

November 2, 2017

A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 9:00 AM on November 2nd, 2017 in the School Administration Office Building. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel/discipline issues (expulsion hearings) 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 (Only Case #1-1718)

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Richard R. Franklin, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, School Board Clerk
Ross Matney, GHS Principal (Only Expulsion Hearings)
Officer Stacy Gillispie, GHS SRO (Only Expulsion Hearings)
Mark Husband, GTC Principal/Dir. of CTE (Only personnel discussion)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, 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, Mrs. McMahon 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

Following closed session, the Superintendent recommended from the first meeting that student expulsion case # 1-1718 be expelled from Giles High School. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Wilburn and 4-1 voting (AYES: Gentry, Wilburn, McMahon, Steele; NAYS: Ballard), amended the recommendation to long term suspension with home based education services being provided from Giles High School. The student will be allowed to walk for graduation, pending passing classes, cooperation with homebound instructor and not getting in trouble with law enforcement. The Superintendent recommended from the second meeting that student expulsion case # 2-1718 be expelled from Giles High School. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Steele and 4-0 voting (Mr. Wilburn abstained), amended the recommendation because they felt that special circumstances existed for this case. They determined that expulsion was not warranted in this situation and that the days already served for OSS (3) would be the extent of the discipline. The student is allowed to return to school immediately.

School Board members then began their work session.

School Board members discussed upcoming meeting dates.

School Board members discussed the current population of our AEP kids. They want to have this ready for the meeting with Mr. Meredith from the Town of Pearisburg.

Mr. Gentry discussed the Virginian Leader tax article and stated the new article was in the paper this week. He thanked Mr. Steele for putting in the article. Dr. Arbogast stated that as of right now, there are 436 responses to the on-line survey.

There was a discussion on athletic passes for elementary teachers. Mr. Franklin stated that after talking to the activities coordinators, they stated that they did not want to do this because of a money issue. Board members discussed who currently receives athletic passes. They would like to see that elementary teachers get passes as well. Mrs. McMahon recommended doing a single pass for our employees. Mr. Ballard stated the same.

There was a discussion on the “Ready Sub” program that Mrs. Weddle from Giles High mentioned. The board decided to do the pilot program with Giles High until the end of the school year. Dr. Arbogast needs to talk to Mr. Young to look into the program.

There was a discussion on the phone system at Giles High School. Dr. Arbogast plans to get a quote and he might use this year and next year’s funds that PEMTEL provides to get a new system.

There was a discussion on the scoreboard at Giles High School. Mr. Gentry stated that he has been made aware that it looks pink when looking at it. His thoughts are that a fundraiser would need to be done to purchase a new one.

Mr. Gentry asked about roof leaks from the hard rains from last week. He is aware that Eastern Elem/Middle had several because of the flat roof.

There was a discussion on our shortage of buses – we are currently down two buses. Mr. Gentry stated that we really need two new buses. Dr. Arbogast is going to call the county to see if we can get any help with a roof and two new buses.

There was a discussion on the track at Giles High School. Dr. Arbogast plans to have a pre-bid meeting for the track to go over all the specifications and then the bid will go out again.

There was a discussion on the Carroll county Health care information. Dr. Arbogast shared information on what they currently do with their employees. Dr. Arbogast is concerned that we may not have 75% participation for our employees for insurance.

There was a discussion on the lead testing in water. Mr. Steele stated that one of our teachers had gotten her test result back and the level was really low (barely there). Dr. Arbogast stated that the fixtures have been ordered and will be put in very soon and additional testing will be done once this is completed.

Dr. Arbogast stated that DOE was here and gone. They were in the buildings and even under buses. A draft report should be here in 3 -4 weeks.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk