

**News Release**  
**January 28, 2010**  
**Giles County Public Schools**  
**School Board Meeting**

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**\*Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**\*Organizational Meeting - 2010**

- JB Buckland was appointed as School Board Chairman for 2010.
- Ronald Whitehead was appointed Vice-Chairman for 2010.
- The Board set the third Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. as the Board meeting day for 2010 and holding the first Thursday of the month if needed.
- Amanda Tickle was appointed School Board Clerk for 2010.
- Barbara Perkins and Dr. Terry Arbogast, II were appointed Deputy Clerks for 2010.

**\*Public Comments - General**

There were no public comments.

**\*Educational Feature – Macy McClaugherty School**

Mr. Jared Rader, Mrs. Amy Gervich, and Mrs. Tammy Brown attended the School Board meeting on behalf of the educational feature. Mrs. Gervich brought along her 1<sup>st</sup> grade class to help Mrs. Brown demonstrate how SOL's can be incorporated into their physical education class. A handout was given to the School Board members for Mrs. Brown's Physical Education classes, which listed the Kindergarten through Grade 7 SOL's that are being covered. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade class demonstrated several different activities; including math, spelling, and shapes, that they do during their physical education class that help reinforce the SOL's they are learning.

Mr. Gearheart, NHS Principal, and Brian McGuire, current NHS student and former AEP student, attended the School Board meeting to speak to the School Board on how the Alternative Education Class influenced Brian and prepared him to return to the regular classroom. As information, AEP is referred to as Project Return because it's always their goal to help AEP students return to a regular classroom. Brian came from Peterstown in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and went into the AEP program because, as he stated, he was very undisciplined. He spent his 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade years in AEP and during his 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, he began to transition into a regular classroom by spending half of his day in AEP and the other half of the day in regular classes. Brian plans to get his advanced diploma and attend college. Mr. Gearheart, Dr. Arbogast, and the School Board members are very proud of Brian's achievements and accomplishments during his time in AEP.

**\*Presentations**

**On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were nominated for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support:** Lea Beth Bowers – EEMS, Teresa Link – EEMS, Dale Ryder – EEMS, Betty McCroskey – NEMS, Katrina Orey – NEMS, Trisha Young – SBO.

The School Board approved a resolution to K92 Radio for their efforts during the high school survivor contest to bring the group "Boys like Girls" to Narrows High School. The resolution reads as follows:

**RECOGNITION OF K92 RADIO**  
**January 28, 2010**

**WHEREAS,** the Giles County School Board acknowledges the efforts of K92 radio station during their High School Survivor Contest, and

**WHEREAS,** the Giles County School Board is very appreciative of K92 radio station for bringing "Boys Like Girls" to **Narrows High School** to present a concert to the student body, and

**WHEREAS,** the Giles County School Board is deeply appreciative of the hard work and dedication shown by K92 radio station during this contest, and

**WHEREAS,** the Giles County School Board wishes to publicly express its appreciation and recognition of K92 radio station for all of their efforts,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Giles County School Board hereby recognizes, appreciates and acknowledges K92 radio station on this day, January 28, 2010 for their efforts to recognize **Narrows High School** during the High School Survivor Contest.

On behalf of the School Board, the following students were recognized for placing in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Poster & Essay Contest through Virginia Tech:

Georgia Vatoskay - 1st Place in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (MMS)  
Hailey Whorley - Finalist in the Top Ten in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (MMS)  
Paiton Bradley - Finalist in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (MMS)  
Noah Clark - Finalist in the 4th-5th Grade Poster Category (MMS)

Micah Mitchell - Finalist in the Top Ten in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (EEMS)  
Makenzie Woolwine - Finalist in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (EEMS)  
Afton Thompson - Finalist in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (EEMS)  
Callie Henderson - 2nd Place in the 2nd-3rd Grade Essay Category (EEMS)  
Ashton Rice - 3rd Place in the 2nd-3rd Grade Essay Category (EEMS)  
Kayleigh Gordon - Honorable Mention in the 2nd-3rd Grade Essay Category (EEMS)

Brandon Smith - 2nd Place in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (NEMS)  
Abigail Melton - 3rd Place in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (NEMS)  
Keiran McClaugherty - Finalist in the Top Ten in the K-1st Grade Poster Category (NEMS)

#### **\*School Board Approves Consent Items**

- Meeting Minutes – December 17, 2009
- Special Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2010
- Bills in the amount of \$ 360,304.21
- Payroll, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- Revenue for December 2009
- Expenditure for December 2009
- Appropriation Request for February 2010
- Additional Field Trips for 2009-2010

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

The School Board approved the following **Employment**: Mindy Caldwell - GTC (Completed application materials; Teach the clinical portion of the evening adult nursing assistant class for Virginia Tech pre-med students).

The School Board approved the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Mandy Havens - GHS Head Girls Varsity Tennis, Caryn Painter - GHS Assistant Girls Varsity Track, Dan Taylor - NHS JV Football (Original Contract Lost).

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

The School Board approved a Giles High School Scholarship given by the Pearisburg High School Alumni Association. A Giles High School Scholarship will be given by the Pearisburg High School Alumni Association and will be presented to a GHS student who best meets the required qualifications from the Alumni Association. This scholarship will be in the amount up to, but not limited to the amount of \$1000. A committee formed by members of the Pearisburg High School Alumni Association will make the final choice.

