

## MINUTES

### ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 2, 2012

The April meeting was held at the Ashe Arts Council as scheduled with all members present. Chairman King called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the addition of a transfer request by Superintendent Reeves on behalf of Janaffrie Greer, the agenda for the meeting was approved by general consensus.

During open comments, Arts Council Director Jane Lonon pointed out the K-12 artwork displayed around the room and gave an overview of the upcoming arts programming in the schools.

Superintendent Reeves recognized and presented the April *Ashe County Schools Employee of the Month Award* to Evelyn Shoemake, Cafeteria Manager at Blue Ridge Elementary.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on March 5, 2012 and the special meeting on March 15, 2012.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Tony Miller to allow his children to remain in school in Watauga County effective immediately.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to a request from Tina Lewis to allow her son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2012/13 school year.

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

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from the Ashe County High FFA for an overnight trip to compete in the State horse judging competition at Martin Community College in Williamston, April 13-14, 2012.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High AP Biology for a two-night backpacking trip into the wilderness on Deep Creek or Forney Creek, Bryson City, May 18-20, 2012.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High Science Olympiad team for an overnight trip to compete in State competition, Raleigh, April 27-28, 2012.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County Middle Science Olympiad team for an overnight trip to compete in State competition, Raleigh, April 27-28, 2012.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to *Policy 4202/5029/7272 Service Animals in School* as presented at the March meeting by Human Resources Director Lesia Nave.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following personnel recommendations.

### **CERTIFIED**

#### **Teachers**

- Reassignment of Pat Hopkins from substitute teacher to science teacher at Ashe Middle effective March 12, 2012 (to fill educational leave of absence)
- Resignation/retirement of Billie Gardner, technology facilitator at Westwood, effective May 31, 2012
- Resignation/retirement of Susan Miller, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Westwood, effective May 31, 2012
- Resignation/retirement of Judy Greer, ISS teacher at Ashe Middle, effective May 30, 2012

### **CLASSIFIED**

#### **Teacher Assistants**

- Reassignment of Rianna Barker from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time, temporary teacher assistant for exceptional children located at Ashe Developmental Day effective March 12, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Resignation/retirement of Karen Richardson as teacher assistant at Blue Ridge effective June 1, 2012

#### **Tutors**

- Employment of Kimberly Plott as part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective March 26, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Dorothy Fennell from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Ashe Middle effective March 5, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval DSSF)
- Reassignment of Debbie Pennington from substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools to part-time temporary tutor at Ashe Middle effective March 5, 2012 and ending on or before the end of the current school year (prior approval DSSF)
- Resignation of Valencia Deardorff as part-time temporary tutor at Blue Ridge effective March 19, 2012

#### **Employee Leaves**

- Request from Debra Billings, bus driver for exceptional children at Ashe Middle, for a medical leave of absence beginning March 31, 2012 and ending on May 25, 2012 (FMLA ≈ 7 weeks)
- Request from Martha Latham, teacher assistant at Westwood, for an educational leave of absence effective August 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 (first semester)

#### **Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions**

- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from the School Based Health Center to serve uninsured Ashe County Middle School parents.

Dr. Calvin Miller provided an update on the 2012 Ashe County Board of Education Endowment Grant recipients. There were 33 applications submitted and a total of \$6,660 will be awarded to 9 recipients.

Assistant Superintendent Phyllis Yates provided information on the recent acquisition of Sartox, the school system's current financial software vendor, by K12 Enterprise. K12 Enterprise is in the development stage of making the software package web-based and Mrs. Yates expressed excitement over the fact that Ashe County has been chosen as one of the pilots for the new software.

Superintendent Reeves provided an update on Communities in School. The Task Force will be seeking to upgrade to affiliate status over the next three years. To become a NC Affiliate, the program must find outside funding to pay for a full-time executive director. The director will then apply for grants to keep the program fully funded.

The Board selected the date of April 18 at 5:00 pm for a feasibility study and budget work session.

The Board was presented with a list of personnel eligible for probationary contracts, career contracts, non-renewal, and administrator contracts for 2012/13. Action will be taken at the April meeting.

Other informational items included the following:

- April 5—Early Student Release—Staff development in afternoon for Common Core/Essential Standards
- April 6-13—Easter Break
- April 16—first day back from Easter Break
- April 19—Ashe County High Career Fair—9:00-11:00 am
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 7:00 pm, at the central office annex.
- Ashe Dash 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 8:04 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)]. Closed session began at 8:26 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:25 pm.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to accepting the resignation of Thomas Farmer as bus driver at Mountain View. This same motion instructed the Superintendent to write a response to Mr. Farmer's resignation letter.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to accepting the decision of the interview team to employ Brian Hampton as the football coach at Ashe County High School.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:27 pm.