

June 6, 2016

A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 6:00 PM on June 6, 2016 in the School Administration Office Building. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel and then a work session was held after the closed session. Persons present were:

Marion C. Ballard
Eric G. Gentry
Drema K. McMahon
Stephen M. Steele
Mark A. Wilburn

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, went into a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Code and Paragraph 1 – Discussion, Consideration or Interviews of Prospective Candidates for Employment; Assignment, Appointment, Promotion, Performance, Demotion, Salaries, Disciplining or Resignation of Specific Public Officers, Appointees, or Employees of any Public Body; and Evaluation of Performance of Departments or Schools of Public Institutions of High Educational Where Such Evaluation Will Necessarily Involve Discussion of the Performance of Specific Individuals. Paragraph 4 – Protection of the Privacy of Individuals; Following discussion, Mr. Wilburn moved to go to regular session. Mr. Gentry seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. On motion of Mr. Gentry, with a second by Mr. Steele and unanimous voting, the following Certification of the closed meeting was certified.

WHEREAS, the Giles School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Giles School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which certification applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

VOTE Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Deputy Clerk of the Giles County School Board

Date

There was no action from closed session.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Steele and unanimous voting approved the agenda for the work session.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he will be asking for approval at the June meeting for approval to continue the 2 year agreement with the Governor's School for 20 slots for 16-17 and 17-18.

Dr. Arbogast shared information about the math position at NHS. He stated that the finalist asked about a sign on bonus. Dr. Arbogast told the finalist that it was not budgeted and he didn't know if he could start that right now. Dr. Arbogast asked for input from the board. Mr. Steele stated that teachers thought it was attractive, but he thought that doing something for teachers that have been here for a while (e.g. – 5 years, 10 years, etc.) would be good. Board members felt like the sign on bonus was not something they wanted to start at this time.

Mr. Wilburn brought up a discussion regarding individuals (employees) who are over 65 and the possibility of paying their Medicare supplement. He stated that this would save us on insurance costs. Mrs. McMahon stated that she was told that if we did it for Medicare, then those on their spouses insurance are having to pay a % of it would expect us to pay that also. Mr. Wilburn stated it was something worth looking into. Dr. Arbogast is going to check with Barbara.

Mrs. McMahon discussed the evaluation of school board operational procedures, which is a requirement every year. She give out the evaluation to board members.

Mrs. Thompson addressed the School Board regarding the Virginia Preschool Initiative programs in Giles County. She discussed the possibility of adding additional preschool slots (another preschool classroom). She stated that she is aware of other districts that have a tuition based preschool. She handed out information about our preschool program, including requirements, expectations, funding, expenses, number of slots, etc. The additional preschool classroom would be located at Macy McClougherty. The other thing she has considered about this program is the possibility of using it as part of the CTE program and actually using it as a training site for some of our students and being able to add classes at the secondary level who may be interested into going into teaching. For example, if we have a student that is interested in teaching, they could do the observation hours in the preschool program. There was further discussion on how much money was needed to make this happen. Also, Mrs. Thompson stated that a committee would be needed to figure out how much tuition would be charged for the slots. Mr. Gentry asked if there was any monies needed outside of special education funding/VPI funding to make another classroom possible. Mrs. Thompson stated that at this time, she did not think so. The School Board stated that they are comfortable with moving forward with this process.

Mrs. McMahon discussed athletics/coaching/concussion policy. She stated that our trainer does a preseason assessment of all players to get a baseline. Before there is ever a possible concussion, they have a baseline. They have strict 7 day guidelines if they have a diagnosis of a concussion. Mr. Gentry stated that his question was to whether the little league sports were also following our concussion guidelines/training. Dr. Arbogast stated that based on policy, little league is not required to follow by our policy. Mr. Gentry stated that he would like to see all entities follow our concussion policy. There was discussion on sending out information/letters to the athletic directors in Pembroke and Pearisburg (and any other entity that uses our facilities for sports) about doing concussion training.

There was discussion on RAD and RAD training. Mr. Wilburn would like to have monies for RAD training/equipment. He is requesting \$3,000 from the school system. He is hopeful that the county is going to pay what we can't come up with. Mr. Wilburn will get a total by the next meeting of what the cost will be for the new equipment.

There was a brief discussion on our copiers at the board office and some of our other schools. Dr. Arbogast spoke with Ropho Sales about our contract and some options.

Mr. James Funkhouser with SHENTEL attended the School Board meeting to discuss our network. He attended to explain how they will conduct the build and provide us high speed internet for our schools and the School Board Office. They will run fiber into each location. They are working closely with PEMTEL on this project. PEMTEL will still provide the link to Eastern Elem/Middle School. They are hopeful to have this done by the end of October.

Mrs. McMahon discussed the nurses under Mary Henderson's supervision. Right now, the nurses currently report to the principals. Board members would like to see the nurses be evaluated by Mrs. Henderson instead of the principals. There will be further discussion at the June board meeting.

There was a brief discussion on getting laptops (the e-backpack program) for the two high schools (9th grade) and also on getting a policy on board for the use/handling of the laptops.

Mr. Wilburn discussed information on the Bookkeepers. He stated there have been some hurt feelings because of their salaries (after increasing the salaries of cafeteria workers). He really thinks we should do something for our bookkeepers. Mr. Steele stated that he received an email from a bookkeeper to meet with him about their salaries. Increasing the cafeteria

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manager's salaries has really upset the bookkeepers. There was discussion on giving a bonus to the bookkeepers and secretaries. Dr. Arbogast will work on salary scales for bookkeepers and secretaries for the next budget year.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she and Mr. Steele were at Macy today with Dr. Arbogast to talk about the budget and some of their concerns. She had someone ask about renovation of the schools. There was a concern about some things (repairs) at Macy. The concerns were given to John Mills. These concerns will also be shared with the new principal.

Mrs. McMahon discussed the student representative on school board policy. It was decided that the student representatives will be at all voting meetings.

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

Chairman

Clerk