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

Mrs. McMahon stated that several individuals had come to her to compliment several Administrators for going above and beyond.

A board member questioned whether the issues/recommendations in the most recent audit had been addressed. The Superintendent stated that he had discussed these issues/recommendations with the principals in the elementary and secondary principals meetings.

Board members commended the wonderful educational feature and stated it was great to see all the students!

A board member stated that it was wonderful to see all the staff members being recognized in the last year. Mr. Forest Fowler, Mr. Jeff Young, Mrs. Cathy Webb, and most recently, Dr. Arbogast received outstanding awards. The School Board is very proud of all of our school system's accomplishment. Dr. Webb was unable to attend the School Board meeting due to being out of town with Mrs. Webb during a State Teacher of the Year conference in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Webb has had the pleasure of traveling with Mrs. Webb since being named Virginia Teacher of the Year and this makes him feel very proud of our school system.

A board member stated that there would be a group of governor school students going to Alaska to measure the rate of a melting ice cap. This trip will be February 27<sup>th</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup>. Three students will be going to work on this project.

A board member stated that the Governor School Science fair was January 28<sup>th</sup> at New River Community College.

A board member was very complimentary of Robbie Wills, a very talented Governor School student. This student has the ability to take a box of different items and come back the next day with something that he has built using those items.

Board members congratulated the Superintendent for being named Region VII Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Arbogast, II, will be in the running now for State Superintendent of the Year.

The Superintendent congratulated the Martin Luther King Jr. Essay & Poster contest winners that were recognized at the board meeting. There were over 330 submittals and 13 students in our county were recognized.

The Superintendent commended Brian McGuire for attending the School Board meeting to discuss how the AEP program influenced him and prepared him to return to a regular classroom.

The Superintendent stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of H1N1 vaccines at the elementary schools are now complete. He thanked all the teachers/staff members that helped with these vaccines.

The Superintendent thanked the School Board members for his plaque in honor of being recognized as the Region VII Superintendent of the Year. He stated that he is very appreciative of this honor although he stated that he feels he doesn't do anything different than any other Superintendent on a daily basis.

The Superintendent stated that Cassie Miller's fourth grade class at Macy McClaugherty School was chosen by Scholastic's Classrooms Care program as one of 200 classrooms to receive 500 books to donate in our community. There were more than 12,000 entries. They have decided to donate the books and are thinking about giving some to the Rich Creek Library, Kindergarten Registration, NRV Cares, Hope Home, Christian Mission, Doctor's Offices, 2 books per class in grades K-2 of two deserving students, and the rest to the hospital.

The Superintendent informed School Board members of the latest Teacher of the Year update. The 2010 National Teacher of the Year Finalists were chosen. The four finalists were from California, Florida, Iowa and Michigan. Dr. Arbogast stated that Mrs. Webb was currently in Texas at a Teacher of the Year conference with Dr. Webb.

The Superintendent gave an update on SOL Fall Testing at Narrows High School. Overall totals include 82.86% in English, 92.42% in Math, 90.60% in Science, and 80.95% in History. Great job!

The Superintendent gave a renovation update from the Tech Center and Eastern Elementary/Middle School. As far as the Tech Center, the Nursing students/Nursing Department moved into their new room and the Network Administrator was able to move into his new network office over the Christmas break. Eastern Elementary/Middle School made their first move on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The renovation is still moving forward and he hopes to stay on schedule.

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

The School Board approved the Resignation of Anna Swenty - NHS Science Teacher (effective end of 09-10 school year).

The School Board approved Surplus from the Giles Tech Center (Gardner Denver air compressor, 200 psi, GE motor 208v, 3 phase, 10hp).

The School Board approved an additional Field Trip for Shelia Rice from the Giles Tech Center to attend the HOSA Competition in Williamsburg from March 12-14, 2010.

The School Board approved the Susan Kirkpatrick Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will be awarded to a Giles High School senior in the amount of \$500.00. This scholarship has been established by the staff of Macy McClaugherty School and Mrs. Kirkpatrick's family. Susan Kirkpatrick was a teacher in Giles County working both at Eastern Elementary and Macy McClaugherty Elementary. She spent her last 6 years working as a third grade teacher where she was loved, respected, and admired by her colleagues and students alike. Susan was an active member of the Macy PTO, Giles Education Association, and the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority, Xi Chapter of Teachers in Giles County. She put her heart and soul into teaching, which was evident anytime you walked into her classroom. She instilled the idea of lifelong learning to everyone she encountered. Susan sadly lost her battle with breast cancer during the summer of 2009 after a courageous fight. She is loved and missed by all those whose lives she touched, but her legacy lives on through her students. Any Giles High School senior, with a GPA of at least 3.5, who is dedicated to continuing their education, is encouraged to apply for this scholarship by submitting an application. The recipient of this scholarship should be aware that they will be awarded the funds after completing their first semester at their chosen school, while maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA.

The School Board approved the Retirement of Patsy Radford - Central District Bus Driver, effective January 29, 2010.

The School Board approved an additional check run on January 21, 2010 in the amount of \$1,035,265.85.

The School Board accepted the proposal from VSC for services specified in RFP #21-2009 (fire protection services).

The School Board accepted the proposal from Alsco for services specified in RFP #20-2009 (uniforms for garage/maintenance).

**\*Next School Board Meeting**

The next regular School Board meeting will be *Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.* in conjunction with the School Board Retreat.