

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 7, 2011

The March meeting was held as scheduled in the Board of Education Annex with all members present. Vice Chairman Jones arrived slightly late due to his work schedule. Chairman King called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda for the meeting was approved by general consensus.

Superintendent Reeves presented the March *Ashe County Schools Employee of the Month Award* to Ronald Turnmire, lead custodian at Ashe Middle.

Dr. Beckworth presented a certificate to Katie O., Ashe County's 2011 Spelling Bee champion. He wished her success at the regional level this weekend in Winston-Salem. Katie is a 7th grade student at Ashe Middle. Dr. Beckworth also presented the school trophy to Principal Pennington to display at the school.

Teachers Keana Triplett and Pat Morrison, along with BETA club students, described the awards they recently received at the State Beta Club Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Following a change in wording in the last paragraph on page 4 of Policy 3540 Comprehensive Health Education Program to read **removing** rather than **inserting** and the addition of discussion of personnel [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(6)] to closed session, a motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on February 7, 2011.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to requests from the Ashe High FFA for overnight trips to attend (1) the FFA MEGA Leadership Conference in Greensboro March 19-20 and (2) to compete at the State Livestock Judging Competition in Raleigh, March 28-20, 2011.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the following personnel recommendations.

CERTIFIED

Teachers

- Employment of Katrina Casey as temporary math teacher at Ashe Middle effective March 4 (prior approval October 4, 2010—DSSF)
- Employment of Dottie Fennel as part-time temporary English teacher at Ashe High effective February 21, 2011 (prior approval October 4, 2010—DSSF)
- Resignation of Shannon Wilson as 7th grade language arts/social studies teacher at Ashe Middle effective February 14, 2011

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Pam Badin, Laura Turner and Melissa Rash to the list of approved substitute teachers

Employee Leaves

- Request from Monica Parsons, 4th grade teacher at Westwood, for a parental leave effective on or about March 31, 2011 through the end of the 2010/11 school year (FMLA=9 weeks)
- Request from Keana Triplett, English teacher at Ashe High, for a parental leave effective May 10, 2011 through the end of the 2010/11 school year (FMLA=3 weeks + 3 days)
- Request from Marc Gamble, social studies teachers at Ashe High, for a medical leave effective February 1, 2011 with an undetermined ending date

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute teachers as necessary
- Language arts/social studies teacher at Ashe Middle

CLASSIFIED**Bus Driver Substitute**

- Addition of J.C. Carico, Chris K. Watson and Larry Ham to the approved substitute bus driver list

Cafeteria Assistant

- Reassignment of Lynette Eller from substitute cafeteria assistant with Ashe County Schools to part-time (3 hours per day), temporary cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge effective February 14, 2011 (prior approval January 3, 2011)

Cafeteria Assistant Substitute

- Addition of Monica Rose to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

Coaches

- Addition of R. T. Morgan as men's head golf coach at Ashe High to the approved coaches list for spring 2010/11 (prior approval for position August 2, 2010)
- Addition of Trent Lowder as men's head baseball coach at Ashe Middle to the approved coaches list for spring 2010/11 (prior approval for position August 2, 2010)

Office Support

- Employment of Tabitha Dancy as temporary interim receptionist at Ashe High effective February 23, 2011 (prior approval February 7, 2011) through the end of the current school year

Tutors

- Reassignment of Debra Richardson from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 9, 2011(prior approval October, 2010)
- Employment of Amanda Black as part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 14, 2011(prior approval October, 2010)
- Resignation of Debra Richardson as part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 25, 2011

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Part-time, temporary tutor at Blue Ridge
- Substitute bus drivers as necessary
- Substitute cafeteria assistants as necessary

Employee Leaves

- Request from Mary Graybeal, teacher assistant at Blue Ridge, for a medical leave of absence effective February 15, 2011 and ending on or about March 29, 2011 (FMLA≈6 weeks)

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to *Policy 3540 Comprehensive Health Education Program* as recommended by Human Resources Director Lesia Nave. The Board commended Mrs. Nave on the excellent job she did with this policy.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 8 which will be sent to Governor Perdue, County Commissioners, Representative Jordan, and Senator Soucek. Mrs. Jones suggested that a copy be sent to everyone on the committee as well.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from a student to graduate early.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe High AP environment science class for an overnight trip to Mt. Mitchell, March 25-26, 2011.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe High AP environment science class for an overnight trip to Stone Mountain, May 20-21, 2011. (*This item was not on the initial agenda.*)

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Blue Ridge Odyssey of the Mind teams for an overnight trip to attend the state competition in Asheville, April 1-2, 2011.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Laura Bare, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Alleghany County effective immediately.

Blue Ridge Elementary 4th grade teacher Travis Richardson demonstrated the varying uses for flip cameras during the segment on *Tech Talk*. .

Retired teacher Claudine Silver reported on the *Growing Gardeners Project*, an endeavor to teach gardening skills to students. The project will partner elementary and high school students. Elementary students will be responsible for planting warm weather crops, and the high school agriculture class will be responsible for tending and harvesting the crops. Ms. Silver stated that this school system is the best she has ever seen and expressed congratulations for the job being done. She asked the Board for their continued support.

Rebecca Herman of the Ashe Arts Council reported on the importance of arts programming in the schools. Cameron Current, parent, spoke about the impact the arts had on him when he was in school, followed by his children sharing art they had created at school.

Superintendent Reeves reported on the new regulations tied to receiving revenues from the ABC Board. The State ABC Board is now requiring that schools incorporate alcohol education in the classroom. Due to requirements of the standard course of study, it will be difficult to implement into the curriculum except at the middle school—the program can be implemented during the discovery block. In the past, the school system has used its pro-rata share of revenues for materials targeting at-risk students. The complete curriculum program for the middle school would cost approximately \$5,000. Mr. Williams stated that this seems to be the appropriate age level to target. CFO Phyllis Yates is to contact the local ABC Board to see if this plan would meet the criteria to receive full funding. .

Informational items included the following.

- Schedule for Bullying Presentations by Jim Williams
- Confirmation of Project Lead the Way grant at Ashe Middle through the Golden Leaf Foundation
- Supplemental Resolution for change orders to the pool project
- 2011/12 School Calendar Committee Meeting, March 22, 2011
- Board's budget work session, March 23 at noon
- Board Meeting, Monday, April 4, 7:00 pm

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval at 9:00 pm to having a short recess prior to going into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board [N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(6)].

The Board went into closed session at 9:12 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:55 pm. No action resulted from closed session. The meeting was immediately adjourned on a motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones.