

**Giles County Public Schools  
School Board Meeting  
NEWS RELEASE  
March 15, 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**

There were no public comments.

**\*Special Presentations**

On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were recognized for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support: **Jean Montgomery** – Teacher Assistant/Narrows Elementary/Middle School, **Peggy Bronnenkant** – School Nurse/Narrows Elementary/Middle School, **Charles Lytton** – Unit Coordinator – Extension Agent for the 4-H Youth Development, **Dusty Stump** – Welding Instructor /Giles County Technology Center, **Jon Bowman** – School Resource Officer/Narrows High School.

**\*Educational Feature**

The Macy Kindergarten teachers, Angela Price, Kristi Porter, Tracy Ervin, and Theresa Ballengee, along with several Kindergarten students, shared a presentation on the "Sing, Spell, Read & Write" program being used within their classrooms. The teachers began by showing the School Board a PowerPoint Presentation that they put together for a workshop that was held for the parents of the Kindergarten students. This presentation was done as part of a workshop to show the parents what their children are doing and learning in school. During this presentation, the teachers discussed something they call "my little storybooks." These are books that the teachers put together with the students to take home and read with their parents. On the front cover of the book is a place for the parents' signature, which helps the teacher know whether the book was read and practiced at home. Next, the teachers discussed "Book 1" that they teach to the students, which includes readiness skills, phonemic awareness, phonics, letter recognition, visual and auditory discrimination, handwriting, sequencing, listening and speaking. In addition, "book 2" was discussed. This book includes systematic phonics, vocabulary development, reading and comprehension, poetry, listening, and speaking skills. The teachers then discussed the "Ferris wheel chart", which is used to "slide together" or blend letter sounds to make "beginnings of words." To conclude the Powerpoint Presentation, the teachers shared strategies with parents that would allow them to help their children at home. This included practicing the Ferris wheel, reading the take home storybooks, practicing reading vocabulary words, and practicing reading sight words. After this presentation to the School Board, Mrs. Ballengee gathered the students together and worked with them to sing songs related to the alphabet, as well as blending letters together. She also played games using the alphabet with the children. The students played games with the "Ferris wheel chart" and were asked to write out words for certain sounds.

Board members commended the students and teachers on such a wonderful presentation.

**\*School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2006
- Special Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2006
- Bills in the amount of \$ 198,528.61
- Payroll, February 28 and March 15, 2006
- Revenue for February 2006
- Expenditure for February 2006
- Appropriation Request for April 2006
- Additional Fields Trips 2005-2006

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

The School Board confirmed the following **Resignations: C. "Kay" Lucas** – GCTC Nursing Instructor (Effective at the end of the 05-06 School Year), **Amy Rogers** – NHS Guidance Counselor (Effective at the end of the 05-06 School Year).

The School Board confirmed the following **Retirement: Mary A. McCall** – MMS (Effective at the end of the 05-06 School Year).

The School Board confirmed the following **Athletic Contracts: Ron Witt** – GHS Co-JV Girls Basketball, **Bill Mance** – Co-JV Girls Basketball.

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements: Dan Taylor** – NHS JV Boys Baseball, **Maurice Milton** – GHS Assistant Boys Varsity Track.

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

The School Board confirmed Ricoh as the provider of services specified in RFP #3-2006 for duplicating paper.

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

The School Board approved policy changes as recommended by VSBA Policy Services and Administration.

The School Board approved an increase in art fees by \$2.50. The current rates for art fees are \$10.00 per person. The art fees will now be \$12.50.

The Superintendent updated the board about the Writing portion of the SOL's, which were conducted at all schools last week. Those tests will be shipped shortly. He told board members that unofficial results from Fall testing at Narrows High School looked promising.

The Superintendent showed the School Board pictures of a project that was completed by the World History and US/VA History I classes of Erin Yearout-Patton, History Teacher at Narrows High School. The students had to form a team, make a world map, and label according to the instructions that were given to them.

The Superintendent updated the board on the SkillsUSA District Championships. The District competition is between Giles, Pulaski, Montgomery, Botetourt, Floyd, Craig, Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Radford City, Salem and Jackson River Technical Center in Allegheny County. The following people from the Giles County Technology Center placed in the event: 3D Visualization and Animation – Matthew Conley and Dakota Lawson (1<sup>st</sup> place team), Makayla Songer and Chris Burton (2<sup>nd</sup> place team), Architectural Drafting – Bryan Skidmore (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Automotive Service Technology – Ben Hungate (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Computer Maintenance Technology – Eric Vaught (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Cosmetology – Mandi Williams (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Megan Honaker (1<sup>st</sup> place), Current Events – Zach Guynn (2<sup>nd</sup> place), James Dudding (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Nail Care Technology – Meagan Conley and Samantha Sutphin (3<sup>rd</sup> place team), Precision Machining Technology – Josh Link (1<sup>st</sup> place), Promotional Bulletin Board – Shane Slaughter and Chad Butler (1<sup>st</sup> place team), Promotional Flyer – Zach Guynn (1<sup>st</sup> place), Chad Butler (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Josh Palmer (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Quiz Bowl – Chad Butler, Zach Guynn, Thomas Nelson, Chris Long, and Shane Slaughter (2<sup>nd</sup> place team), Related Technical Math – Jessica Lucas (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Spelling – Jessica Lucas (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Team Works Building Trades Contest – Mitchell Neice, Logan Witt, and Michael Bonham (1<sup>st</sup> place team), Technical Drafting – James Dudding (2<sup>nd</sup> place), James Wilson (1<sup>st</sup> place), Technical Illustration – Chris Long (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Shane Slaughter (1<sup>st</sup> place), Web Page Design – Matthew Conley and Dakota Lawson (1<sup>st</sup> place team), Welding – James Jackson (3<sup>rd</sup> place), and Metals – Scott Reynolds (3<sup>rd</sup> place). Any first place winners will go to State Competition. Congratulations to all students!

The Superintendent also updated the board on four students from the Technology Center that placed in the top five for their entry in the State T Shirt or State Pin Design Contest. The T Shirt and Pin Design winners will be announced at the state competition during the Opening Session on April 28 at the Arthur Ashe Center, Richmond Virginia. These students are Chad Butler, Thomas Nelson, Joshua Palmer, and Brandon Vaught.

The Superintendent updated the board about a Career Fair that will be held at Giles High School on March 28<sup>th</sup> for 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade Narrows and Giles High students.

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

A board member stated that the retirement luncheon for Bud Reynolds was wonderful and Bud will be missed.

Garage/Maintenance workers are doing a wonderful job!

A board member stated that it was great to see the banner on the lawn at Narrows High School.

Macy Kindergarten teachers were commended for including the parents in workshops and activities for the children.

A board member stated that it was a good experience attending the Pulsar graduation up at Mountain Lake a few weeks ago.

Board members really enjoyed the educational feature by several Kindergarten students and the Kindergarten teachers at Macy. The teachers are doing a wonderful job and they feel that the Smart Board is making a difference with the student's education.

Congrats to the students at the Giles Tech Center on all their accomplishments in the SkillsUSA District Championship.

Board members were impressed with the Kindergarten students for not being intimidated and for being so open during the presentation.

The Superintendent stated that the educational feature by Macy Kindergarten teachers and several Kindergarten students was wonderful.

A board member gave out handouts from the Governor's School regarding top scorers on the 2006 American mathematics contest, the AMC winners, 2006 Regional Science Fair Awards, and the 2006 Regional Science Fair participants. Several students from Giles and Narrows High were included on these lists. Great job to these individuals!

A board member stated that hopefully Northwood (the new Governor School Building) will be finished sometime in May.

**\*In Other Action**

The School Board approved a scholarship offered through The Arts Council of the Blue Ridge. The Arts Council of the Blue Ridge helps to make experiences in the arts available to interested but financially challenged students in the Roanoke region through the Laban Johnson Arts Scholarships. Grants are awarded at the discretion of the Laban Johnson Arts Scholarship Committee to students who want to begin, explore or extend their experiences in the visual, performing or literary arts, and who have demonstrated potential for a career in the arts. These scholarships are NOT intended for post-secondary school tuition. Grants are awarded based on need, interest and dedication. This scholarship is offered to 9-12 grade students who would be unable to begin or continue their experiences in the arts without financial assistance. Scholarship awards generally range from \$150 to \$500, and could be used to purchase art supplies, attend symphony concerts, theaters workshops or performances, enroll in art classes or music lessons, etc. Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, March 31, 2006.

The School Board approved a **Volunteer Agreement** for **Bendy Shrader** – Macy McClaugherty School.

The School Board confirmed Kingmor for services specified in RFP #2-2006 for the purchase of a special needs bus.

The School Board set and approved the graduate dates for 2006. Narrows High School will be graduating June 9<sup>th</sup> and Giles High School will be graduating June 10<sup>th</sup>. Times will be determined by the individual schools.

The School Board approved the renewal of health insurance. The 2006-07 school year plans will be Key Advantage 300 and the Key Advantage Expanded.

**\*Next School Board Meeting**

The next School Board meeting will be held Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.