

**Giles County Public Schools  
School Board Meeting  
NEWS RELEASE  
April 12, 2006**

*Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II*

*Division Superintendent*

**\*Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**\*Public Comments**

On behalf of the GEA Compensation Committee, Cecilia McFaden, President of the GEA, attended the meeting to discuss the compensation proposal with the school board members. This proposal dealt with restructuring the salary scale for teachers using a 1.9% index. By changing the index to 1.9%, the target salary scale would address the mid-career and senior staff salaries. In addition, this proposal included changing the master's supplement from \$1,648 to the supplement being calculated as 5.4% of the Teacher's BA salary. Furthermore, the proposal included raising the longevity supplement from \$1,600 to \$2,000. Ms. McFaden stated that the combined efforts from all of the teachers of Giles County have made this school system one of the best. She thanked the board for their consideration and continued support of the school system.

The board chairman thanked her, as well as the other teachers for all they do each and every day. He stated that the board is trying to do all that they can with the budget and available funds.

**\*Special Presentations**

On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were recognized for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support: **Jane Garrett** – Teacher Assistant (NHS), **Millie Lawrence** – Teacher Assistant (NHS), **Terri Martin** – Teacher (EEMS), **Beth Sparks** – Teacher (EEMS), **Nikki Pynn** – Art Teacher (MMS), **Mary French** – Teacher (MMS), **Kim Squibb** – Teacher Assistant (MMS), **Gloria Hurt** – Teacher (MMS), **Bendy Shrader** – Volunteer (MMS), **Debbie Journell & The Spartan Boosters** (GHS), **Shirley Bowers** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS), **Gloria Gray** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS), **Gladys Burton** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS), **Betty Robertson** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS), **Margie Terrill** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS), **Cindy Gordon** – Cafeteria Worker (NEMS).

**\*Educational Feature**

Crystal Ramos-McCall, as well as several students from Eastern Elementary Middle School, attended the School Board meeting to give an overview of the Title I program. Several of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at Eastern helped Mrs. Ramos-McCall present the PowerPoint, which was titled "A look inside the Title I Classroom." The first subject discussed was Math. The concepts and objects taught within the Title I classroom reflect work done in the regular math class. Manipulatives, stories, songs/chants, and the smart lab are used to help in this subject. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students enjoy simplifying fractions in the smart lab and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade math student's work together to count money. The other subject that was discussed was Reading. For Reading, the teachers focus on phonemic recognition, decoding skills, fluency, comprehension, and the writing process. High interest literature, computer labs, music, reader's theatre, and the smart lab are a few things used to help with this subject. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade students enjoy using "Reading Rods" to build words and the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders work diligently to complete poems.

The board members thanked Mrs. Ramos-McCall and the students for the wonderful presentation!

**\*School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2006
- Bills in the amount of \$ 157,808.19
- Payroll, March 31 and April 13, 2006
- Revenue for March 2006
- Expenditure for March 2006

- Appropriation Request for May 2006
- Special Educational Annual Plan
- Confirmation of Surplus Items
- Career & Technical Education Funds

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

The School Board confirmed the following **Resignations:** **Martha Radike** – EEMS & MMS Music Teacher (Effective at the end of the 05-06 school year), **Brenda Hayes** – EEMS Principal (Requested to be reassigned to a teaching position, effective at the beginning of the 06-07 school year), **Justin Gray** – NHS Custodian (Effective March 30, 2006), **Richard “Alvin” Crotty** – NEMS/NHS Bus Driver (Effective at the end of the 05-06 school year).

The School Board confirmed the following **Retirement:** **Faye Owens** – MMS Cafeteria (Effective at the end of the 05-06 school year).

The School Board confirmed the following **Employment:** **Michelle Scott** – MMS Special Ed. Teacher Assistant (Effective March 31, 2006), **Patricia Tolley** – MMS Speech Language Pathologist (Effective at the beginning of the 06-07 school year), **Jimmy McCroskey** – Maintenance Foreman (Effective March 21, 2006), **Sean Sowers** – MMS Teacher (Effective at the beginning of the 06-07 school year), **Julie Sargent** – MMS Teacher (Effective at the beginning of the 06-07 school year).

The School Board confirmed the following **Athletic Contracts:** **Randy Roe** – GHS Head JV Soccer.

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements:** **Scott Keaton** – GHS Soccer, **Ben Woodyard** – NHS Assistant JV Baseball

The School Board confirmed all **Substitute Teachers to Date.**

The School Board confirmed Champion Auto Sales for services specified in RFP #4-2006 (purchase of car & van).

As per the Code of Virginia that all reappointments must be made by April 15<sup>th</sup> annually, I recommend, contingent upon receipt of notification of necessary funding, all personnel appointments, non-reappointments, and transfers as recommended by principals and administration of the Giles County Public Schools System for the 2006-07 school year.

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

The School Board approved a proposed 2006-07 budget to include expenditures and revenue. This budget is a plan and until state revenue is known, it is an estimate of expenditures and revenues.

The Superintendent shared a letter with board members to Mr. Brown from Senator John Edwards regarding his visit to Giles High School several weeks ago. Senator Edwards thanked Mr. Brown, as well as other students for showing him around the high school. He stated that he enjoyed meeting many of the students and teachers. He was impressed with the interactive video conferencing technology. Senator Edwards has introduced a resolution for the state champion football team and looks forward to presenting it when it returns from the Senate Clerk’s office.

The Superintendent shared pictures with the board members of the Giles County Clean-up Day, which was held on March 25<sup>th</sup>. These pictures included students from Giles High and Macy McClaugherty School.

The Superintendent also shared a picture of Mr. Rader, principal at Macy, dressed up as a Hokie Bird. Mr. Rader told the students if their cookie sales exceeded a certain amount, then he would dress up like the Hokie bird.

The Superintendent shared information with board members regarding the Choral Department at Giles High School. In February, 6 students, Summer Davis, Rachel Lucas, Katy Allamong, Meredith Epperley, Hoil Song, and Nathan Colle represented the Choral Department at All District Chorus at Caroll Co. High

School. While she was there, Rachel Lucas was chosen as a Soprano 1 to All Virginia and Hoil Song was chosen as a first alternate Tenor 2 to All Virginia. In March, Amelia Tyler represented the Choral Department at Junior All District Chorus. On Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Women's Chorus, Symphonic Chorale and Choral Ensemble performed for judges at the District Choral Festival held at Patrick Henry High School, Glade Spring. The Women's Chorus received excellent ratings from the 3 judges. The Chorale and Choral Ensemble both received superior ratings. The Chorale and Choral Ensemble both sported brand new uniforms. They are now preparing for their competition in Washington, DC. They have been accepted by audition to sing the National Anthem for the Washington Nationals vs. Atlanta Braves game on April 21<sup>st</sup> and are presently applying to sing at the Naval Academy where Andy Houck will guide them around the campus.

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

A board member commended all of the people being recognized at the board meeting!

A board member commented that it was great to have Ms. McFaden at the board meeting speaking on behalf of the GEA (Giles Education Association). He stated that hopefully there would be more funds in the future to meet her requests.

A board member, as well as the Superintendent, commended the "Robin Hood" play that was put on by Giles High School. It was well put together!

The elementary schools were commended on their academic fairs. The students did a good job with their presentations!

A board member commended the 6 bus drivers who recently completed the 8 hour course on first aid and CPR.

A board member stated that hopefully Northwood (new governor school) should be complete and open by August, 2006.

A board member distributed a handout to other board members and the Superintendent regarding the 2006-2007 Technology Plans for the Governor's School.

A board member commended Crystal Ramos-McCall, as well as the children, for the excellent Educational Feature this month. Thanks to all of the teachers for their efforts!

A board member commended Thomas Hart, 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Macy, for being the winner of the American Legion Essay Contest.

The Superintendent commended Crystal Ramos-McCall and the students for the wonderful presentation! He appreciates all of her hard work!

The Superintendent commended the Career Fair at GHS that was coordinated by Tonya Vaden! It was well put together!

The Superintendent commended all of the individuals who were involved and helped with the academic fairs at the Elementary Schools.

#### **\*In Other Action**

The School Board approved a resolution **to freeze the Early Retirement Incentive Program**. Effective July 1, 2006, the Giles County School Board officially freezes its Early Retirement Incentive Program; and employees already qualified in the plan shall become 100% vested as a result of the freeze.

The School Board approved the recommendation to accept the proposal from **Dodson** for services specified in RFP #6-2006 (pest management). Proposals were also received from Superior and EcoLab.

The School Board approved the recommendation to approve a one year rollover of the following RFP's: 7-2003 (gas for tanks at maintenance) – Blue Flash Oil, and 6-2003 (grease traps & septic tanks) – Tickle's.

The School Board approved a request from Kay Lucas to rescind her resignation.

The School Board approved the recommendation to re-appoint Kay Lucas as the Giles County Technology Center Nursing Instructor.

**\*Next School Board Meeting**

The next School Board meeting will be held Thursday, May 18 at 3:00 p.m. The Teacher of the Year reception will begin after the board meeting at approximately 4:30.