

September 26, 2013

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on September 26, 2013 in the Giles High School auditorium. 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 Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's September 26th, 2013 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Melissa Conley, new GEA President, spoke on behalf of the GEA. She stated, "I am representing all educators of Giles County and would like to thank you for all that you have done for us. We have faced some tough times in Giles County but made it through and have continued as professionals to do our jobs and make Giles County Public Schools some of the best in the State of Virginia. Our teachers continue to provide nurturing, guidance, and a wonderful education to their students. As teachers and as human beings we each have goals that we feel are important to make us more successful. This year we would like to address some of those goals and work together with you, Mr. Meade, and Dr. Arbogast as a team to accomplish them for the betterment of our County. These goals are:

1. Addressing the lack of salary steps/raises
2. Possible bereavement days
3. Reevaluating our transfer policy
4. Being able to use sick days for non-family members
5. Passes or reduced passes for athletics for elementary/middle school teachers

I realize that some of these goals are a continuation from previous years but we need to push on for a resolution. I look forward to working closely with you to ensure these resolutions and appreciate all that you continue to do for Giles County Schools. We all want what is best for our employees but more importantly what is best for the children of Giles County."

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 "amended" consent items:

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – August 16, 2013

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include August 30th and September 13th, 2013
2. Payment of Bills to include August 14th, 21st, 27th and September 4th, 10th and 18th, 2013
3. August 2013 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. 2013-2014 PAC & Calendar Advisory Committees (Amended)
5. Field Trips 2013-2014
6. Appropriation Request for September 2013
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: September 2013 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of September 2013. This is for the third month of the fiscal year 2013-14. 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:

\$2,114,156.00

(Operating + Flow-thru)

Total: \$2,114,156.00

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.

7. Appropriation Request for October 2013
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: October 2013 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of October 2013. This is for the fourth month of the fiscal year 2013-14. 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: \$2,114,156.00

(Operating + Flow-thru)

Total: \$2,114,156.00

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.

EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

Mr. Rader, MMS Principal, presented the educational feature on behalf of Macy McLaugherty School. He updated the School Board on the top ten items/goals that are being focused on at Macy. First, he discussed the anti-bullying rules that they have posted in every classroom and school wide. He then shared a picture of his new teachers. He proceeded with the Macy "Top Ten". Macy has a Volunteer Reading Program that they are beginning this year and he is looking for volunteers to help work with some students at Macy who don't qualify for Title I or special education, but still need help. The next item was "Connections" and how he is communicating with his teachers about making connections with their students. Another goal he discussed was "Reading." His goal was to read to all students in the first month of school. Mr. Rader then discussed "Smart Goals." He has 15 teachers who will be evaluated this year and will be developing smart goals in a formal way. "Code Blue" is another one of Macy's "Top Ten" goals. He will be conducting Code Blue drills throughout the year. Another goal for Macy is "Observations." Mr. Rader has already completed 32 observations. The next goal is to be "Active." He showed pictures of the new PE teacher and assistant stretching with their classes. Mr. Rader also discussed "Grant Projects." He discussed the Macy 5K and how they will continue that this spring. Another grant project this year will be through Celanese. Celanese will be helping to fund a paved walking track. Another goal is the "Positive Program." He stated that a gentleman (Doug Reavis) will be coming to Macy on October 3rd at 6:00 p.m. to discuss anti-bullying. The last goal Mr. Rader discussed was "Marigolds." Marigolds are a positive flower and they surround his building. Mr. Rader hopes to achieve a lot of positive things this year in his school!

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. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment:** Phillip Pennington – Bus Driver (effective 13-14 school year), Robert Trent – Bus Driver (effective 9/20/13)
 2. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations:** Lena Tate – EEMS Custodian (effective 9/30/13), Jane Dalton – Bus Driver (effective 9/9/13), Randall Roe – GHS 8th Grade Football Coach & Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, Byron Hurley – Assistant 8th Grade Football (accepted Head 8th Grade Football Coach), Mark Jones – GHS PE Teacher (effective 9/27/13)
 3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Supplemental Contracts:** Cecilia McFaden – GHS Annual & Head Senior Class, Pamela Malabad – GHS MACC All Around & MACC Math, Michael Etzler – GHS Newspaper, Mandy Havens – GHS SCA, Randy Weddle – GHS MACC Social Studies, Mitch Reed – GHS SCA, Diana Blanton – GHS MACC All Around/MACC Science & MACC Head
 4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements:** Mickey Williams – GHS Varsity Boys Basketball, Megan Epperley – GHS Volleyball, Brittany Caudill – GHS Assistant 8th Grade Volleyball, Rusty Kelley – GHS Track, Stella Mosley – NHS "Gate", Jackie Ballard – NHS "Gate", Kim Kantsios – NHS "Gate", Terry Beckner – EEMS Library, Pat Fullen – EEMS Library, Sandi Webster – EEMS

Library, Mary Beth Holton – EEMS Library, Lori Hansen – EEMS Library, Sandy Fisher – EEMS Library

5. The School Board, on motion of Dr. Webb, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following Substitute Teachers to date.

B. The Superintendent gave a report on the opening of school.

C. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, adopted a sample resolution from VSBA regarding OEI Legislation. As information, the VSBA sent out an email with a sample resolution for school divisions to consider adopting. This resolution states that the School Board supports the lawsuit brought forth by the Virginia School Boards Association and Norfolk City School Board to declare the OEI legislation unconstitutional and to enjoin the OEI Board from taking any action to implement the legislation. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, in its 2013 session, the General Assembly enacted legislation, which was subsequently approved by the Governor, creating the Opportunity Educational Institution (OEI) and the Opportunity Educational Institution Board; and

WHEREAS, the legislation mandates that the OEI Board take over the supervision and operation of any local public schools that have been denied accreditation and authorizes the OEI Board to take over any local public school that has been accredited with warning for three consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, it is the firm conviction of the School Board that this legislation violates the Constitution of Virginia in that it usurps the role of local school boards in supervising and managing the public schools of the Commonwealth; now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Giles County School Board hereby supports the lawsuit brought forth by the Virginia School Boards Association and Norfolk City School Board to declare the OEI legislation unconstitutional and to enjoin the OEI Board from taking any action to implement the legislation.

D. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved Policy Revisions as recommended by VSBA and Administration.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Mr. Gollehon thanked Mr. Rader for the good programs and activities that are going on in his school.

Mr. Gollehon stated that there are a lot more observations of teachers begin conducted by the principals within the schools, which is a good thing!

Mr. Gollehon commented on the audit of school activity funds. He was very pleased with the audit.

Mr. Whitehead updated the School Board on the Southwest Virginia Governor's School. "On Saturday, October 12, 2013, Southwest Virginia Governor's School will host SparkFun for a workshop designed to introduce students to electronics and their use. This workshop is part of a new SparkFun initiative and SWVGS is proud to be part of the first SparkFun Electronics National Tour. This workshop will be run by the SparkFun Electronics Education department and will expose students to the Arduino platform, computer programming, and basic electronic components. Workshop participants will be guided through 14 circuits (or "experiments") of varying difficulty, teaching foundational skills like prototyping using a breadboard, using sensors, controlling outputs, and more. All documentation files are open source, which means teachers and students are welcome to change the files to better suit their needs. Any current SWVGS student who is interested in learning about electronics has been invited to participate. Seating is limited and available seats are being filled based on demonstrated interest on a first-come, first-serve basis. Currently 20% of the enrolled workshop participants are Giles County Students. In the last few years, several SWVGS students have used electronics, the Arduino platform, and programming to create very unique devices such as an EKG monitor, a sheet music advancer, and a REM sleep alarm clock. We hope that the opportunity to offer this workshop will make this area of work available to more students."

Dr. Webb extended an invitation to school board members from New River Community College on October 29th from 5-7 p.m. at the Bank Restaurant for a mixer. NRCC has wanted to have a more visible appearance and what better way than to have an informal social. People from the college will be there that have "expertise" in the programs at NRCC. Also, on November 6th at 1:00 p.m., the Board of Supervisors is going to NRCC to tour the facility and they would like School Board members to go along as well. There is a new scholarship program that NRCC is trying to initiate next year called CCAP. This is in addition to what the education foundation already provides. The CCAP program will be a non-endowed type program. Our county administrator is very excited about this opportunity.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she enjoyed the school visits with Delegate Yost. It was good to have him willing to come visit the schools.

Mrs. McMahon commended Giles County for being 1 of 36 school districts out of 132 that have all schools fully accredited.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she was very happy to see the additional security system that was in place at Narrows Elementary/Middle School. She

commended the teachers for having that so high on their list of priorities to have in place.

Mrs. McMahon asked Dr. Arbogast if there was recognition about Narrows High School in regards to what was in the welcome back letter from Dr. Hopkins (mentioned in U.S. News & World Report). Dr. Arbogast stated that he didn't think there was.

Mr. Buckland commended the school system on being named 1 of 36 districts out of 132 that have all schools fully accredited.

Dr. Arbogast stated that all of our schools have conducted at least one intruder drill so far this year.

Mrs. McMahon stated that Joseph Yost was very impressed with all the technology in our schools.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated our schools, teachers and students for being fully accredited.

Dr. Arbogast recognized Giles and Narrows High Schools. "Giles High School and Narrows High School are two out of 194 schools in w!se's national network to earn the distinction of being named a Blue Star School for their students' performance on the 2012-2013 w1se Financial Literacy Certification Test." Congratulations to these students! Thanks to teachers, Mandy Havens, Verena Riley, Meaghan Jones, Teresa Lowe and Gayle Kirby for their efforts and work!

Dr. Arbogast discussed the NEMS roof. He stated that we are getting closer to finishing this roof and are approximately 80% complete. There is approximately 3 weeks of work left. Dr. Arbogast stated that there should be some energy savings once the roof is complete.

Dr. Arbogast discussed opening school information. As of September 25th, we were at 2459 students. This is above our March ADM number from last year.

Dr. Arbogast discussed the summer lunch program. On August 29th, we went through a review of the program and received excellent marks, based on what occurred.

Dr. Arbogast thanked Mr. Rader and Macy McClaugherty for the educational feature.

Dr. Arbogast thanked Dr. Hopkins and Mr. Widdoes for hosting the quarterly dinner meeting.

Dr. Arbogast discussed a resolution from VASS that involved Virginia's accountability system and high stakes testing. The resolution requests that the Virginia General Assembly reexamine Virginia's public school assessments and accountability system. VSBA believes there is room for improvement within the current system that will give balanced assessments, a more complete picture of student learning, and allows for expedited retakes and local control of the testing windows among other items. Dr. Arbogast asked the board whether they wanted to take action on the resolution or have this be the first reading for this resolution. The board will review the resolution at the next meeting.

The Superintendent commended Mrs. Thompson and the Special Education Department for a letter he received from a former parent of a Special Education student. She was very complimentary of Mrs. Thompson and the special education staff.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the **Transfer** of Scott Corboy (Custodian) from NHS to EEMS.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved **Volunteer Agreements** for Burt Noble (GHS Accompanist for Choral), Austie Miller (NEMS Classroom) and Harriet Fletcher (NEMS Classroom).

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 24th, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk