

October 25, 2012

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held on October 25, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. No closed meeting was held. Persons present were:

J. B. Buckland, Chairman
J. M. Gollehon, Jr.
J.L. Webb, Jr.
R.B. Whitehead
Drema K. McMahon

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
D. Scott Meade, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's October 25, 2012 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Diana Blanton, GEA President, attended the School Board meeting on behalf of the GEA. "Good afternoon. I am here today to represent GEA's views on continuing contract for teachers. I would like to ask for your backing of a Resolution in support of the Virginia continuing contract laws as they currently stand. We know you agree that high-quality instruction is the main ingredient in the recipe for student success. There is no denying the positive impact that teachers have on young people here in Giles and across the Commonwealth. Our state lawmakers had the foresight in 1968, to see that continuing contract laws were needed to establish uniform, employment practices and to ensure high- quality instruction across Virginia. In the five decades since, these laws have worked. Teachers are regularly evaluated and must demonstrate their proficiency. Those who do not measure up, face dismissal. It's a fair system for all concerned. Before continuing contract was established, an experienced, high-achieving teacher could still face termination. For example, a run-in with a principal or parent, over a teacher's refusal to change a student's grade, could cost that teacher their job. Or imagine a teacher, fresh out of college who may be assigned poorly performing students. Under the proposed law, that teacher could automatically be fired if they receive two poor evaluations in a row, with no right to due process, and their teaching license revoked by the board of education. Continuing contract has helped put an end to that and as a result, students benefit from more stable and consistent instruction, delivered by highly qualified teachers. A "revolving door" approach to staffing serves no one. We all want the best for students here in Giles. Continuing Contract laws support this goal by attracting talented professionals. These laws are helping to retain highly qualified teachers. High teacher turnover rates degrade student learning. The threat of losing continuing contract continues. We ask you to join us in opposing any effort to diminish or repeal laws that protect employee due process. Please support students and teachers in Giles by passing this resolution. Thank you."

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were recognized for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support: Rick Kesler – Celanese, Emily Dwoyer – NHS, David Blankenship – Maintenance, Wayne Perkins – Maintenance, Junior Perdue – Maintenance, Jimmy McCroskey – Maintenance, Sonny Frazier – Maintenance, Bobby Fisher – Maintenance, Kevin Davis – Maintenance, Jason Burton – Maintenance, Jamie Burton – Maintenance, David St. Clair – GHS, Joseph Tudor – GHS, Mike Smith – GHS, David Martin – GHS, Gloria Hurt – MMS, Robbie Spiegel – MMS, Kayla McClung – MMS, Cassie Miller – MMS, Amaris Meredith – MMS, Brandi Smith – MMS, Emily Moye – MMS

EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

On behalf of the Giles High School educational feature, Mr. Jason Mills, Mrs. Tabitha Young, Jazzon Symns, Thomas Brown and Cory Falls attended the school board meeting to inform the board about FBLA. The purpose of FBLA is to develop career and technical competencies, promote civic and personal responsibilities, promote business and information technology programs, and promote participation in service projects. In addition, the goals of FBLA are to develop competent, aggressive business leadership, strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work, create more interest and understanding of American Business Enterprise, develop character, prepare for useful citizenship and foster patriotism. The students discussed places that they have had the opportunity to travel to for competitive events, as a member of the FBLA. They also discussed winners over the last several years. Mrs. Young stated that they had just gotten back from the 19th annual Concord Business Challenge and announced the winners of this event. They are as follows: Business Law- 2nd place Niki Reynolds, Microsoft Office Concepts- 1st place Cody Moler, Accounting- 2nd place Jennifer Bradley, Business Computer Literacy- 1st place Thomas Brown, Concord Business Challenge Logo and Slogan- 3rd place Zachary Burch, and Keyboarding- 3rd place Niki Reynolds.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

The Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, accepted the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following consent items:

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – September 27, 2012

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include September 28th and October 15th, 2012
2. Payment of Bills to include September 26th and October 3rd, 10th, and 17th, 2012
3. September 2012 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. 2012-2013 Advisory Committees
5. 2012-2013 Field Trip Requests
6. Appropriation Request for November 2012
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
RE: November 2012 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of November 2012. This is for the fifth month of the fiscal year 2012-13. I would appreciate the Board's consideration of this request. The request for the operating budget is consistent with the approved operating budget submitted by the School Board.

Original Monthly Appropriation Request:	\$2,106,708.92
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
Total:	\$2,106,708.92

This request is one-twelfth of the operating budget and includes the anticipated monthly expenditures in the flow-thru account. Our year to date appropriation and expenditures are contained in the monthly summary. If you have questions, please feel free to let me know. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

7. Appropriation Request for December 2012
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
RE: December 2012 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of December 2012. This is for the sixth month of the fiscal year 2012-13. I would appreciate the Board's consideration of this request. The request for the operating budget is consistent with the approved operating budget submitted by the School Board.

Original Monthly Appropriation Request:	\$2,106,708.92
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
Total:	\$2,106,708.92

This request is one-twelfth of the operating budget and includes the anticipated monthly expenditures in the flow-thru account. Our year to date appropriation and expenditures are contained in the monthly summary. If you have questions, please feel free to let me know. Thank you in advance for your assistance

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. The Superintendent recommended action and Board approval of the following personnel/contractual items:
 1. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations:** Bob Shelor – GHS 8th Grade Head Basketball Coach, Bryan Patteson – NHS Boys JV Basketball
 2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements:** Bryan Patteson – NHS Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball & Baseball, Dakota

Oher- GHS Drama Instructor/VHSL One-Act Director

3. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Bryan Pruett – NHS JV Boys Basketball, Robbie Santolla – GHS Head 8th Grade Girls Basketball
4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Supplemental Contracts**: Pam Malabad – GHS MACC Math

COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Mrs. McMahon stated that she had the opportunity to attend a talent show at Christiansburg High School that was sponsored by Shelor Motor Mile. We had students from both Giles and Narrows High School participate. Mrs. McMahon commended them on their performances. This was a great opportunity for students! Thanks to Shelor for sponsoring this event.

Mrs. McMahon discussed a wonderful program called “Helping Hands”, which is the Narrows Backpack Food Ministry that is being done now in the Western District. There is currently a program in the Eastern District. They are partnering with other churches and organization to meet the needs of children. Families that have been identified by the Giles County Christian Mission and have given permission for the ministry to have their information can be served by the Backpack Ministry. Backpacks are filled with enough food for six meals and delivered to NEMS every Friday. Students take their backpack home for the weekend and return them to NEMS each Monday.

Mrs. McMahon thanked Rhonda Tickle and the school bookkeeping staff for continuing to find ways to improve the audit report.

Mrs. McMahon thanked John Mills for the maintenance report that was done and distributed to board members! Thanks to John Mills and his maintenance men for all of their hard work!

Mr. Buckland stated that he has enjoyed the school visits during the budget meetings. He is impressed with the work that the maintenance crew has done.

Dr. Webb welcomed Mr. David Martin to fill in this week for Jeff Dinger.

Dr. Webb stated that it has been a productive week for budget meetings.

Mr. Gollehon stated that the budget meetings have been good.

Mr. Whitehead stated that “The Southwest Virginia Governor’s School (SWVGS) will receive the \$50,000 planning grant to study the feasibility of expanding the program from shared-time to full-day and possibly increasing the grade levels to 9th -12th. We are awaiting additional information from the VDOE regarding paperwork requirements and the process for fund distribution. SWVGS is excited to have the chance to complete the feasibility study as it will be an excellent opportunity to survey the community we serve to learn more about the type of programming school divisions, students, and families would like to see available at SWVGS. This also presents an opportunity to evaluate the current curriculum and to consider additional coursework that could further differentiate the learning opportunities and environment available at SWVGS for bright, motivated, and gifted students from Southwest Virginia.”

Board members commended the educational feature from Giles High School and FBLA.

The Superintendent stated that the video that was submitted to VSBA from Narrows Elementary/Middle School was named a finalist for the first annual VSBA Student Video Contest. The theme of this contest was “Preparing for the future... there’s no app for that!” The winner will be announced at the VSBA conference in November. The video’s purpose is to promote the value of Virginia’s public education and to emphasize the positive aspects of public schools. The video should also portray the impact that public education has on preparing students for the future.

The Superintendent stated that Judy Craig Hartley was nominated for the 2012 educational technology leadership award and she was the Region VII award recipient. She is one of 8 finalists in the state. Congratulations to her for the regional recognition! The award is in recognition of her outstanding leadership in assisting her school division to achieve local and state goals for the effective use of educational technologies in teaching and learning.

The Superintendent thanked Rick Kesler and Celanese for the work that was done in the schools during Celanese's Global Impact Week. They did work at several schools and also were in the classroom doing lessons about science, math, etc. The Superintendent looks forward to continuing this positive partnership.

The Superintendent congratulated Giles High School's golf team for being district tournament champions', 2nd in the region and 4th in the state! Congratulations to them!

The Superintendent thanked Jason Mills, Tabitha Young, Cory Falls, Jazzon Symns and Thomas Brown for the educational feature!

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved a resolution to refinance the debt the county has incurred, including debt for capital improvements to school facilities.

The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved a joint services personnel policy between the school board and county. Mrs. McMahon questioned whether we were approving it as currently written. The Superintendent stated that we are only approving the principle of having the policy, but it will take several months to get it all in place. There are budget, personnel, insurance and legal issues that will have to be addressed. The Superintendent asked Mrs. McMahon to take her concerns with the policy, mark them and give them back to him to share with Mr. McKlarney. Mrs. McMahon agreed with the concept of the policy, but not the information in the handbook. The Superintendent stated that we have been doing combined services for several years, but have not yet approved this formally or approved a handbook.

The Superintendent, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved an Athletic Coaching Contract for Robert Shelor – GHS Head JV Boys Basketball.

The Superintendent, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved a resolution from NSBA regarding sequestration. This resolutions purpose is to ask the federal government to not impose an across-the-board cut of 8.2 percent to education and other domestic programs in January. Sequestration would impact almost every public school system in the nation and the millions of students educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and more.

The Superintendent, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved old textbooks to be declared as surplus by either distribution to elementary students, private schools, charity organizations or by recycling if possible.

The Superintendent, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved a parent survey about walking and biking to school. The Town of Pearisburg, in conjunction with Macy, is applying for a Safe Routes to School grant. As part of this grant, information needs to be obtained from the parents. Mrs. McMahon stated that the survey form is a little confusing, so Dr. Arbogast stated that he would share her concerns with the individual who provided the survey.

The Superintendent, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved a scholarship. The Virginia Junior Chamber International Senate is proud to partner with the USJCI Senate Foundation to continue to offer the future leaders of America an opportunity to earn scholarship money for the pursuit of higher education.

The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved an additional field trip for Tabitha Young/FBLA/Giles High School to travel to Charlotte.

***Next School Board Meeting**

The next regular School Board meeting will be held Friday, November 16th at 2:00 p.m.

The Chairman, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk