

## February 20, 2014

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 20, 2014 in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. Persons present were:

J. L. Webb, Chairman  
E. G. Gentry  
Drema K. McMahan  
J.M. Gollehon, 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. McMahan, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's February 20, 2014 School Board Meeting Agenda.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Melissa Conley, GEA President, attended the School Board meeting on behalf of GEA. She stated, "As GEA President, I would like to personally welcome Eric Gentry as the newest member of the Giles Co. School Board. I also want to congratulate Dr. Webb for his new position as Chairman. GEA attended Lobby Day in Richmond on January 26 and were able to express our concerns as well as learn what issues are going to be affecting us. Teachers have so many issues facing them currently not only in legislation but on the local level as well. First and foremost, GEA is very concerned with the morale of our employees. Giles Co. Public School employees are dedicated, hard-working professionals. However, we don't always feel that we are treated as such. We are under a microscope and under scrutiny at all times both at work and in our personal lives. We are criticized in the media, by politicians, and in the community. We are criticized if we discipline students or if we don't. We give too much homework or not enough and it's not popular to require that it be completed. We are criticized if a student fails, regardless of their attendance or accountability. We clothe and feed our students, provide Christmas gifts and school supplies, try to prepare them to be successful but still feel that we don't do enough. GEA surveyed its members and based on those that responded we found over the past 5 years that 35% of our membership is working 1-3 jobs outside of their normal contracted position to supplement their incomes. I am sure this doesn't reflect a true percentage due to those not able to respond. We are painfully aware that the State of Virginia has failed to recognize the hard work of its teachers once again and not allotted a salary increase in its budget. However, we ask as you develop your budget to be aware of all the hours that we work outside our contracted time, as well as be aware that 40% of our evaluations are based on SOL scores regardless of a student's home environment or motivation. Also remember the cost of living continues to rise but our salaries have not. The state of Virginia ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in education within the Union, is the 7<sup>th</sup> wealthiest state, and ranks 31<sup>st</sup> in teacher salaries nationally. What does that say? It says to me that the State wants to remain high in educational standards and remain competitive but they aren't willing to pay the salaries that dedicated employees deserve. All of Giles County Schools are accredited and will remain so due to the hard work of its staff. We realize that the burden of funding will be placed on the localities once again. However, Giles County Public School employees have not seen a substantial salary increase in approximately seven years. A compensation committee has been created among GEA members to address this issue and will be evaluating what will or will not be coming from the state and comparing salaries from competing counties. All of these issues are being looked at and a definitive request will be presented to the members of the School Board and the Board of Supervisors in the very near future. Again, GEA would like for you to remember the hard work and dedication of its employees and the financial struggle that so many have had to endure."

Dr. Webb stated that when Mrs. Conley addressed teacher salaries, he feels strongly that she was preaching to the choir as far as the Board is concerned. More and more is coming back to the localities every year as far as funding. Dr. Webb stated that the Board of Supervisors does their fair share and then some. Dr. Webb also stated that it will take people going to a higher level far above them. Mrs. Conley stated that she is concerned about the retention of our teachers. Dr. Webb and the rest of the School Board thanked Mrs. Conley for attending and sharing their concerns.

Jennifer Clark, along with Girl Scout Troop 742 of Narrows, attended the School Board meeting to address School Board Appreciation Month. They attended to show appreciation and respect for the School Board members and shared different reasons expressing why they appreciate them. In closing, each girl distributed "Thanks A Lot" Girl Scout cookies to each School Board member.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

**On behalf of the Professional Advisory Council, the following were nominated for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support:**

1. Eastern Elementary/Middle Bus Drivers (Brenda Williams, Mary Spaur, Wanda Rhodes, Joel Rader, Curtis Williams, Wes McCall, Angie Vaught, Mark Givens, Margie Burroughs, and Phillip Pennington)
2. Danny Pyles - MMS

3. Renee Meredith – MMS
4. Anita Perdue – GHS
5. Annissa Dudding – GHS
6. Paula Lee – GHS
7. Michelle Delung – NEMS Volunteer
8. Harriet Fletcher – NEMS Volunteer
9. Austie Miller – NEMS Volunteer

Mr. Ricky McCoy, Giles County Board of Supervisors member, attended the meeting to distribute certificates to School Board Members in honor of School Board Member Appreciation Month.

### 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 – January 16, 2014

#### B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014
2. Payment of Bills to include January 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 & February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014
3. January 2014 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. Appropriation Request for March 2014  
TO: Christopher McKlarney  
Interim Administrator for Giles County  
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II  
Division Superintendent  
RE: March 2014 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of March 2014. This is for the ninth 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.

<b>Original Monthly Appropriation Request:</b>	<b>\$ 2,114,156.00</b>
<b>(Operating + Flow-thru)</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,114,156.00</b>

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.

- /at  
5. VSBA Code of Conduct

### EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

On behalf of the Narrows High School educational feature, Dr. Jill Hopkins, Lori Shannon, Chelle Mosley, Faith Clehm, Luke Perdue and C.D. Tawney attended the School Board meeting to discuss the PAES (Practical Assessment Exploration System) lab with board members. Mrs. Shannon showed a Power Point presentation of the children doing activities in the lab, then each student told board members what activities they liked best.

On behalf of the Narrows High School educational feature, Mr. Dennis Kidd, Tech Ed Teacher, attended the board meeting to discuss his woodworking classes. Mr. Kidd brought along several beautiful pieces of work that were completed. He discussed several woodworking pieces that he has done for the community and informed the School Board that his class is more than happy to help with any projects that anyone may have. His woodworking classes will be completing projects and selling them as a fundraiser for his classes.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. The Superintendent recommended action and Board approval of the following personnel/contractual items:
1. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: James Fisher- GHS Head JV Girls Softball, Ralph Harless – GHS Head Varsity Girls Softball, Sherry Gautier – NHS JV Cheerleading Coach, Chris Gautier – NHS Varsity Track Coach, Billy Lucas – NHS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Track Coach, Brock Lusk – NHS Varsity Boys Tennis Coach
  2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Andy Wilburn – GHS Assistant JV Baseball, Mike Lovell – NHS Softball Assistant, Kelly Lowe – NHS Softball Assistant, Robby Patteson – NHS Varsity Baseball Assistant, Leah Witt – NHS Soccer Assistant, Sonny Frazier – NHS Varsity Softball Assistant
  3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations**: Ralph Harless – GHS JV Softball Coach (accepted Varsity Softball Coach position)
  4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following Employment: Billy Atkins – Substitute Bus Driver
  5. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the bid from Contract Paper Group for services specified in IFB #1-2014 (duplicating paper).
- B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Dr. Webb and unanimous voting, approved a Scholarship offered by The Giles Early Education project. Mr. Gentry asked whether we checked the group out to make sure they have paperwork (tax status, etc.). Dr. Arbogast stated that we usually do not because we are not the ones that provide the funding. Mr. Gentry stated that we knew this group, but he just questioned what we would normally do if it was a group that we didn't know. He wants to make sure the groups that are offering the scholarship are actually legitimate and have the appropriate financial standings.
- C. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved Policy Revisions as recommended from VSBA Policy Services and Administration.

### CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Mr. Gollehon stated that he thoroughly enjoyed the educational feature.

Mr. Gollehon commended Narrows High School for receiving the Bronze award from US News and World Report.

Mr. Gollehon was greatly appreciative of all the cards he received from students from Narrows Elementary/Middle School!

Mr. Whitehead gave an update on the governor's school. The Southwest Virginia Governor's School held the 23rd Annual Science Consortium on February 6th at the Wytheville Meeting Center. Nearly 135 students competing in fourteen different categories were judged by volunteers from Radford University, Virginia Tech, and local businesses. The awards ceremony was held Monday, 2/10, at SWVGS. First and second place winners are eligible to progress to the Blue Ridge Regional Highlands Science Fair to be held on March 7-8. Winners from the regional fair will go on to the Virginia State Science Fair. Students will submit research papers to the Virginia Junior Academy of Science. The awards are as follows:

#### Category Place Awards -

- Biochemistry: Second Place - Dallas McKinney - Narrows High School
- Chemistry: Third Place – Chase Perdue – Narrows High School
- Chemistry: Second Place – Jacob Stubbs – Giles High School
- Computer Science: Second Place – Louis Thomas – Giles High School
- Computer Science: Third Place – Zachary Burch – Giles High School
- Environmental Science: Third Place – Kayla Ogden – Narrows High School
- Microbiology: First Place – Molly Gusler – Giles High School
- Psychology: Learning and Perception - Third Place - Levi Galford - Narrows High School
- Psychology: Social Interactions – First Place – Aidan Williams – Giles High School

#### Category Place Awards -

- Victoria Agud - Giles High School - *Perceptions of Teenage Athletes on Anterior Cruciate Ligament Safety*
- Brandon Spangler - Narrows High School - *The Effects of Agriculture on Nitrate Levels in Water*

Rafe Hagee - Giles High School - *Will A Brace Affect Drummer's Playing Movement*

Mrs. McMahon stated that we are close to completing the teachers CPR/First Aid certification. Thanks to Dr. Arbogast for taking care of that expense! She also thanked Carilion for getting a contract through them!

Mrs. McMahon expressed well wishes and thoughts and prayers to Buford Tawney!

Mrs. McMahon stated that the job done by Narrows High School for Mr. Patteson's viewing was phenomenal! Dr. Hopkins and the staff did an outstanding job! She also stated that she spoke to a former student of Mr. Patteson. He shared funny stories, but also stated how he learned the 3 D's from him and he has taken it through his life. The 3 D's stand for Desire, Dedication and Determination! Mrs. McMahon also shared this story with Mrs. Patteson!

