

October 19, 2016

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on October 19, 2016 at the School Board Office. A work session was held at 1:00 p.m. that day. Persons present were:

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

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Richard R. Franklin, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, School Board Clerk
Emily Santolla, GHS Student Representative (Board Meeting only)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

WORK SESSION

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

The first order of business was to discuss the swim club at Giles High School. Narrows High School will also have the opportunity to be a part of this group. The swim lanes were paid for by Giles High School and will be reimbursed by the School Board Office.

Dr. Arbogast updated the School Board members on the nursing program at the Tech Center. He stated that it was going really well.

There was a brief discussion on the VSBA convention. Mr. Gentry is not going to be able to go because of surgery. Mr. Wilburn has decided to go in his place. Amanda will take care of reservations and rooms.

There was lengthy conversation with board members about potentially changing the expulsion/suspension policy to differentiate treatment for younger students. Dr. Arbogast stated that the consensus from Administration was that they were happy with current policies. Mr. Franklin stated that he felt like the principals looked at the discipline with the younger kids based upon what the child had done. Mr. Steele asked about the need for a memo for Administration to make sure they were on the same page with this policy. Mr. Franklin stated that it was addressed during the Administrative Retreat back in August. There was also a discussion on whether it was possible to extend the Alternative Education Program to juniors and seniors. Dr. Arbogast is going to check on the regulations/age limit of this to see if there is a possibility for expansion to older kids.

There was a discussion on whether the School Board would be able to offer the additional 1% raise to staff in January. Board members stated that they didn't feel like they could proceed with the additional 1% raise since the state took away the 1% raise because of the money deficit. Mr. Steele asked Dr. Arbogast to please keep the bookkeepers in mind for a raise.

The board had another discussion on the absenteeism in our schools. They discussed the possibility of hiring teacher assistants that could also serve as substitutes for our schools. Mr. Gentry would like to hire some now, but Dr. Arbogast stated that he would like to discuss it for the next school year. Dr. Arbogast stated that he has heard that increasing the amount of money for sick leave days at retirement would also help absenteeism.

Board members discussed the handicap parking concern that was addressed by an individual several months ago. Dr. Arbogast stated that more handicap signs were ordered. Mr. Lusk has also offered to help any individual out at NHS that needs help with parking.

A board member discussed the need for a new phone system at Giles High School. Dr. Arbogast stated that Administration at GHS said it was not a necessity at this time. Board members want to make sure that the Administration has discussed this with the office staff to make sure they were on the same page because there were concerns shared by the office staff about the need for a new system. Dr. Arbogast stated that he did check into adding 3 more extensions there.

Board members discussed a request from a former student of Larry Marion to place a memorial bench near the "Bandanna Bar" at Giles High School. There was some discussion on policy FFA (School Names). Board members plan to make a recommendation to remove the following sentence: "Schools and school facilities may be named for individuals who have been deceased for at least 10 years." The board is okay with the former student proceeding with GHS Administration to have the bench placed. She will need to work with Administration to get the details and funding figured out for the Memorial gift.

Mr. Ballard discussed the "uninitiative program" with other board members. He learned about this program from a workshop that he attended. He handed out information to other board members. The Principals are going to review it to see if there is anything that the school division could do that would fall under this initiative.

Mr. Ballard discussed the contract with the band boosters regarding the concession stand at Narrows High School. The band boosters are going to meet with the principal at Narrows High School on this matter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's October 19th, 2016 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

GEA President, Sonya Meekins, attended the School Board meeting to discuss a few items. She stated that she would still like to see the 12% raise across the board and then passed out handouts to the board. The handouts contained information on Professional Development Workshops (STEM and ESSA) that will be offered to employees. ESSA is requiring that there be stakeholder input. Ms. Meekins is also currently gathering information from members on the teacher evaluation and getting thoughts/opinions on whether it should be changed.

PRESENTATIONS

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

1. Maintenance
2. Custodians
3. Jake Munsey – GHS
4. Camber Thornhill – GHS
5. Larry Greer
6. Heather Lucas – MMS
7. Kevin White – MMS
8. GHS Golf Team

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – September 21, 2016

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include September 30th and October
2. Payment of Bills to include September 15th, 20th, 22nd 29th and October 6th and 7th, 2016
3. 2016-2017 Advisory Committees
4. Field Trips 2016-2017
5. Appropriation Request for November 2016
TO: Christopher McKlamey
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: November 2016 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of November 2016. This is for the fourth month of the fiscal year 2016-17. 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:	\$ 2,242,036.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
Total:	\$ 2,242,036.00

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 educational feature, Sheriff Morgan Millirons and School Resource Officers Jon Bowman, Leon Billos, Stacy (Tootie)

Gillispie, Chris Neice and J.J. Johnston attended. The Officers thanked the School Board for allowing them to be in the schools. They then went on to discuss the current activities that they are conducting within the schools, as well as the many activities that they plan to do throughout the school year. Sheriff Millirons also discussed safety and activities that they plan to do. Board members expressed their gratitude for the wonderful job that our resource officers do in our schools!

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. Wilburn and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Judy Keating – EEMS Teacher/Staff Support, Terry Beckner – EEMS Library Support, Sharlyn Thacker – EEMS Library Support, Lori Hansen – EEMS Library Support, Pat Fullen – EEMS Library Support, Sandi Webster – EEMS Library Support, Shelley Spicer – NHS (Spaghetti Dinner)
 2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Christina Thompson – GHS Varsity Head Cheer
 3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, confirmed the following Substitute Teachers to date.
- B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved Policy Revisions as recommended by Administration.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Board members stated that it was a huge loss with the passing of Mr. Larry Marion!

Mr. Gentry stated that he had a great time with the school visit today.

Mr. Gentry stated that GHS/NHS Volleyball teams are doing well.

Mr. Gentry discussed the need for parking blocks to put behind the buses at Giles High School.

Mrs. McMahon commended Narrows High School for addressing the dress code this year.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she had had retirees to express their appreciation for the insurance benefit from Giles County Public Schools.

Mrs. McMahon thanked Mr. Husband for the great publication from the Tech Center.

Mrs. McMahon expressed her sympathy, love and prayers to the Marion and Cornwell families.

Mr. Ballard stated that he has visited both principals on the western end and they are off to a great start!

Mr. Ballard commended the NHS Hall of Fame committee for doing such a great job!

Mr. Wilburn commended the GHS Golf Team for a fantastic season!

Mr. Wilburn commended Mr. Larry Marion for all that he done for our community.

Dr. Arbogast stated that the enrollment as of yesterday was 2,409.

Dr. Arbogast thanked the School Resource Officers for attending and for all that they do!

Dr. Arbogast thanked Mr. White and Mr. Gautier for helping with the school tours today.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated the golf team on a perfect season!

Dr. Arbogast commended Camber Thornhill for being nominated to the U.S. Presidential Scholars in Career & Technical Education program.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated NHS (Gayle Kirby & Teresa Lowe) for again being named to the 2015-2016 list of Blue Star Schools for the WISE Financial Literacy certification.

Dr. Arbogast discussed a request from the Tech Center to build a “head house” for Mrs. Dove’s horticulture class. This shed will be built by Mr. Baker’s Building Technology class.

Dr. Arbogast discussed a potential new Career & Technical Education course (Veterinary Science) that would be administered by Meghan Dove (Agriculture Teacher).

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Ballard and unanimous voting, approved the following Supplemental Contracts: Supplemental Contracts: Melanie Atkins – GHS English Dept. Head, Michael Etzler – GHS SCA & Head Senior Class, Andrew Frazier – GHS SCA & Head Senior Class, Tabitha Young – GHS Annual, Diana Blanton – GHS MACC All Around/MACC Science & MACC Head, Melanie Atkins – GHS MACC English, Pam Malabad – GHS MACC All Around & MACC Math, Randy Weddle – GHS MACC Social Studies.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, November 10th at 4:30 p.m. There will be a work session at 1 p.m. and a budget meeting with GEA at 3:45 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk