

Giles County Public Schools
School Board Meeting
January 18, 2007
NEWS RELEASE

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II

Division Superintendent

***Pledge of Allegiance**

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

***Organizational Meeting - 2007**

- JB Buckland was appointed as School Board Chairman for 2007.
- Ronald Whitehead was appointed Vice-Chairman for 2007.
- The Board set the third Thursday of each month as the Board meeting day.
- Amanda Price was appointed School Board Clerk for 2007.
- Barbara Perkins and Dr. Terry Arbogast, II were appointed Deputy Clerks for 2007.

***Public Comments - General**

Sonya Meekins and Cecilia McFaden attended the board meeting on behalf of the GEA. Ms. McFaden thanked the School Board for allowing them to speak at the board meeting and for being good listeners. She also thanked the School Board for such a great first half of the school year and for having a good relationship with the GEA. Ms. McFaden asked the School Board to consider using a portion of the state funding to implement their salary proposal. Ms. Meekins provided handouts to the School Board members containing information regarding the benchmark salaries for Giles County teachers with a bachelor's degree from the 2001-2002 school year and compared them with the benchmark salaries from the 2006-2007 school year. She also reminded the Board Members about the State/National teacher shortage and told them that we need to offer a competitive salary/benefit package to attract teachers to our county. Ms. Meekins also handed out another copy of the GEA salary proposal that was given to the Board Members back in November at the budget meetings. Ms. McFaden then thanked the Board Members for all that they do.

***Educational Feature – Narrows Elementary/Middle School**

Six teachers which included Tammy Frazier, Jeff Bucklen, Sarah McGlothlin, Heather Rowland, Crissy Dunn, and Joyce Riffe attended the School Board meeting on behalf of Narrows Elementary/Middle School. The teachers did a presentation to the board members regarding the grant they received from HP (Hewlett Packard) Teaching with Technology Initiative entitled TAG-U-R-IT (Teaming Across Grades, Utilizing Resources, Integrating Technology). Each member of the five member team from NEMS received a PC Tablet, projector, digital camera, and an all-in-one printer-scanner-copier. Each teacher on the team also received a \$500 stipend and tuition for online professional development. The team was only 1 of 130 to receive this grant and they are preparing to submit the grant application again for the 2007-2008 school year. According to Mrs. Frazier, each member of the team is responsible for creating and posting lesson plans that deal with the integration of technology within the classroom. These plans are then shared with all teachers in the building and can be used by any teacher during their instruction. As an example, one lesson may be used to teach a particular skill in one grade and then another grade level may use the same technology component as a means of review. Each teacher showed the board a PowerPoint presentation that they have done with the children in their classes. The children love participating in these presentations. Joyce Riffe showed a presentation on shapes that she did with her second grade class; Tammy Frazier showed a presentation on measuring length that she did with her 3rd grade class; Jeff Bucklen showed a presentation on mathematics that he did with his 7th graders; Heather Rowland showed a presentation on shapes that she did with her Kindergarten class; Sarah McGlothlin showed a presentation on prime and composite numbers and Crissy Dunn showed the School Board members how all of these presentations can be accessed by all teachers. This team of teachers showed the School Board members that using technology has a positive influence on the children.

***Presentations**

On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were nominated for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support: Tammy Barnett – EEMS School Nurse, Thelma Yost – MMS Bookkeeper, Joyce Marion – MMS Secretary, Ann Hively – MMS Guidance Counselor, Tammie

Baker – MMS School Nurse, Jeff Williams – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Rusty Kelley – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Jerry Huffman – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Chris Bales – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Dusty Stump – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Byron Hurley – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Steve Wilson – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Bryan Strader – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Jack Ellison – GHS Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Steve Ragsdale – GHS Varsity Football Head Coach, Margaret Christle – NHS Librarian, Zachary Parsell – NEMS Student.

The following teams/individuals were recognized for their continued teamwork and dedication:

GHS Girls Cross Country Team – Region/State Qualification, GHS Boys Cross Country Team – Region Qualification, GHS Golf Team – Region Qualification, Josh Wiegand – GHS Golf Team – State Qualification, Trevor Myers – GHS Golf Team – State Qualification, GHS Varsity Football Team – State Runner Up.

***School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2006
- Special Meeting Minutes – January 5, 2007 (1)
- Special Meeting Minutes – January 5, 2007 (2)
- Bills in the amount of \$ 693,766.00
- Payroll, December 21st, 2006 and January 15th, 2007
- Revenue for December 2006
- Expenditure for December 2006
- Appropriation Request for February 2007

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

The School Board confirmed the following **Employment: Emily D. Moye (Elem. Teacher – NEMS) – Effective January 3, 2007**

The School Board confirmed the following **Retirement: Karen M. Yolton – Effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year**

The School Board confirmed the following **Termination: Nora Hale (NEMS Teacher Assistant) – Effective January 5, 2007**

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

The School Board approved the proposal from Cintas for services specified in RFP #16-2006 (uniforms for garage/maintenance).

The School Board approved the proposal from Sonny Merryman for services specified in RFP #17-2006 (purchase of two school buses).

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

A board member wished Mr. Whitehead a Happy Birthday!

A board member mentioned that they had spoken with a past teacher from Giles County Public Schools. The teacher had elected to move to another area, but stated that Giles County Public Schools was a wonderful place to be and they didn't realize what they had until after they had left.

A board member commended the students on the Wall of Art and all of their hard work put forth in it.

A board member has recently spoken with Pat Duncan, Director of the Southwest Virginia Governor's School and she stated that the Science Fair is currently underway and she thinks that Giles students will show up well.

A board member stated that 10th graders will soon be traveling to the Governor's School to visit.

A board member commended the teachers who presented the educational feature on behalf of Narrows Elementary/Middle School for their success with the Hewlett Packard grant and wished them luck for next year with the grant.

Board members commended all of the sports teams and individuals that were recognized at the meeting.

A board member commended the hard work and thoughtfulness of the individuals who put together the benefit dinner at Giles High School for the boys from Floyd County and also for the upcoming benefit dinner that will be held at Narrows High School on Friday, January 19th.

A board member stated that it was nice to see teachers using technology in their classrooms to educate their students.

A board member stated that the presentations are always rewarding to see.

The Superintendent thanked the teachers at Narrows Elementary/Middle School for a wonderful educational feature.

The Superintendent recognized Jeannie Layton of Giles High School for receiving the Teachers Turn the Key award for Virginia in recognition of her commitment to professional leadership. Ms. Layton participated in the 2006 NAAE National Convention in Atlanta, GA. The Superintendent was notified of this accomplishment from the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

The Superintendent gave board members a handout of unofficial SOL results from Narrows High School.

The Superintendent commended the GHS Football Team on being the State Runner Up. The GHS Football team had several individuals who were named to first and second team for offense and defense for the Three Rivers District. The offensive and defensive player of the year for the Three Rivers District was given to individuals of this team. The team also had several individuals who were selected to first team all-state. Coach Ragsdale was named the Three Rivers District coach of the year for 2006-2007. The GHS Football Team and Coaching Staff really have a lot to be proud of.

***In Other Action**

The School Board approved the proposal from Virginia Sprinkler for services specified in RFP #18-2006 for fire protection services.

The School Board approved the Retirement of Phyllis Radford – GHS Special Ed. Teacher (Effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year).

The School Board approved the Retirement of Pat Bayless – GHS Math Teacher (Effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year).

The School Board approved an Athletic Coaching Contract for Scott Suttle (NHS - Assistant Coach Baseball).

The School Board approved the Transfer of Melissa Light (from MMS) to the Special Education Teacher Assistant Position at NEMS.

The School Board approved a Volunteer Agreement for Randy Tilley (GHS JV Baseball Assistant Coach).

The School Board approved a Volunteer Agreement for Judy Conley (GHS).

***Next School Board Meeting**

The next regular School Board meeting will be **Thursday, February 15th at 4:00 p.m.** in conjunction with the School Board Retreat.