Mr. Gentry also shared his appreciation to Dr. Hopkins and her crew for taking care of the viewing for Mr. Bill Patteson.

Mr. Gentry stated that there were many school systems that had trouble with the recent snow, but not our system. We cleared it out very quickly. John and his crew did a wonderful job!

Mr. Gentry stated that he is in Dusty Stump's welding class for a couple nights. He can first hand tell you that we have a "top notch" quality Tech Center, including staff.

Mr. Gentry stated that the double doors at Macy are a good, quality job. He stated that he is sure the Kindergarten teachers really appreciate these doors.

Mr. Gentry asked the Superintendent if the insurance meetings were over with. The Superintendent stated that they have had two meetings so far and they plan to schedule another one soon. Mr. Gentry questioned whether we can have a joint operation with the county and school system. He stated he has had individuals to ask him about the possibility of doing this.

Mr. Gentry discussed generators and light poles. Dr. Arbogast stated that he plans to discuss this information, along with John Mills, on the next retreat day.

Mr. Gentry stated that he had the opportunity to be under Coach Patteson for two sports. He was a coach all the way! He was a kind man and very dedicated!

Dr. Webb also commended Dr. Hopkins, her faculty and her students for preparing the viewing for Mr. Bill Patteson.

Dr. Webb also commended Narrows High School for the wonderful educational feature!

Dr. Webb also commended the snow removal from the maintenance crew!

Dr. Webb also commended our Tech Center. He stated that there is a welding instructor from New River Community College that states that our welding students are the best prepared students that he has.

Dr. Arbogast stated that as information, our enrollment as of February 19<sup>th</sup> was 2,447, which is a decrease of three since the end of January.

Dr. Arbogast stated that along with Narrows High School receiving the Bronze Award from US News and World Report, they also received the National Athletic Trainers' Association Safe Sports School Award. This program recognizes high schools that help to keep young athletes safe.

Dr. Arbogast commended Mr. Gollehon for being selected as the 2013 Virginia State winner for the Outstanding DAR Veteran Volunteer Award. He was nominated for this award by the George Pearis Chapter NSDAR.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated the football players from Giles High School who made the all-state team. They are as follows: Cody Rhodes, Brett Whitlow, John Teats and Dakoda Shrader.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated Caleb Clemons and Frankie Cahoon for qualifying for the National History Bee in Atlanta in June. Good luck to both of them!

Dr. Arbogast stated that we had 10 students from Giles, 2 from Narrows, 2 from Eastern & 1 student from Macy who made All-District Band. The Giles students were Louis Thomas, Andrew Bales, Amber Stump, Jenna Aistrop, Caroline Eaton, Parker Fields, Emilee Cardin, Jacob Stubbs, Isaac Wall and Luke Stubbs.

Dr. Arbogast stated that Giles also had 9 students make All-District Chorus. They were Tori Belcher, Parker Fields, Morgan Harding, Lauren Gautier, Elisha Lai, Devin Moore, Emilee Cardin, Jeff Lin and Amber Bradley (1<sup>st</sup> alternate). Congratulations to these students!

Dr. Arbogast commended Adelaide Nielson from Eastern Elementary/Middle School for making the Jr. All-District chorus. Also, congratulations to Callie Link & Abbey Stone from Eastern for making All-District band (7<sup>th</sup> graders).

Dr. Arbogast invited everyone to attend our District Spelling Bee on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Board Office.

Dr. Arbogast stated that we had our second round of athlete drug testing in January. All of the tests come back negative!

Dr. Arbogast congratulated Samantha Reed from Macy for making the Virginia Tech Honors Band!

Dr. Arbogast stated that the Teacher of the Year nominees are in from each school. They are as follows: Laura Helvey – NEMS, Christina Martin – EEMS, Andrew Graham – MMS, Melanie Atkins – NHS and Jack Ellison – GHS.

Dr. Arbogast thanked the Pearisburg Junior Women's Club for the breakfast for School Board Appreciation Month. Also, thanks to Girl Scout Troop 742 in Narrows for the presentation and cookies!

Dr. Arbogast thanked Giles High School for the wonderful lunch during the school tour!

Dr. Arbogast thanked the School Board for everything that you do for our schools, teachers, students and community!

Dr. Arbogast thanked Narrows High School for helping to make the viewing for Mr. Patteson possible!

Dr. Arbogast thanked the maintenance crew for all of their hard work on snow removal!

Dr. Arbogast distributed handouts of the proposed Hybrid Sick Leave policy to board members. He stated that they will discuss this before the next board meeting.

#### **IN OTHER ACTION...**

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved the following Athletic Contracts: Andrew Frazier – GHS Head Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, Mike Williams – GHS Varsity Girls Basketball & Varsity Boys Baseball (Volunteer).

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the following Field Trip: GHS Band – February 21-22 – JMU (Harrisonburg) – Audition – 2 Students Involved – School Board Auto.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved 100 old desks from Macy McClaugherty as surplus.

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next School Board Meeting will be held March 20, 2014 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