information charts he produced using data from the most recent AReport Card@ results.

After all business was completed, on a motion by Sandra Mercier, seconded by Mike Ballew, the January Board of Control meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

---

Charlotte H. Pipkin, Chairman

---

Larry G. Harmon, Secretary