

## February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:30 p.m. on February 20, 2020 in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. A work session was held at 1:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting. Persons present were:

Marion C. Ballard  
Melissa R. Guynn  
Phillip A. Pennington  
Stephen M. Steele  
Mark A. Wilburn

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent  
Amanda J. Tickle, Clerk  
Richard R. Franklin

The work session was called to order by the Chairman.

Mr. Steele followed up with continued efforts to find an AEP building. Mr. Ballard stated that in the last joint meeting with the BOS, it didn't sound very encouraging. He said he feels like politics may play a part in it. Mr. Steele stated that on the metal building beside the county administration office, the county said that someone may be interested in buying it, but said the school board members are welcome to look at it. Dr. Arbogast is going to try to get in touch with Mr. McKlarney and see if they can take a recess before the 4:30 meeting and go look at the building.

Mr. Steele asked for an update on the open forums at the schools. Mrs. Tickle plans to send out dates to get two board members to sign up for each school. Board members will go to the schools and be available to answer any questions or concerns.

Mr. Steele discussed the community meetings. He stated that he met with the GEA representatives yesterday. He stated that the representatives from GEA think that having two community meetings is not a good idea. He stated that they think that having one meeting would be a better option. Dr. Arbogast shared that he has received some dates from CRA on when they could do the community meetings. Mr. Wilburn stated that he talked with a teacher and they also recommended one meeting so everyone could be heard. Mr. Steele asked thoughts on having one meeting. Mr. Franklin stated that he thought it was up to the architect to have two community meetings. Mr. Steele stated that he thought they left it up to the board and he thinks it is a lot of benefit to have just one community meeting. Mrs. Guynn said that she is not sure what we will be discussing in the community meeting. Mr. Steele stated that the architect would lead the meeting and inform the public on the process. Dr. Arbogast stated that Mr. Bower from CRA recommended that it may be best to make a presentation at each high school. Board members discussed which facility to hold the community meeting. Dr. Arbogast shared that if we held two community meetings that Mr. Bower would say the same thing. Mr. Steele stated that he thinks if we have two different meetings, that he's concerned that individuals on the western end may be upset and the people on the central end may not hear everything. He stated that he thinks there may be some individuals that feel threatened and this meeting will allow the whole community to be informed. Mrs. Guynn stated that she thinks it is because that perception has already been given based on comments that were made at previous meetings. She referenced Mr. Steele stating that the study should show whether consolidation is an option and that Mr. Wilburn stated that we need a middle school. There was a date of March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. that was agreed upon. Mr. Wilburn stated that he thinks we should have the first meeting at Narrows High School and then if everyone feels we need another meeting, then we can have another one at Giles High. Mr. Ballard thinks we should have the two dates according to the architect's recommendation. The board then decided to go forward with two dates, one at each high school. The dates that were confirmed for each community meeting is: March 9<sup>th</sup> @ NHS - 7 p.m. and March 18<sup>th</sup> @ GHS - 7 p.m.

Mr. Steele stated that he had heard some concerns about the hiring process. He is hearing that there used to be an opportunity for peers/community members to be on the hiring committee and a lot of times a position gets filled and no one ever knows it's posted. He says there were comments about it being a "good ole boy process." Dr. Arbogast explained the process when a position is posted.

Mr. Pennington asked about doing the drug testing policy once a month. Dr. Arbogast stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Franklin and the testing agency and they felt it would increase the work load substantially in our office and for the testing agency. Mr. Steele stated that if a kid gets tested early in the season, then they may feel like they can do what they want because they may not get tested again.

Mr. Steele stated that we still need to work towards finding a business for the VSBA Honor Roll. Mrs. Tickle has provided a list of names that have been selected in the past.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, went into recess to go look at a couple buildings for potential AEP use.

The School Board reconvened after a recess. They discussed the two potential buildings that they looked at. The first building is beside the county administration building and the other building is an old church beside Walmart.

Mr. Pennington stated that he went back and talked to Mrs. Orey about the student athlete drug testing. He said she stated that once a month is too much but twice a season would be “doable.” Current policy does test once during each season. Board members decided to table the approval of the updated policy that was on tonight’s agenda.

The School Board on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, adjourned the work session.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's February 20, 2020 School Board Meeting Agenda.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Perry Martin, Board of Supervisors member, distributed certificates to School Board Members in honor of School Board Member Appreciation Month.

Mrs. Guynn presented Amanda Tickle, School Board Clerk, with a certificate in honor of School Board Clerk Appreciation Week.

On behalf of the Giles County School Board, the following individuals were recognized:

1. Jennifer Cumbee – EEMS
2. Kimberly Goad – EEMS
3. Kevin Riley – EEMS
4. Dawn Sechrist – EEMS
5. American Legion Post 68-Art Terrill
6. Teresa Santolla – EEMS
7. Teresa Austin – EEMS
8. Robin Williams – EEMS
9. Lundie Williams – EEMS
10. Andrea Church – EEMS

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

#### A. Meeting Minutes

1. January 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

#### B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020
2. Payment of Bills
3. January 2020 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. Field Trips
5. Appropriation Request for March 2020  
TO: Christopher McKlarney  
Interim Administrator for Giles County  
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II  
Division Superintendent  
RE: March 2020 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of March 2020. This is for the ninth month of the fiscal year 2019-2020. 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:** \$ 2,388,792.67  
**(Operating + Flow-thru)**

**Total:** \$ 2,388,792.67

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

#### **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. Pennington, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the Karen M. Yolton Memorial Scholarship.
  2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment**: Sue Anderson – MMS Cafeteria (2/3/20), Bethany Perdue – MMS Cafeteria (2/3/20), Tina Cumbee – Substitute Bus Driver, Barry Williams Sr. – Substitute Bus Driver
  3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the **Supplemental Contracts**: Tanya Jewell – NHS English Dept. Head/Junior Class Sponsor, Leah Witt – NHS Math Dept. Head, Debbie Lusk – NHS Junior Class Sponsor, Kelly Davis – NHS Senior Class Sponsor/Social Studies MACC Coach, Teresa Lowe – NHS Dept. Head CTE/Business/SCA Sponsor/Senior Class Sponsor, Brittany Greenlief – NHS Social Studies Dept. Head, April Hobson – NHS English MACC Coach, Catlin Suttle – NHS Math MACC Coach, Sherry Miller – NHS Science Dept. Head/MACC Head Coach/MACC Science Coach, Josh Sparks – NHS All Around MACC Coach/Yearbook Sponsor
- B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved Policy Revisions as recommended by VSBA and Administration. The student athlete drug testing policy will be tabled until a later date (Policy JFCBA/JFCBA-R).

#### **CONCERNS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Ballard thanked all the staff for all they do on a daily basis.

Mr. Ballard stated that he had the pleasure of visiting Macy for School Board Appreciation Month. He received a poster from all the Kindergarten classes. He enjoyed it very much!

Mr. Ballard stated that with a heavy heart they approved the Karen Yolton Memorial Scholarship.

Mr. Wilburn stated that he was recognized by Giles High School and received lots of goodies. It was a great visit!

Mr. Wilburn also wanted to thank all the staff for all they do on a daily basis! They do so much for our kids.

Mr. Wilburn honored Mr. Everette Parks in his recent passing. He was a retired custodian from Eastern Elementary/Middle School. He described the love that he had for all the children.

Mr. Pennington also thanked all the staff for all they do.

Mr. Pennington thanked Mr. Martin for presenting them certificates and also to Mrs. Whittaker from the Virginian Leader.

Mr. Pennington thanked NHS for the great meal yesterday.

Mr. Steele stated how important our music and extra-curricular activities. We are proud of all of our kids and all that they are able to do.

Mr. Steele stated that they continue to have joint meetings monthly with the Board of Supervisors. He thanked the county for

their willingness to meet and discuss things.

Mr. Steele stated that there will be notice on upcoming meetings for community meetings on the facilities assessment that is going on right now.

Mr. Steele commended our teachers for going above and beyond for their students, including getting grants to take their students on field trips.

Mrs. Guynn congratulated the spelling bee winners from the schools.

Mrs. Guynn commended individuals on achievements from the governor's school!

Dr. Arbogast stated that as of today, enrollment is 2,294, which is a decrease of 12 from the end of January.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated the spelling bee winners from each school. They are as follows: Madi Mann – NHS, Parker Huffman – NEMS, Russell Pauley – MMS, Joanna Jackson – EEMS and Andrew Scott – GHS. Joanna Jackson won the spelling bee in the 22<sup>nd</sup> round.

Dr. Arbogast stated that we have scheduled Health Happy Hours/wellness checks at each of our schools over the next two months. This is part of the Virgin Pulse App/Wellness plan.

Dr. Arbogast discussed the after-school meals at NHS and GHS and stated how many they have averaged per day. He is anticipating that these numbers will go up once spring sports begin.

Dr. Arbogast wished the robotics teams good luck this weekend as they attend the Capital City IQ Qualifier in Charleston, WV on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. NEMS is currently ranked 17<sup>th</sup> at this time in Virginia.

Dr. Arbogast stated that after school STEM activities will start back up March 1<sup>st</sup> and will run until Easter break.

Dr. Arbogast stated that NHS held "Random Acts of Kindness Week" this week and they had great activities each day.

Dr. Arbogast wished the boys swim team at GHS good luck competing in their state meet today. The following kids will compete: Ben Hart, Matt Law, Scott Mahaney and Riley McMahan.

Dr. Arbogast also congratulated the students who participated and were selected for All-District Honors Chorus this past weekend.

Dr. Arbogast stated that we have begun planning for the activities for the summer food program.

Dr. Arbogast stated that GCYAP will be sponsoring a visit from Lauren Sister to speak at the high schools and to the community on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Arbogast recognized school board members and the school board clerk in honor of school board appreciation month and school board clerk appreciation week.

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

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the bid from Liberty Paper for services specialized in IFB 1-2020 (copy paper).

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the February 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved an additional policy, JFCC-R.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next School Board Meeting will be held March 19, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

The Chairman, on motion of Mrs. Guynn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Clerk