

MINUTES

ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 5, 2012

The March 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.

Superintendent Reeves recognized and presented the March *Ashe County Schools Employee of the Month Award* to Randy Barker, maintenance mechanic at the Central Office Maintenance Department.

Board Member Dr. Beckworth recognized the 2012 Ashe County Spelling Bee Champion, Jacob K., 6th grader at Mountain View. The spelling bee trophy was presented to both Jacob and Principal David Blackburn to display at the school.

Superintendent Reeves recognized Joshua W., Ashe High senior, as the 2A State Wrestling Heavyweight Champion.

Superintendent Reeves recognized the Ashe Middle 7th Grade Basketball Team for an undefeated season.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on February 6, 2012.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Ken and Kristin Sevensky to allow their son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2012/13 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from the Ashe High FFA for an overnight trip to attend the North Carolina FFA MEGA Leadership Conference, in Greensboro, NC, March 24-25, 2012.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe High FFA for an overnight trip to compete in the State Livestock Judging competition at the NC State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, NC, March 26-27, 2012.

A motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the following requests for early graduation.

- Jenny W.
- Sarah G.

Assistant Superintendent Phyllis Yates informed the Board that the Senior staff is changing procedures for its once-a-year sale of surplus properties. All surplus properties will now be sold at the point of availability through online government surplus auctions. GovDeals is an experienced and proven online government surplus sales service provider. North Carolina governments are using GovDeals with great

success—currently 76 counties, 210 cities and towns, 52 school districts and 108 fire departments are registered clients. An extensive targeted online buyer audience will produce more proceeds for our surplus items and will reduce or eliminate storage and transportation costs. Our contract with GovDeals will stipulate that employees of the Seller may not bid on the property listed for auction. Mrs. Yates requested that the Senior staff be given authority to sell personal property valued at less than \$30,000 and the authority to discard surplus property deemed to have no value after 21 days of applicable sales procedures.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the delegation of authority to the superintendent and chief financial officer to sell personal property valued at less than \$30,000 by either public or private exchanges and sales. This delegation authorizes the unit officials to declare the personal property surplus, to set its fair market value and to convey title to the property for the Board in accordance with the regulations. Dr. Beckworth requested that a link to be placed on the Ashe County Schools website for local access.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to give authority to the chief financial officer to discard surplus property when it is deemed to have no value, it remains unsold after applicable sales procedures have been exhausted (21 days) or it poses a potential threat to the public health or safety.

Roman Gabriel III presented information on the *Sold Out Drug & Alcohol Awareness Program*. He would like to have an assembly program in the schools once per month. He shared his Facebook page entitled *Sold Out*. The program reaches out to youth through the use of positive role models that will speak to the students and through social networking.

Personnel Director Lesia Nave presented *Policy 4202/5029/7272 Service Animals in School*. Pursuant to Board Policy, this policy will be considered for adoption at the regular meeting in April.

The Board scheduled its budget work session for Thursday, March 15, beginning at 7:15 pm.

Other informational items included the following:

- Selection of Board of Education member to serve on the Board of the Northwest Regional Education Center (NWRESA) – Polly Jones volunteered to serve.
- March 9—no school for students—required teacher workday—Common Core Training
- Battle of the Books—Grades 6-8—Friday, March 16, 9:00 am, Ashe High
- Tech Day for Commissioners—Monday, March 19, 10:00 am, Ashe High, luncheon
- March 23—optional teacher workday
- Elementary Battle of the Books—Grades 3-5—Friday, March 30, 9:00 am, Ashe High
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, April 2, 7:00 pm, at the Ashe Arts Council.
- Sample 8th grade test item from SMARTER Balanced Consortium.
- Based upon the average daily attendance (ADA), the Universal Breakfast Program is currently feeding 65 percent of the student population at Blue Ridge
- Family Fun 5K—Saturday, May 19—Partnership between Ashe County Schools, Ashe Memorial Hospital and the Appalachian District Health Department—Strategic Plan Priority III

A motion at 8:25 pm by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth 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)], real estate [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(5)] and discussion of legal matter [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(3)]. Closed session began at 8:33 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:28 pm.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mrs. Jones gave 4-1 approval to awarding the bid for the Blue Ridge roofing project to Eastern Corporation, Youngsville, North Carolina, for \$661,300. The school system will use its approved Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) to fund this project.

The Board returned to closed session at 9:32 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:01 pm.

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

CERTIFIED

Central Office

- Resignation/retirement of Angelina Thompson as child nutrition coordinator effective July 1, 2012

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Rebecca Miller, Lindsay Scarborough, Allen Trivette and Sarah McLeese to the list of approved substitute teachers

Employee Leaves

- Request from Holly McClure, 3rd grade teacher at Westwood, for a medical leave of absence beginning on March 25, 2012 and ending on April 14, 2012
- Request from Ruth Turnmire, literacy specialist at Mountain View, for a medical leave of absence beginning on March 12, 2012 and ending on or about May 7, 2012 (FMLA = 6 weeks + 4 days)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Child nutrition coordinator
- Principal at Blue Ridge
- Substitute teachers as necessary

CLASSIFIED

Bus Driver Substitutes

- Addition of Dennis E. Houck, Gordon L. Miller and Steven Norris to the approved substitute bus driver list

Cafeteria Assistant Substitutes

- Addition of Penny Brewer and Shaina Dillard to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

Teacher Assistant

- Reassignment of Linda Caldwell from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to interim teacher assistant with exceptional children at Mountain View effective February 21, 2012 and ending on or before May 6, 2012

Tutors

- Employment of Charity Ballou as part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 20, 2012 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Brittany Jones from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 15, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Charles Johnson from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 15, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Valencia Deardorff from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective February 20, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Dana Johnson from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Ashe Middle effective February 23, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval DSSF)

Employee Leave

- Request from Iris Michele Davis, teacher assistant for exceptional children at Mountain View, to extend her current approved medical leave of absence to end on or about May 6, 2012 (FMLA ≈ 12 weeks)
- Request from Mary Young to extend her current medical leave a second time to end on or about April 2, 2012

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to giving the Superintendent the authority to make an initial offer of \$175,000 for approximately seven (7) acres of property in front of Mountain View Elementary School.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:05 pm.