

**Giles County Public Schools
School Board Meeting
NEWS RELEASE
November 21, 2008**

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.

***Educational Feature**

Sheriff Morgan Millirons and several School Resource Offices attended the School Board meeting to present the educational feature. Sheriff Millirons opened by thanking the School Board members for allowing them to attend the meeting. In addition, he stated that he plans to continue the drug searches in the schools and begin doing presentations to the 8th – 12th grade classes regarding the effects of drugs and alcohol on the body. In closing, he thanked Dr. Arbogast, Mr. Meade, and the School Board members for their cooperation.

The first School Resource Officer to speak was Jon Bowman (Narrows High School). He thanked the School Board members for their support and for everything they do for them. Officer Bowman demonstrated the fatal vision goggles that he uses with Narrows High School students to demonstrate how alcohol affects a person, particularly when driving. The School Board members helped him with his demonstration by wearing the goggles. They had a good time wearing these goggles!

Officer Teddy Vaughn (Macy McClougherty School) spoke next to School Board members regarding activities that he has been doing in the schools. He has taught class action (Virginia Teens and the Law) to all 7th grade students. This is a four hour course where he teaches Juvenile laws that could directly affect 7th grade students. In addition, Internet safety was taught to all 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students. This course was a one hour course that is taught to students to demonstrate the dangers of online predators. Furthermore, Officer Vaughn has helped conduct two Code Blue Intruder Drills at Macy. He has reviewed the crisis plan with all new teachers at the school, has given a Halloween safety talk to Kindergarten – 2nd grade students, and has provided a drug awareness presentation to all faculty and staff. Officer Vaughn plans to teach DARE to 6th grade classes and teach DARE related topics to Kindergarten – 5th grade classes after the Christmas break. He will continue to be vigilant about student truancy and he hopes to reduce the number of student absences each school year. In closing, he stated that he is planning on offering a parent's night for the 5th, 6th, and 7th grade parents to show them the Internet Safety course that he taught to their children.

Sergeant Chris Niece (Eastern Elementary/Middle School) also spoke about activities that he has been doing in the schools. He first thanked the School Board members for their support of the School Resource Officers. Sergeant Niece has been reviewing crisis plans and school safety with the faculty, as well as conducting Code Blue drills and fire drills. He continued by sharing pictures of the school's Service Project Team. This team planted trees at Treasure Island Park, and plans to do a breakfast for First Responders. In addition, he does a good character recognition program, where certain students receive a free athletic pass to GHS football games. Another program that he does is "Train the trainer Anti-Bullying", a cooperative effort with the Tech Center nursing program. Furthermore, he teaches 911 safety to 1st and 2nd grade students, teaches stranger danger to 2nd and 6th grade students, teaches internet safety to 2nd, 6th, and 7th grade students, teaches K-2 Halloween Safety, does activities for Red Ribbon Week, teaches fire safety to Kindergarten and 2nd grade students, and continues a proactive approach to truancy. In closing, Sergeant Niece stated that he has attended three school intruder training sessions, Crisis Intervention training, and threat assessment training at Virginia Tech.

Officer Mark Wilburn (Giles High School) first stated that it was great to have a good relationship with the students. Students often come to him to discuss problems they may be having at home. Next, he discussed a Prescription Drug Campaign that he hopes to do in the upcoming months. He will be working with the drug advisory committee and people from Virginia Tech regarding this program. He hopes to attend gang training in March in order to be better acquainted with signs and reasons for wanting to be in a gang. In closing, he invited the School Board members to attend the next active shooter training when it is conducted.

Officer Billy Johnston (Narrows Elementary/Middle School) was unable to attend the School Board meeting.

***School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2008
- Bills in the amount of \$ 234,456.68
- Payroll, October 31st and November 14th, 2008
- Revenue for October 2008
- Expenditure for October 2008
- Appropriation Request for December 2008

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

The School Board confirmed the following **Employment**: Rhonda Brown – NHS Bookkeeper (effective October 29, 2008), Transfer of Robyn Taylor out of NHS Spec. Ed. CSA position to NHS Spec. Ed. Teacher Assistant position (effective November 13th, 2008), Sarah Woodyard – NHS Special Education Teacher Assistant (effective November 13th, 2008)

The School Board confirmed the following **Resignation**: Thelma Tuckwell – Western District Bus Driver (effective November 3rd, 2008)

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Gerald Eaton – EEMS Misc.

The School Board confirmed the following **Volunteer Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Ashley Bales – GHS Asst. JV Girls Basketball Coach, Stacey Cunningham – GHS Asst. Varsity Girls Basketball

The School Board confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Jessica Gwaltney – NHS Varsity Softball

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

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

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

A board member commended the Giles High School principals for how they handled some disciplinary problems.

A board member commended the Virginian Leader for their continued reporting of activities in the schools.

A board member questioned the bus driver minutes where the bus drivers were requesting that chaperones sit throughout the buses for field trips.

A board member stated that it was the time of year for the 10th graders to visit the Governor's School.

A board member stated that Concord University goes to the Governor's School to enlighten them on SAT's.

School Board members commended the SRO's for their presentations!

A board member stated that they were concerned since we had already missed one day of school before Thanksgiving.

School board members commended the wonderful Thanksgiving meal at Narrows Elementary/Middle School.

The School Board members really enjoyed the educational feature from the School Resource Officers.

The Superintendent commended the drama program at Giles High School. They placed 4th in the region in their competition.

The Superintendent commended both football teams on their seasons.

The Superintendent commended the nursing program students for their 100% pass rate in CPR/First Aid Training.

The Superintendent commended the School Resource Officers for their presentations and he also thanked Sheriff Millirons for working with the school system.

***In Other Action**

The School Board approved to rescind a motion for a surplus vehicle that was approved at the May 15th School Board meeting. The information on the surplus vehicle is as follows: 558 – 1988 - FORD VAN - 1FBJS31H8JHB26649 - 37475L.

The School Board approved a list of current CDL participants to be considered as Sub Bus Drivers. The list includes the following: Marlene Bailey, Mike Biggs, Robert Buchanan, Eric Burton, Larry Clark, Sabrina Clark, David Cope, Shirley Cox, Tom Daddazio, Spencer Dunn, Mary French, Danny Havens, David Martin, Jessica Meadows, Sean Meredith, Jeff Miles, Tony Minnick, Paul Moody, Josh Palmer, Clay Stafford, Chris Townsend, Angela Vaught, Donald Vaught, Kenneth Wikle.

The School Board approved the Employment of Jennifer Gilmer – NEMS Teacher Assistant (effective November 18, 2008).

The School Board accept the proposal from Virginia School Equipment for services specified in RFP #11-2008 (millwork for 2 classrooms). Proposals were received from: VA School Equip. \$30,300 (solid maple) and JH Pence \$34,700 (solid maple). These are estimated prices based on our drawings. The final price may vary from the above (once final measurements are established).

The School Board approved resolutions regarding the ground lease for the Giles Tech Center. These resolutions state that the Giles Tech Center is going to be used as collateral on the loans for the two football stadiums. The resolutions approved the lease to IDA, making it clear that the Tech Center will be used as collateral backing the loan.

***Next School Board Meeting**

The next regular School Board meeting will be held Thursday, December 11th at 4:00 p.m. The Quarterly Dinner Meeting with Administrators will follow at 5:30 p.m. at Narrows Elementary/Middle School.