

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – August 17, 2012
2. Special – September 14, 2012

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include August 30th and September 14th, 2012
2. Payment of Bills to include August 16th, 29th, and September 6th, 11th, and 19th, 2012
3. August 2012 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. 2012-2013 PAC & Calendar Advisory Committees
5. Confirmation of Surplus Items
6. Approval of Title Applications
7. Appropriation Request for October 2012
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: October 2012 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of October 2012. This is for the fourth 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.

EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

Mr. Greg Canaday, EEMS principal, and several teachers, attended the school board meeting on behalf of the educational feature. Mr. Canaday shared a PowerPoint that described the cross-curricular instruction occurring at EEMS. This was a focus that they had last school year as part of their school improvement plan. They wanted to make sure that they were incorporating reading into all of the elective areas, including fine arts. During the year under school improvement, they felt that it would be very important to use cross-curricular themes and ideas. This also helped with making connections between academic skills and helped with critical thinking skills, which will help on the new SOL tests. One of the big areas that they focused on last year was reading. They adopted a new program, called "Interactive Reading and Notetaking." Mr. Seth Davis, Ms. Dale Ryder, Mrs. Kristen Corboy and Mrs. Nikki Pynn shared examples demonstrating how they incorporate cross-curricular instruction into their classes. In addition, Mr. Kevin Riley did his presentation by DVD since he was unable to attend.

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 **Employment:** Eric Widdoes – NHS Assistant Principal (effective September 25th), Kelly Davis – GHS Special Education Teacher (effective September 17th)
 2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations:** Mike Grim – NHS Assistant Principal (effective September 1st), Donna Darnell – Bus Driver (effective September 5th)

3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Retirements**: Barbara St. Leger – Special Education Teacher Assistant (effective October 5th)
4. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Andi Guynn – 8th Grade Girls Basketball & JV Volleyball Assistant, Craig Johnson – GHS Head Varsity Baseball Coach, Cindy Lang – GHS Assistant Track Coach, Todd Guynn – NHS Varsity Football & JV Girls Basketball, Brian Spangler – NHS JV Baseball
5. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Supplemental Contracts**: Barbara Scheid – GHS MACC English, Diana Blanton – GHS MACC Science & Head Coach, Mandy Havens – GHS SCA, Michael Etzler – GHS Newspaper, Cecilia McFaden – GHS Annual & Head Senior Class, Bryan Moretz – GHS MACC All Around, Mitch Reed – GHS SCA, Randy Weddle – GHS MACC Social Studies, Sherry Miller – NHS MACC Head Coach & MACC All Around, Gary Hinson – NHS MACC Science, Melanie Atkins – NHS MACC English, Cassie Chafin – NHS MACC Math
6. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Robyn Taylor – NHS Athletic Volunteer Cheerleading, Don Lowe – NHS Football Assistant, Lee Blaker – NHS Football Assistant, Megan Epperley – GHS Volleyball, Theresa Beckner – EEMS Library, Jerry Eaton – EEMS Classroom/PTA Support, Bernice Davis – EEMS Library/Class Support, Kylie Gaylen – GHS Soccer, Amy Maxey – EEMS Library Volunteer, Sandi Webster – EEMS Library Volunteer, Lori Hansen – EEMS Library/Class Support
7. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following Substitute Teachers to date.
8. The School Board, on motion Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Substitute Bus Drivers**: Wes McCall, Phillip Pennington
9. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the bid tabulation from Metal Roof Consultants for LaFave’s Construction to do the Metal Retrofit Roof at Narrows Elementary/Middle School.

B. The Superintendent gave a report on the opening of school. Overall, we have had a great start to the school year. The school buildings look great! Thanks to the administrators, custodians and staff for taking care of the buildings. Also, thanks to John Mills and the maintenance staff for all of their work in the summer, particularly completing those items on the checklist from the OCR review. As of today, we have 2,449 students. This is 14 students higher than what was budgeted in March.

C. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved the 2012-2013 Local Gifted Plan. In the past, the Giles County Gifted Education Plan was submitted to VDOE on a 5 year cycle for approval. With the new gifted regulations, it is now required that the Local Plan for Gifted Education is submitted annually to the School Board for approval. Local School Board approval begins with the 2012-2013 school year. The plan submitted has been reviewed by the Giles County Gifted Advisory Committee.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Mrs. McMahon thanked A-1 heating for the \$200 scholarships given to several Giles County graduates. We certainly appreciate this!

Mrs. McMahon thanked Dr. Arbogast for his participation in the New River Valley Realtor’s Association promoting Giles County Public Schools.

Mrs. McMahon thanked Nikki Pynn for her participation and hard work in “Art on the Lawn.”

Dr. Webb stated that at the New River Community College graduation, a welding instructor came to him and told him that the students that came to them from Giles County are the best students that they have! They are more prepared and ready for what they have to do at New River.

Dr. Webb commended everyone in Giles County Public Schools for being fully accredited!

Mr. Whitehead gave information on the Southwest Virginia Governor's Schools. He stated that "This year, SWVGS is using two new online tools to support students in science and math classes. In math classes, students are using a program called ALEKS (Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces) which is a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. ALEKS courses are very complete in their topic coverage and ALEKS does not use multiple-choice questions; instead, students must enter their own calculated answers. Also, each student receives unique questions, and a question is never exactly repeated. ALEKS was very useful in helping us to place new students in math courses because it provided a detailed analysis of a student's skill level in algebra and trigonometry topics. Also, ALEKS was provided to new students over the summer so that they could practice and improve in area in which they were weak. Furthermore, a few students took advantage of the summer learning opportunity and worked through the entire trigonometry ALEKS course on their own so that they could enter SWVGS as a junior in calculus. Physics students are using WebAssign. WebAssign is an online program, available quite inexpensively, that is correlated to textbooks for subjects. Instead of assigning homework or practice problems from a book, the instructor can assign the problems on WebAssign. As students complete the work in WebAssign, they have the opportunity to access video tutorials and an eBook if they need assistance with a problem. WebAssign automatically grades student answers and reinforces student learning through practice and instant feedback. Like ALEKS, the questions are unique to each student and are not multiple choice. Students must enter their own answers and teachers have the option of offering students multiple attempts to try each problem, should they wish to do so. So far, WebAssign has been very well-received by our physics students and they appreciate the opportunity to receive instant grading and feedback on their work."

Mr. Gollehon commended the wonderful educational feature!

Mr. Gollehon commended both Giles and Narrows High School bands on their presentations at the football games and he is looking forward to seeing the number of participants at Narrows High School rise in the future.

Mr. Buckland commended Dr. Arbogast and his staff for replacing all the individuals that retired or resigned this past spring/summer. It appears that the school year has gotten off to a good start.

The Superintendent stated that accreditation results came out yesterday. 93% of Virginia's 1800+ public schools are fully accredited. 96% of Virginia's elementary schools and 88% of middle schools are fully accredited. Out of the 132 school divisions, there were 85 school divisions that had all schools fully accredited. This is actually down from last year. Congratulations to faculty, staff and administrators for all of their hard work with the students!

The Superintendent stated that Mr. Young has been working with Apple to get the iPad's set up that were donated at the August board meeting from the Giles County Autism Parent Group. Hopefully, we will have this finalized soon and be able to get these working for the students.

The Superintendent thanked the teachers and staff who participated in the educational feature!

The Superintendent showed a video clip from students at Narrows Elementary/Middle School that participated in the VSBA Student Video Contest. The contest was open to all Virginia elementary and secondary public education students. They had to create a 30 second video clip using the theme, "Preparing for the future...there's no app for that!" The video's purpose is to promote the value of Virginia public education and to emphasize the positive aspects of public schools. The video was to portray the impact that public education has on preparing students for the future. The contest winner video will be displayed at the 2012 VSBA Annual Convention in November.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved the following Athletic Coaching Contracts – Jarrod Alls (GHS Head 8th Grade Boys Basketball), Beth Santolla (GHS Volunteer – Basketball), Paul Short (GHS Volunteer – Girls Soccer).

The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the following Volunteer Agreements – Heather Francis (GHS Assistant to Colorguard Squad), Tammy Mullins (NHS Senior Dinner/Talent Show – cafeteria).

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved the following Employment – Wes McCall – GHS Bus Driver (effective September 27th).

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 25th, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk