

April 6, 2017

A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 PM on April 6th, 2017 in the School Administration Office Building. Persons present were:

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

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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman. On motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, the agenda was approved.

Dr. Arbogast opened up the meeting by telling the board members that the open enrollment meetings began and the first meeting went well.

Dr. Arbogast began by discussing budget information. He stated that the March ADM number was 2386.1. He is thinking that we should have carryover money of about \$100K going into the next budget year, so our request from the Board of Supervisors of approximately \$182K was approved. He stated that teacher assistants, nurses and bus drivers went back on the salary scale, a new scale was created for the school secretaries and bookkeepers, school board office staff and administrators were given a 2% increase and teachers were given an increase ranging between \$1060 - \$1350 based on their years of experience. In addition, the new teacher salary scale was discussed. The school board and Dr. Arbogast want to make sure that a new teacher doesn't come in making more than our current teachers. Dr. Arbogast is going to continue working on this updated scale.

Mr. Wilburn stated that some veteran teachers are upset because they think we are wanting to work on lower level scales and not value what our veteran teachers have done for many years. Dr. Arbogast stated that our teachers went back on the salary scale, some veteran teachers would not have received anything.

Dr. Arbogast and the board members plan to go to each school and discuss budget information for each classification of employee. He plans to send out a retirement incentive email tomorrow with the plans that the Board of Supervisors approved.

Mr. Steele discussed cafeteria benefits as far as their sick/personal days. The board members decided to wait until the new food service supervisor was in place to review their benefits. Mr. Steele stated that he has heard comments that it is very hard for the cafeteria staff to take days off because it leaves the cafeteria short and then if they don't use their days, they lose them.

Mr. Gentry discussed future budget savings methods and stated that we should always be on the lookout at ways to save money. Dr. Arbogast stated that Kindergarten registrations have been high and we may end up having to add another classroom if numbers continue to rise.

Mr. Gentry discussed the idea of possibly phasing out the 30 year retirement incentive. Mr. Ballard stated that it is a current perk that he doesn't want to give up. Mrs. McMahon stated that she would consider phasing it out. If the incentive was phased out, it wouldn't be for several years.

Mrs. McMahon asked if Dr. Arbogast has heard back from counsel on whether we could pay for Medicare supplements for our employees that are 65 and over. Dr. Arbogast stated that counsel referred us to our current healthcare provider and they told us we could not do it.

Board members discussed the possibility of getting a new special education bus. The bus could be used for special education, but we need to review specs to make sure the bus will work on the current runs.

Board members discussed the possibility of repairing the Giles High School track. Dr. Arbogast will look at the budget in a couple months to see where it stands to see if it is something that we can do.

There was a discussion on the new swim team. Dr. Arbogast stated that he received an email stating that they

wanted to cancel the funding request. A board member is going to follow up to make sure that is correct.

There was a discussion on doing light upgrades at the NHS/GHS gyms. Mr. Gentry stated that we would see a return of monies in approximately 3 years. Dr. Arbogast stated that we will wait until closer to the end of the budget year to see where we stand with funding. Also, there was a discussion on possibly having to put a couple air conditioning units in 2 classrooms at Giles High School that have no windows or AC.

Mrs. McMahon asked if there was any way to support our coaches for an increase in their coaching supplements. Dr. Arbogast stated that as of now, it's not in the budget, but he will revisit it in May to see what he can do.

There was a discussion on doing a facility survey. Dr. Arbogast had given board members a copy of a facility survey that DOE had done for another county. Mr. Steele and Mrs. McMahon feel that with the cost being low, it is something that we need to do. Mr. Steele wants to put together a scope that outlines what they would like to ask DOE to do during the survey. They will discuss this survey at the next work session.

The Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, went into a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Code and Paragraph 2 – Discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any Virginia public institution of higher education or any state school system. Paragraph 4 – Protection of the Privacy of Individuals; Following discussion, Mr. Wilburn moved to go to regular session. Mr. Ballard seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. On motion of Mr. Steele, with a second by Mrs. McMahon 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

Clerk of the Giles County School Board Date _____

There was no action from closed session.

Chairman

Clerk