

Giles County Public Schools
School Board Meeting
August 27, 2004

Mr. Terry E. Arbogast, II

Division Superintendent

***School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Close Out Meeting Minutes – June 30, 2004
- Special Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2004 and August 9, 2004
- Bills in the amount of \$1,201,123.87
- Revenue for July, 2004
- Appropriation Request for September 2004
- Field Trip Confirmation
- Declaration of Surplus Property
- Confirmation of Superintendent's Contract

***Pledge of Allegiance**

The School Board Chairman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Public Comments**

Mr. Richard Chidester attended the meeting to address the Board regarding FLSA issues and volunteers who are current non-exempt employees. New information had been obtained from the Department of Labor, who had issued their opinion regarding legality. The information consisted of allowing current non-exempt employees to volunteer in their school system as long as the job was not related to their paid position. Mr. Chidester thanked Mr. Arbogast and the Central Office administrators for working with him to get the pertinent information that would allow non-exempt school employees to volunteer. Mr. Arbogast asked that the School Board hold all coaching contracts until the FLSA volunteer issue was resolved.

***Educational Feature**

Dave Graham, Energy Management Educator, shared information with the School Board regarding utility use and savings in the energy education plan. He continues to monitor the facilities and utilities in our school system to ensure these savings. He reviewed a powerpoint presentation with Board members that reflected actual expenses and expected costs. Mr. Graham commented that water companies are working with major water leaks and as a result, making adjustments in water bills. July reflected the most significant savings, but that of course is a time when buildings are not in use as much. His presentation was just part of the four year plan that the school system is currently participating in.

***The School Board Approves/Confirms Personnel Items**

The School Board confirmed the following:

- Susan Bowles – Resignation, Suitable Replacement was found (NEMS Music)
- Phyllis Rampey – Retirement, effective August 26, 2004
- Barbara Quesenberry – MMS Teacher Assistant
- Melissa Lucas – MMS Teacher Assistant
- Tonya Vaden – GTC Career Counselor
- Shelly Boggess – GHS Guidance Counselor
- Andrea Bullock – Speech Pathologist/MMS-Itinerant
- Greg Canaday – GHS Assistant Principal, effective August 17, 2004
- Jennie Farmer – NEMS/MMS Music Teacher
- Mark Hubbard – Full-time ARDT/Math Instructor (from part-time)
- Diane Jenkins – NHS English Teacher
- Sonya Meekins – GHS Special Ed. Teacher
- Fred Moler – EEMS Teacher
- Lou Ann Morris – MMS Title I Teacher

- Faye Nicholson – NHS English Teacher
- Melisa Rivera – GHS Part-time Spanish Teacher
- Tracey Yurechko – GHS Special Ed Teacher/Transition Coord.
- Cindy Lilly – GTC ½ Time Health Occupations Teacher
- Margie Burroughs – MMS/Pre-School Bus Driver
- Kelly Steele – GHS Part-time Facilitator/Distance Learning Lab

Teacher Assistants (Special Ed. – Full-Time)

- Tori Bowman – Narrows Elementary/Middle School
- Nora Hale - Narrows Elementary/Middle School
- Candace Higginbotham – Macy McClaugherty School
- Michelle Jackson – Narrows High School
- Kim Kantsios – Narrows Elementary/Middle School
- Marsha Kessinger – Eastern Elementary/Middle School
- Shana Midkiff - Giles High School
- Shannon Stump - Giles High School
- Carolyn Smith – Narrows Elementary/Middle School (from part-time to full-time)
- Denise Osborne – Giles High School

Part-time:

- Bill Munsey – Giles High School Part-time Teacher Assistant

The Board approved the part-time employment of Kelly Steele as Facilitator of Giles High School Distance Learning Lab for 2004-05.

The Board approved Mr. Arbogast, Superintendent, to serve as a Deputy Clerk as well for 2004-05.

***The School Board Hears Reports from the Superintendent**

- Board approved the change of signing in the absence of the Superintendent, Jim Wheeler. Mr. Arbogast had initially been approved until his term began as Superintendent. Boni Kirk, Clerk, also remains on the list.
- The Board approved changes to the Activity Handbook as recommended to include changes for sports participation. The new wording will read “(Must first be eligible under VHSL guidelines.) Effective September 7, 2004, the Superintendent will not consider in-county transfer students to be eligible for participation in any sport unless the student has been enrolled by the first day of the semester immediately preceding the current semester.”
- The Board approved the revision of Policy Regulation GAA-R to allow non-exempt school employees to volunteer, based on information provided by the Department of Labor.
- The Board approved policy revisions as recommended by VSBA Policy Services and administration. A list of those revisions can be found in the Office of the Superintendent.
- The Superintendent introduced 26 new teachers for the 2004-05 school year, and the School Board joined them in a continental breakfast provided by the Giles County Chamber of Commerce with Barbara Stafford, Executive Director, hosting the event. New teachers are:

Andrea Bullock – Speech Pathologist (MMS/Itinerant)
 Greg Canaday – GHS Assistant Principal
 Melissa Cowan – MMS Early Childhood/Sp. Ed.
 Donna Davis – GTC Nursing Instructor
 Crystal Dunn – MMS Elementary Teacher
 Jennie Farmer – NEMS/MMS Music Teacher
 Mark Hubbard – GHS/ARDT Math Instructor
 Diane Jenkins – NHS English Teacher

Lou Ann Morris – MMS Title I
 Faye Nicholson – NHS English
 Erin Patton – NHS Social Studies
 Crystal Perdue – GHS Special Ed.
 Nikki Pynn – GHS/Elem. Art Teacher
 Jodi Reed – EEMS Title I Teacher
 Mitch Reed – GHS Social Studies
 Melisa Rivera – GHS Part-time Spanish

Jeannie Layton – GHS Voc. Ag. Teacher
Cindy Lilly – GTC Half-Time Health Occ. Teacher
Sonya Meekins – GHS Special Ed. Teacher
Sheri Miller – MMS Elementary Teacher
Fred Moler – EEMS Elementary Teacher

Amy Rogers – NHS Guidance Counselor
Christina Strayer – MMS Guidance Coun.
Beth Umberger – NHS Science Teacher
Allison Wright – MMS Elementary Tchr.
Tracey Yurechko – GHS Special Ed.

***School Board and School Staff Present Comments and Mission Statement Accomplishments**

- The Chairman welcomed back Mr. Wheeler, who is serving as part time Deputy Superintendent for the 2004-05 school year.
- It was commented that “Pack the Bus” was a success this year, which is a program coordinated by the Q-99 radio station. Numerous student supplies were donated. That certainly speaks well of our community!
- Schools were commended for their SOL’s across the county. Where we were and where we are shows dramatic improvement and is exceptional for our county!
- New teachers were welcomed and we wish them well in meeting the challenges this year.
- The Superintendent conveyed his appreciation to the School Board for their support and commented he looks forward to working with the Board, administrators and schools. He also stated he feels he has a lot to learn, and will strive to do his best to meet the goals and standards set before him.
- The Superintendent also conveyed his thanks to Mr. Chidester for providing the information for FLSA volunteer issue. He stressed that although it has not been “fun”, FLSA has been addressed and changed, and we feel we can now move forward.