

March 17, 2016

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on March 17, 2016 in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. Persons present were:

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

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
D. Scott Meade, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, School Board Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's March 17, 2016 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Mark Husband and Mr. Henry Buchanan presented information to the School Board about a new Astronomy class that they would like to offer at NHS for the 2016-2017 school year. They discussed the course proposal and syllabus with board members. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved the addition of Astronomy at NHS for the 2016-2017 school year.

Two students from GHS, Rachel Ingram and Jessica Bale, attended the School Board meeting to speak on behalf of an organization called Y Street. Y Street is the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth's award-winning teen volunteer initiative for high school students. The girls/Y Street wanted to offer our schools free tobacco-free signage. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved the request to put up additional tobacco-free signage in our schools.

RECOGNITIONS

On behalf of the Professional Advisory Committee, the following was nominated for their Outstanding Efforts and Continued Support: Lori Shannon – GHS, Carolyn Painter – GHS, Eric Ruppert – EEMS, Chris Mitchell – GTC, Jackie Evans – GTC, Brenda Stephan – GTC, Laura Mitchem – GTC

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – February 18, 2016
2. Special – November 2015, January 2016, March 2016

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include February 29th, 2015 and March 15, 2016
2. Payment of Bills to include February 17th, 24th and March 2nd, 2016
3. February 2016 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. Field Trip Requests
5. Confirmation of Surplus Items
4. Appropriation Request for April 2016
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: April 2016 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of April 2016. This is for the tenth month of the fiscal year 2015-16. 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: \$ 2,180,649.00

Total: \$ 2,180,649.00

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

On behalf of the Eastern Elementary/Middle School educational feature, Mr. Greg Canaday, Mrs. Patt Pennington, Mrs. Karen Wood, Starla Heinlein, Isaac Givens, McKenzie Woolwine and Jacob Eads attended the board meeting to demonstrate the Wilson Reading Program. Mrs. Patt Pennington, along with students Starla Heinlein and Isaac Givens demonstrated the Wilson Reading System (Intensive Intervention) and then Mrs. Karen Wood, along with students McKenzie Woolwine and Jacob Eads demonstrated the Wilson Just Word program (Intervention in Decoding and Encoding). The teachers discussed the benefits of the program and how it has increased the reading scores.

Mr. Canaday and Mr. Seth Davis then discussed the mentoring program at EEMS and how it has been a benefit to some of the younger kids. At some point, the School Board would like to recognize the EEMS mentors. Mentors are 7th grade students who have been nominated by teacher/staff for his/her outstanding character and leadership abilities. Students are paired with students in grades K-3.

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. Gentry, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Retirement:** Betty McCroskey – NEMS Secretary (end 16-17 school year)
 2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Steele and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment:** Deb Parcell – MMS Teacher Assistant (2/24/16), William Vaught – MMS Bus Driver (3/23/16)
 3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations:** Morgan Atkins – GHS Varsity Tennis Coach (2/24/16), Henry Buchanan – NHS Assistant Varsity/Head JV Soccer (2/22/16), Cayla Fraley – NEMS Special Education Teacher (3/7/16)
 4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, confirmed the Substitute Teacher List to date.
 5. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Steele and unanimous voting, approved the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts:** Henry Buchanan – NHS Varsity Soccer, Leah Witt – NHS Middle School Track Coach, Lindsay Meredith – GHS Head JV Softball Coach, Andrew Frazier – GHS Varsity Head Boys Soccer Coach, Ralph Harless – GHS Head Varsity Softball Coach, Jake Munsey – GHS Track Assistant, Lane Spigener – GHS Head Varsity Baseball Coach, Andrew Simmons – GHS Head JV Boys Soccer Coach, Eric Ruppert – GHS Varsity Girls Head Soccer Coach, Colin Munsey – GHS Track Assistant, Craig Johnson – GHS Varsity Baseball (Volunteer), Teddy Vaughn – GHS Head JV Baseball Coach, Sam Wright – GHS Head Track Coach, Stacy Gillispie – GHS JV Baseball (Volunteer), Kelly Davis – NHS Assistant JV Softball (Volunteer), Byron Hurley – GHS Boys Tennis Head Coach, Randy Weddle – GHS Girls Head Tennis Coach, Sarah Perdue – GHS Track Assistant, Bill Mance – GHS JV Softball (Volunteer), April Hobson – NHS Varsity Assistant Soccer (Volunteer), Ben Woodyard – NHS Varsity Track (Volunteer), Brian Spangler – NHS Varsity Assistant Baseball (Volunteer), Matthew Burns – GHS JV Baseball (Volunteer)
 6. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the bid from Fire & Life Safety America for services specified in RFP #3-2016 (fire protection services).

B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved policy revisions as recommended by VSBA and Administration

C. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved a resolution to nominate Celanese and Patrick Enterprises into the 2016 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, especially as schools face increasing budget uncertainty. The Business Honor Roll helps divisions say “thank you” for their vital contributions.

2016 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 Celanese and Patrick Enterprises to the 2016 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.

D. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved the revised 2016-2017 school calendar. Dr. Arbogast stated that the calendar committee really likes the continuity of starting at the same time every year. Mrs. McMahon asked about a couple 2 hour early releases in the calendar. Dr. Arbogast stated that it was for staff development. Mr. Gentry questioned the 4 hour early release on the last day.

E. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Steele and unanimous voting, approved a Scholarship offered by the Giles Christian Men's Group to a GHS senior.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Mr. Steele stated that there are so many things that the teachers do that are really not in their job description. We appreciate all that you do for our students every day.

Mr. Steele discussed implementing a review program for all varsity coaches. The principal and activities coordinator could help in this review. Dr. Arbogast and Mr. Meade spoke to the secondary principals and they are going to work with the activities coordinator and design a uniform form to help with the review.

Mr. Steele stated that his next donation will be going to Macy's mentoring program and a portion will be going to a child in need from that area.

Mr. Ballard thanks NHS for a wonderful luncheon for him for School Board Appreciation Month. He also stated that he went to see Ms. Perdue's class while he was there. It was a very humbling experience!

Mr. Ballard stated that the School Board has had some work sessions. One of the items discussed was removing the 7 year experience cap for new employees. He stated that he would really like to see a tax break for new hires that buy a home here in Giles County. He will find out more information from the County. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved the recommendation to remove the 7 year experience cap for 2016-2017 hires. An individual must still have 30 years in Giles County in order to take advantage of the insurance benefit that is currently in place.

Mr. Gentry stated that the work sessions have been good!

Mr. Gentry stated that he has had a good time at the faculty/staff basketball games.

Mr. Gentry discussed a mud run race that will be held October 1st in Glen Lyn. This will be a fundraiser for the ACCE program.

Mr. Gentry discussed SRO's on our school campuses. He discussed how we would go about tracking their time. Mr. Wilburn thought that we probably needed to have a meeting with all key people involved.

Mr. Gentry discussed sick leave days at retirement. Currently, the cap for sick leave days paid out at retirement is 150 days. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the recommendation to raise the sick leave days paid out at retirement to 200 days (instead of 150).

Mrs. McMahon stated that she visited 2 classes at Eastern Elementary/Middle School (the VPI+ class and Mrs. Woods 6th grade class) and really enjoyed them!

Mr. Wilburn thanked the two ladies that presented tonight on behalf of Y Street regarding the Tobacco-Free school signs.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she, Mr. Wilburn and Dr. Arbogast attended a very informative VSBA meeting in Wytheville.

Dr. Arbogast stated that enrollment as of today is 2,374.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Ballard and 4-1 voting (AYES: McMahon, Ballard, Wilburn, Steele; NAY: Gentry), approved Graduation dates for June 3rd (NHS) and June 4th (GHS), with the understanding that GHS could alter the time for graduation as needed.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, approved Local Choice for the employee's insurance for the 2016-2017 school year. The plans are Key Advantage 500, Key Advantage 1000 and the High Deductible Plan (\$2,800). The School Board will continue to pay out \$521 for each employee's choice of insurance.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved an additional field trip request from Tabitha Young – GHS FBLA for April 2016.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved professional leave requests from Randall Westbrook (GTC) to attend automotive technician instructor seminars in Cleveland, OH.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk