

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
May 7, 2012

The meeting was held at the Central Office 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 of the Board.

Superintendent Reeves presented the *May Ashe County Schools' Employee of the Month Award* to June Neaves, School Counselor at Blue Ridge Elementary.

Superintendent Reeves, along with Ashe High Counselor Annette Bednosky, recognized the following 2012 NC Governor's School Selected Nominees and presented each with a certificate.

- Laken B.—English, East Campus, Meredith College
- Lucas Z.—Math, West Campus, Salem College
- Anna W.—Natural Science, East Campus, Meredith College

Marcia Elledge and Dr. Calvin Miller recognized the Ashe County Schools Endowment Fund recipients. Grant awards for 2012 totaled \$6,660. The 2013 Endowment Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 18 at Jefferson Landing.

- Ginger Hopson with Ashley Bowers—Blue Ridge, *Journey to the Center of Our Universe*, \$420
- Summer Severt with Tonya Denny, Heather Parsons and Kim Turnmire—Blue Ridge, *Body Parts and Pieces*, \$892
- Tina Key with Susan Bard, Kelly Lambert and Kathy Maloney—Mountain View, *Nothing Could be Finer than to Read About Carolina*, \$899
- Kelly Gunderson—Ashe County Middle, *Improving Literacy through eReaders*, \$849
- Michelle Blevins with Sara Benfield—Westwood, *Think First*, \$664
- Katie Hodge with Jerri Eller—Blue Ridge, *Journey to the Center of Our Universe*, \$420
- Michelle Lemly with Sara Lambert, Suzanne Randolph and Holly McClure—Westwood, *Rid Ashe of Trash*, \$649
- Emily Roten with Misty Prichard, Kathy Shepherd, Janie Roten, Dawn Powers, Kim Turnmire and Summer Severt—Blue Ridge, *Mentoring Students One Week at a Time*, \$901
- Pat Lanno—Mountain View, *Keys for Success*, \$966

Athletic Director Marc Payne and Principal Jason Krider recognized Ashe County High School Coach Mark Baldwin along with students Josh W., Luke B. and Sam G. (absent) for leading the way in receiving the second annual *Spirit of Sport Award* presented by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. ACHS students and staff came up with several different ways to help raise money for Luke Hampton, a star athlete at Alleghany High School, who suffered a severe spinal cord injury while participating in a wrestling tournament in December 2011.

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 April 2, 2012 and the special meeting on April 17, 2012.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the submission of the 2012/13 Federal Grant applications as presented by Federal Programs Director Kim Barnes.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to an increase of 10 cents in the price of a school lunch effective 2012/13 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). School lunch in grades 7-12 will increase from \$2 to \$2.10 and from \$1.75 to \$1.85 in grades PK-6. The price for a reduced lunch will remain the same.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to awarding the ice cream bid to Hershey from Salem, Virginia and the milk bid to Pet/Dean Dairy.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to extending the following bids for 2012/13.

- Bakery—Earthgrains/Sara Lee—5% increase
- Food and Supplies—US Foods—no increase
- Beverage Bids—Dr. Pepper—minimum increase in water only

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to awarding the wireless technology bid for Ashe County Middle, Mountain View and Westwood to Xirrus. The special appropriation from the County Commissioners for technology will fund this project.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Teachers**

- Resignation/retirement of Sandra Lemly, foreign language teacher at Ashe High, effective June 1, 2012
- Resignation of Shannon Williamson, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Westwood, effective end of the 2011/12 school year

### **Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Julie Brown to the list of approved substitute teachers

### **Employee Leaves**

- Request from Heather Goss, speech-language pathologist at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave of absence beginning on August 2, 2012 and ending on September 4, 2012 (FMLA = 4 weeks)
- Request from Tamara Kearley, kindergarten teacher at Blue Ridge, for a medical leave of absence beginning on March 29, 2012 through the end of the 2011/12 school year (FMLA = 7 weeks)
- Request from Casey Smith, literacy specialist at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave of absence beginning on August 2, 2012 and ending on or about October 1, 2012 (FMLA = 8 weeks + 1 day)

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

- Certified staff as necessary to begin the 2012/13 school year

**CLASSIFIED**

**Bus Drivers**

- Reassignment of Chad Denny, substitute bus driver with Ashe County Schools, to temporary, part-time bus driver at Ashe Middle effective April 16, 2012 through end of 2011/12 school year
- Reassignment of John Weaver, substitute bus driver with Ashe County Schools, to temporary, part-time, bus driver at Mountain View effective April 16, 2012 through end of 2011/12 school year

**Custodians**

- Resignation of Brian Philemon, custodian at Ashe Middle/Westwood, effective April 18, 2012
- Additional assignment for David Higgins, bus driver at Westwood, as temporary, part-time custodian at Westwood effective April 19, 2012

**Pool Manager**

- Additional assignment for Susan Poe as pool manager at Ashe Middle effective May 1, 2012

**School Resource Officer**

- Resignation/retirement of John D. Parsons, school resource officer at Ashe High, effective June 1, 2012

**Employee Leaves**

- Request from Iris Michele Davis, teacher assistant for exception children at Mountain View, to extend her current approved medical leave of absence to the end of the 2011/12 school year

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

- Temporary part-time custodian at Ashe Middle
- Summer lifeguards @ ACMS
- Cheerleading coach @ACHS
- Non-certified staff as necessary to begin the 2012/13 school year

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave 4-0 approval to the following probationary contracts. Dr. Beckworth abstained due to conflict of interest.

NAME	CURRENT ASSIGNMENT	SCHOOL SITE
Josh Beckworth	English	ACHS
Angela Brock	EC	ACHS
Daniel Calhoun	CTE-Agriculture	ACHS
Mark Maya	EC	ACHS
Edgar Simmons	Math	ACHS

Jill Starlings	EC	ACHS
Lindsey Williams	Math	ACHS
Harry Calloway	Math	ACMS
Meghann Roberts	Science/Math	ACMS
Katherine Robinson	Science/Math	ACMS
Stephanie Stolt	Language Arts/Social Studies	ACMS
Horace Thompson	CTE-Business Education	ACMS
Kasey Jones	EC	ACMS
Ginger Hopson	Grade 4	BRES
Kayla Rash	Grade 2	BRES
Sandy Shaw	Grade 5	BRES
Ruth Ashe	Grade 6	BRES
Amy Simmons	Grade 6	MVES
Megan Lawrence	EC	MVES
Dianna Miller	Grade 3	WWES
Laura Absher	Grade 6	WWES
Evelyn Colvard	Grade K	WWES
Lindsey Hagel	EC	WWES
Brandi Hurley	EC	WWES

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave 3-0 approval to the following career contracts. