

**March 14, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on March 14, 2013 in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. Persons present were:

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

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 Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's March 14, 2013 School Board Meeting Agenda.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Diana Blanton attended the board meeting to speak on behalf of the GEA. "I am here today representing the Giles Education Association. I have several major issues I would like to address today regarding salary and benefits. First, GEA would like to reiterate a budget request that we have made several times this school year. GEA asks the school board to hold employee salaries harmless against the increases in VRS contributions. This was accomplished for the last budget cycle and we hope the school board can do this again for all employees. Second, GEA would like to know if the School Board will be accepting the funding from the state to support a 2% salary increase. GEA is in favor of salary increases for all employees. Lastly, the GEA is gravely concerned about the recent meetings held regarding health insurance benefits. There is mass confusion and anxiety caused by the information distributed at the health care meetings. I would like to be the voice of some of the concerns that our members have, if our insurance is dropped. However, I realize that no decisions have been made yet regarding health insurance. It seems that it would be prudent to wait a long while to see how all the options and details will work out, before rushing into a decision on such an important issue. First, dropping insurance benefits is inequitable. Currently all employees have access to the same benefit. The idea presented at the meetings, is that if you drop insurance people can receive a government subsidy. Not everyone will qualify for the subsidy, and even if you do qualify, people receive different amounts. So how can this be made equitable and fair for all employees? Next, for years the school board has stated that receiving full single subscriber insurance is part of our compensation package. For years, employees have justified our lower salaries by the fact that our insurance was paid by the school board. If that benefit is taken away, the amount of money used for insurance should be returned to the paychecks of your employees. Last year's premium was \$503 per month. So, that amount should show up in the paychecks of each employee. If employees are going to be required to pay out of pocket for insurance, we need to be compensated accordingly. Your employees love their jobs, but we are also trying to make a living and we have bills to pay and families to support. Next, the employment contracts for next year will include our Anthem insurance. It has been suggested that insurance may be dropped on January 1. How does that affect our contract? Is our contract null and void when your end of it is broken? GEA advocates that this not occur. Our Anthem insurance should be allowed to run the entire length of the contract. If health insurance is no longer offered by the school system, the school system must pay a penalty to the federal government for not offering benefits to employees. If the penalty is paid, that means that the school board is choosing to send over half a million dollars to the federal government in exchange for nothing; instead of the school system taking care of its dedicated and hardworking employees. The Affordable Care Act was not set up so that more people would lose benefits and to give employers a way out of providing benefits. The penalty for not providing insurance is less than what it costs to insure us. Where is the money going that you will be saving from not insuring us? GEA advocates that the money saved be returned to the employee so that if it comes down to it, we can pay for insurance out of our own pockets. With these major difficulties in mind, GEA strongly advocates that an insurance committee be formed, made up of reps from each school, and each class of employee, such as bus drivers and support staff, as well as a GEA rep. This committee could serve to help search for affordable options and make decisions with the school board. GEA would also like to request that before any long term decisions are made, that we totally explore our options. Please don't make a hasty decision. There are many unknowns about how the new legislation will affect individuals. Additionally, the school board should be out there seriously shopping around to find affordable health insurance for its employees and their families. The school board and the GEA have the same ultimate goal. We are here to ensure that there is a great public school for all children in Giles County. Without the ability to offer employees health benefits along with a respectable salary, attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers and staff will be nearly impossible. The best asset a child can have in their education is a highly qualified teacher. Please consider all of the stakeholders involved while making this decision. Not just how the school system can save money. Thank you."

#### **RECOGNITIONS**

**On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were nominated for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support:**  
Christina Martin – EEMS, Margy Journell – EEMS, Tiffany Drape – Virginia Tech, Jeff Young – GTC, Lisa James – NEMS

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

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

##### **A. Meeting Minutes**

1. Regular – February 14, 2013

**B. Financial Data**

1. Payrolls to include February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and March 15, 2013
2. Payment of Bills to include February 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013
3. February 2013 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. Appropriation Request for May 2013  
TO: Christopher McKlarney  
Interim Administrator for Giles County  
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II  
Division Superintendent  
RE: May 2013 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of May 2013. This is for the eleventh month of the fiscal year 2012-12. 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

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**

Teddy Vaughn, School Resource Officer at Macy McClaugherty, attended the meeting to speak about school safety after the tragedy at Sandy Hook. He discussed his proposal to secure the front of the school that would include locking the office door and adding double doors with locks. This would prevent individuals from being able to walk straight down the main hall after getting entrance into the school. You would have to be "buzzed" in to be able to get down the hallway where the classrooms are located. Mr. Vaughn also proposed getting new doors for Macy classrooms. These new doors would take more time to break the glass and reach inside and open the door. The glass would have the chicken wire glass.

Sheriff Millirons discussed information regarding the school safety assessment team. This team was established after the tragedy at Sandy Hook. The goal of this team is to create a partnership between the Sheriff's Office and members of the Giles County school system to improve the safety of all Giles County schools.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- A. The Superintendent recommended action and Board approval of the following personnel/contractual items:
  1. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment**: Verena Riley – GHS Family Consumer Science
  2. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignation**: Abigail Davis – NHS JV Softball Head Coach
  3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, confirmed the Substitute Teacher List to date.
  4. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, approved the following Substitute Bus Drivers: Sherry Teats
  5. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, approved the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Morgan Buckland – NHS Girls Varsity Basketball Assistant
  6. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved the following **Supplemental Contracts**: Gayle Kirby – NHS Yearbook, Teresa Lowe – NHS SCA
  7. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, approved the

following **Volunteer Athletic Coaching Agreement/Volunteer Agreements:** Phil Orey – NHS Volunteer Baseball Coach, Mike Lovell - NHS Volunteer Baseball Coach, Robert Patteson – NHS Volunteer Baseball, Cody Vaughn – GHS JV Boys Baseball, Jerry Huffman – GHS Volunteer Track, Zachary Atkins – GHS Varsity Baseball, Sydney Thompson – NHS Volunteer Assistant Track

B. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved resolutions for Celanese and PemTel as part of the 2013 VSBA Business Honor Roll. Local businesses have the power to shape community attitudes about public schools, and the VSBA Business Honor Roll is a way for local school divisions to recognize local businesses for their support. Later this year, VSBA will publish the Business Honor Roll in the *VSBA Newsletter* and issue a news release about those honored through this program. They will also mail personalized recognition certificates and letters of congratulations for each business to division superintendents in time for boards to present to them at the boards' May meetings.

**2013 Virginia School Boards Association  
Business Honor Roll**

- WHEREAS,** public schools and local businesses are an integral part of this community; and
- WHEREAS,** many local businesses play a crucial role in supporting our schools; and
- WHEREAS,** the economic health of our community, state and nation depends on a strong public school system; and
- WHEREAS,** collaboration between local public schools and local businesses strengthens schools and the business community alike by providing a well-trained and highly educated workforce; and
- WHEREAS,** an excellent public school system is vital to the quality of life in this community and fundamental to preserving a strong democratic society now and in the future;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Giles County School Board names PemTel to the 2013 Virginia School Boards Association Business Honor Roll, showing appreciation for their ongoing support of this community's public schools. Your work has aided this community in focusing on the goal of providing the best public schools we can for every child who attends them.

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- WHEREAS,** an excellent public school system is vital to the quality of life in this community and fundamental to preserving a strong democratic society now and in the future;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Giles County School Board names Celanese to the 2013 Virginia School Boards Association Business Honor Roll, showing appreciation for their ongoing support of this community's public schools. Your work has aided this community in focusing on the goal of providing the best public schools we can for every child who attends them.

C. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved the Jacob Ray Roe Scholarship for Engineering. The Jacob Ray Roe Scholarship for Engineering will be awarded to a Giles High School senior in the amount of \$300. This scholarship has been established by family, friends, and co-workers of Jacob Ray Roe to honor him.

D. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved the SunTrust resolution regarding the ERIP plan. The SunTrust resolution needs to be approved to keep the Plan in compliance with their audit regulations. (See pages 6 & 7 for signed resolutions)

**CONCERNS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Gollehon commended the VSBA for doing the Business Honor Roll! This is a great thing! He knows from his own personal experience when he was a band teacher that Celanese always made many contributions!

Mr. Gollehon commended Sheriff Millirons and Officer Vaughn for their security presentation. We need to do all we can do to keep our kids safe!

Mrs. McMahon stated that she was recently at the Johnston House museum and picked up some pamphlets for everyone. As information, the historical society has applied for a grant that will benefit Giles County Public Schools for the educational feature that they have planned. They do have a Giles County education corner and it is worthwhile to see! They have great programs for the students when they come there.

Mrs. McMahon thanked John Ross for all he does for the energy education program. He is always great to follow up on questions/concerns.

Mrs. McMahon thanked Savannah Gautier for the drawing done of Narrows High School and the one that was given to her. Thanks to the art department and Dr. Hopkins for the framed art work that was given to her during the school tours.

Mrs. McMahon congratulated and extended best wishes to Haley Hansen, who was the winner of our Giles County Spelling Bee! She will be going to Roanoke on Saturday for state competition! Good luck!

Dr. Webb was also happy to see the two resolutions for PemTel and Celanese. He is happy to see their continued support for Giles County Public Schools.

Dr. Webb thanked the School Resource Officers for their presentation; however, he wanted to thank them for what they do each and every day! They are making our schools a safer place to be. Thanks to the Sheriff and our Resource Officers!

Mr. Whitehead informed the School Board about information from the Governor's School. "The following students won awards at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue Ridge Highlands Regional Science Fair held at Radford University on March 8-9."

**Category Place Awards:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup>—Briana Massaro (Giles) in **Biochemistry and Chemistry**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>—Carson Squibb (Giles) **Energy and Transportation and Engineering: Electrical and Mechanical**

**Special Awards:**

- Briana Massaro (Giles) - **American Chemical Society North Eastern Tennessee Chapter Award**
- Matt Keaton (Giles) - **United States Air Force Distinguished Achievement Award**
- Carson Squibb (Giles) - **United States Air Force Distinguished Achievement Award**
- Briana Massaro (Giles) - **United States Public Health Award**

Mr. Buckland thanked the GEA for attending and wanted them to know that the School Board is behind them 100%. The cap put on the insurance last year was a mandate from the Board of Supervisors. He intends to do the best they can do for the educators and support staff.

Mr. Buckland discussed athletic drug testing. He thinks that this needs to be pursued. If a student were to test positive, their participation in that sport could be affected for that season. He requested that a draft policy be brought to the next month's board meeting for consideration.

The Superintendent commended our Teacher of the Year candidates for 2013. They are: Gary Hinson – Narrows High School, Heather Munsey – Eastern Elementary/Middle School, Lynette Lowe – Narrows Elementary/Middle School, Crystal Boggess – Giles High School, and Kim T. Mills – Macy McClagherty School.

The Superintendent commended the DAR Essay winners. They are: Lakin Lucas – 7<sup>th</sup> grade winner from Eastern Elementary/Middle and Hunter Wright – 8<sup>th</sup> grade winner at Giles High School. Hunter's essay went on to win at District and State level. He will be honored t state DAR.

The Superintendent congratulated spelling bee winners from each school. Giles County Schools held their county spelling bee sponsored by Scripps Howard and the Roanoke Times on Tuesday, February 19, 2013. Haley Hansen, daughter of Lori and Chris Hansen, won the Spelling Bee in the 13th round by spelling the word "giantesque". Haley is a fifth grade student at Eastern Elementary / Middle School. The Spelling Bee is open to students in fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Winners from each of the five schools participating in the County Spelling Bee were: Frank Cahoon, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Narrows Elementary/Middle School, Haley Hansen 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Eastern Elementary/Middle School, Sarah Church, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Giles High School, Lucas Morris, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Macy McClagherty School and Maitree Patel, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Narrows High School.

The Superintendent commended several students who placed in the District 7 SkillsUSA competition. Congratulations to these students! They are as follows:

<b>Name of Contest</b>	<b>Contestants</b>	<b>Award</b>
3D Visualization and Animation Teams	Taylor McCroskey & Kevin Montgomery	1st Place Team
Architectural Drafting	RG Magnase Frank Kantsios	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Architectural Drafting – Post Secondary	Austin Evans	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Auto Maintenance	Brandon Williams	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Auto Maintenance	Zach Smith	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Automotive Service Technology	Shane Wooten	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Computer Maintenance Technology	Justin Schwartz	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Cosmetology	Jennifer Bradley	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Essay	Gabe Cox	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Extemporaneous Speaking	Fred Stump	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Metals	Ryan Newman	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Occupational Scrapbook	Charity Flinchum	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Poster	RG Magnase	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Promotional Flyer	RG Magnase Leslie Meadows Wyatt Link	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Related Technical Math	Gabe Cox	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Technical Computer Applications	Thomas Brown	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Technical Drafting	Ty Journell Gabe Cox	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place

The Superintendent reminded School Board members of the McGlothlin Celebration Awards program being held on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at Radford University.

**IN OTHER ACTION...**

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved an increase of \$.10 to the 2013-2014 food service prices.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved the retirement of Cheryl Greene, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved graduation dates for Narrows and Giles High School. Narrows High School will have graduation on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and Giles High will have graduation on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved the following Volunteer Athletic Coaching Agreements – Robbie Patteson (NHS Varsity Boys Baseball), Brock Lusk (NHS Assistant Tennis Coach).

Thanks to Dr. Hopkins and staff/faculty for the school tour and lunch on Monday! It was a good visit!

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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

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 Chairman

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 Clerk