

MINUTES

ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 2, 2012

The January meeting was held at the Board of Education annex as scheduled with all members present. 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.

During open comments, Mark Marlette presented the Board with information that he wanted the Board to read and consider.

Superintendent Reeves recognized and presented the January *Ashe County Schools Employee of the Month Award* to Andy Goodman, custodian at Ashe Early Learning.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on December 5, 2011.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High Beta Club for an overnight trip to participate in the State Beta Club Convention in Greensboro, February 3-5, 2012.

Dr. Beckworth asked for an explanation under the request for prior approval to employ *temporary personnel as required for DSSF programs at Ashe High and Ashe Middle for second semester*. The Director of Human Resources Lesia Nave explained that DSSF money is used to pay tutors for interventions for at-risk children at the middle school and high school level. Dr. Beckworth also asked if there had been applicants for the temporary PE position at the high schools to which Mrs. Nave responded yes. A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the following personnel recommendations.

CERTIFIED

Teachers

- Employment of Lindsey Sutphin as temporary art teacher at Blue Ridge effective on or about January 31, 2012 through the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Employment of Dan McAulay as temporary art teacher at Ashe High effective January 2, 2012 through the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Re-employment of Dianne Eldreth as temporary teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High effective January 2, 2012 through the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Re-employment of Jenny Blevins as part-time (50%) teacher for exceptional children at Blue Ridge effective January 3, 2012 through the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Kristi Booker from substitute teacher to temporary pre-k teacher at Ashe Early Learning Center effective January 2, 2012 through the end of the current school year (prior approval)

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Mike Eldreth, Charles Johnson and Jessica Walker to the list of approved substitute teachers

Employee Leaves

- Request from Jill Gambill, art teacher at Ashe Middle, to extend her approved parental leave to on or about April 23, 2012 (FMLA = from 6 to 10 weeks)
- Request from Kelly Gunderson, media coordinator at Ashe Middle, to extend her approved parental leave through the end of the 2011/12 school year

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute teachers as necessary
- Temporary personnel as required for DSSF programs at Ashe High and Ashe Middle for second semester

CLASSIFIED

4-H Afterschool

- Reassignment of Erica Roten from 4-H afterschool tutor coordinator at Blue Ridge to 4-H afterschool onsite coordinator at Blue Ridge effective December 12, 2011 (prior approval)

Bus Driver/Bus Monitor

- Resignation of Brandon Shepherd as bus monitor for exceptional children at Ashe Middle effective January 2, 2012

Bus Driver Substitutes

- Addition of Kelly McNeil and Margaret Marze to the approved substitute bus driver list

Cafeteria Assistant

- Reassignment of Jinger Harless from substitute cafeteria assistant with Ashe County Schools to part-time (5.5 hours per day) cafeteria assistant at Mountain View effective January 3, 2012 (prior approval)

Cafeteria Assistant Substitutes

- Addition of Elizabeth Miller and Kimberly Osborne to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

Teacher Assistant

- Reassignment of Dawn Powers from substitute teacher to full-time temporary pre-k teacher assistant at Blue Ridge effective January 2, 2012 (prior approval)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- 4-H afterschool tutor coordinator
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants
- Bus monitor at Ashe Middle
- Part-time tutors

In keeping with Board policy, a motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the revisions to *Policy 7811 Plans for Growth and Improvement of Licensed Employees* as presented at the regular meeting for December 2011.

Dr. Reeves provided an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Budget of the Assessment, Support and Counseling Center (ASC) program through Appalachian State University. The MOU has been reviewed by Attorney Fred Johnson—the liability would be the same or similar as that for student teachers. The school system's Title V funding cannot be used towards this project—the grant through the Appalachian Health Department, Communities Putting Prevention to Work, will be used to cover the school system's share. The Board plans to review the program at its June meeting.

During the December Board meeting, the Director of Human Resources Lesia Nave gave a presentation on reducing CEU credits for teachers from 15 to 7.5 and whether or not to retain the two (2) technology credits as required by the school system. The Board felt that principals should determine what would be most beneficial for teachers. Mrs. Nave informed the Board that the recommendation from the principals is to keep both CEU technology credits currently encompassed in the total 7.5 renewal credits with the option of increasing the required technology credits to three (3) at a later date.

Assistant Superintendent Phyllis Yates gave the Board a copy of the 2012/13 Budget Calendar and Budget Planning Process and requested that a budget work session be held in January. Since no information is available from the State level at this time, the Board asked Dr. Reeves to contact them should there be a need to meet in January.

Other informational items included the following.

- Elected official license plates are now available for school board members from NCSBA
- The School Calendar Committee will have its initial meeting on Monday, January 9, 3:30 pm, in the annex at the central office. The Committee will meet again on Tuesday, January 17, to finalize the calendar that will be presented to the Board for approval at its February 2012 meeting.
- There will be a finance staff development seminar for Board members, directors, principals, assistant principals and school bookkeepers on Thursday, January 12, beginning at 9:00 am. The meeting will be held in the annex, and attendees will receive training credit.
- Monday, January 16, is an optional teacher workday (in lieu of Martin Luther King Day).
- The State Board of Education Roundtable discussion with five LEAs, including Ashe County, is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 1:00-4:00 pm, at the Department of Public Instruction.
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 7:00 pm, at the central office annex.

A motion at 7:33 pm by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to 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)] and real estate [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(5)]. Closed session began at 7:40 pm. No action was taken.

Upon return to regular session at 8:53 pm, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned.