

SPECIAL MEETING
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 8, 2011

A special budget work session was held beginning at 5:00 pm in the annex as scheduled. All members were present except Mr. Williams who was out of town. The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Board went into closed session at 5:07 pm 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)] and real estate [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(5)].

The Board returned to regular session at 7:40 pm.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the following selection of assistant principals by the school improvement teams.

- Travis Richardson, Blue Ridge
- Sandra Peterson, Mountain View

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

- Teachers for exceptional children at Ashe County Middle and Westwood
- K-6 teaching positions at Blue Ridge
- AIG teacher at Mountain View

Superintendent Reeves and Chief Financial Officer Phyllis Yates gave an overview of the initial State budget for 2011/12. The General Assembly did not cut the allotment for teacher assistants; however, there was an overall cut of approximately 10 percent in all other programs, including the discretionary reduction of \$928,378. Positions will be returned to offset the discretionary reduction. However, carryover in ARRA and EduJobs will be used to maintain the 16.58 positions returned. Because ARRA and EduJobs revenues will no longer be available next year, funding for 2012/13 will be even more critical than in 2011/12.

Following a review of the 2011/12 budget considerations for current expense, the Board agreed to the following senior staff recommendations.

- 50 percent reduction in the schools' copier and instructional supplies allotments
- Elimination of allotment for K-12 staff development (will use Race to the Top funding to offset), student insurance, AP exams and summer school

- 10 percent reduction in all director allotments except CTE—it will be cut in total due to monies available in the State vocational budget
- Absorption of receptionist position at Ashe High and the program support position at the central office
- Funding for maintenance of school facilities—contract painting for the main building and gym at Ashe County High; installation of security locks at Mountain View; installation of occupancy sensors at all sites; and refinishing of gym, stage and auditorium floors at Blue Ridge

The school system will be able to retain all positions in 2011/12; however, the hiring freeze will continue except for positions deemed critical to instructional programs

Capital projects were approved at an earlier budget work session—outside bleachers at Blue Ridge, installation of insulated windows at Ashe County Middle, and garage doors at the school bus garage.

The Board was informed that the General Assembly has authorized school systems to charge up to \$45/student to offset reduced funding in the driver education program. The State is in the process of establishing a salary schedule for driver education instructors. Once that is in place, the school system can determine how much, if any, it will have to charge each student.

The Chairman stated that the Superintendent's evaluation process will begin in August 2011.

There being no further business, a motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.