

**Giles County Public Schools  
School Board Meeting  
NEWS RELEASE  
November 16, 2007**

*Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II*

*Division Superintendent*

**\*Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**\*Public Comments**

Leigh Stoudenmire, owner of Canoe the New Outfitters, attended the board meeting to read and distribute a letter to School Board members and the Superintendent. In her letter, Mrs. Stoudenmire suggested that the Giles County Partnership for Excellence Foundation may be operating in violation of state law regarding the Cumberland Park project. She also stated that the School Board could be violating state law by allowing the Partnership to operate without approving its projects and by not adhering to other statutorily mandated administrative requirements. The School Board Chairman shared with Mrs. Stoudenmire that these issues have never been brought up before the board and before the board could react, the letter would need to be sent to legal counsel. In addition, Mr. Buckland shared with Mrs. Stoudenmire that she would be notified regarding the response when it was received from counsel. Mrs. Stoudenmire concluded by telling the board that she didn't think that the Board was aware of this and that any impropriety was unintentional.

**\*Educational Feature**

On behalf of the MMS educational feature, Jared Rader, Principal at Macy McClaugherty School, introduced Amy Gervich, Erin Lucas, and Cecilia Peyton, teachers at Macy, along with many students, who were present at the board meeting. Mr. Rader explained to the board that they were there to share some of the technology that is being used at Macy for instructional purposes. He also stated that all of this technology comes with the help of a wonderful Network Administrator, Jeff Young. To begin with, Erin Lucas and her students presented the "clickers." The "clickers" are a new product that the SMART Company has put out. This product helps the students take practice tests that are displayed on the SMART board. The students are able to answer questions on the practice test using the "clickers" and are able to see whether they answered the question correctly. Next, Amy Gervich and her students demonstrated how they practice their spelling words using the SMART board technology. Mrs. Gervich places a group of letters on the SMART board and calls on students to come to the board and spell the word that she gives them. Mrs. Gervich does this practice on the SMART board to help reinforce what she teaches her students in class. In addition, Cecilia Peyton and a couple of her students demonstrated how they reinforce their learning by using an MP3 Player and a "Fly Fusion" pen, produced by LeapFrog. The MP3 Player can be used to help students with their reading. For example, a student can listen to a book that is already recorded on the MP3 Player or the student can record themselves reading the book on the MP3 Player and listen to it later if they had difficulty with some of the words in the story. Mr. Rader concluded by stating that the technology available within the school helps reinforce the instruction within the classroom.

**\*School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2007
- Bills in the amount of \$ 210,148.69
- Payroll, October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- Revenue for October 2007
- Expenditure for October 2007
- Appropriation Request for December 2007

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

The School Board confirmed the following **Employment: Darlene Sadler** – MMS Custodian (effective November 8, 2007)

The School Board confirmed the following **Resignation: Anthony Gray** – EEMS Custodian (effective October 31, 2007), **Danny Pyles** – MMS Custodian (effective October 22, 2007)

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: **Laura Collins** – EEMS Student Support/PTA, **Jeanette Duncan** – Library/Classroom Support, **Terri Stevers** – EEMS Classroom/Office Support, **Mae Wilson** – EEMS Classroom/Office Support

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Athletic Coaching Contracts**: **Dean Marshall** - GHS Assistant 8<sup>th</sup> Girls Basketball, **J.P. Griffith** – GHS Assistant JV Boys Basketball Coach

The School Board confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: **Kelly Young** – GHS JV Head Girls Cheerleading

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

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

The board chairman stated that he was glad to have Mr. Gollehon back with the board for another four years.

A board member commended Sherry Miller for making globes out of pumpkins for a class project.

A board member commended the NHS Academic Boosters on the craft show. It was a success!

A board member stated that it was nice to know that as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, all board members would all be back together.

The board members commended the educational feature provided by Macy McClaugherty School.

A board member stated that they were amazed with all of the new technology in the schools.

The Superintendent commended the GHS Cross Country Team for placing 12<sup>th</sup> in the state out of 75.

The Superintendent commended the NHS Cross Country Team for having two participants attending Region. This was the first year that NHS has had a Cross Country Team.

The Superintendent stated that it was a good day for school visits.

The Superintendent informed board members about information he received from Helen Gillespie, Program Director at the Giles Wellness Center. A grant was awarded to the Giles Co. Wellness Center, along with Giles County Public Schools, the American Red Cross, and the Va. Cooperative Extension, for \$750 to fund a babysitter training program. This program will be facilitated through the Family and Consumer Science Departments at both NHS and GHS. Students will receive certifications in Infant and Child CPR, Basic First Aid, and a certificate of completion in Babysitter Training.

**\*In Other Action**

The School Board accepted the proposal from **Newberry Ford** for services provided in RFP #9-2007 (purchase of maintenance trucks).

The School Board confirmed **Kara Stables** as a NHS Volunteer Coach (Girls Basketball).

**\*Next School Board Meeting**

The next regular School Board meeting will be held Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. The Quarterly Dinner Meeting with Administrators will follow at 5:30 p.m.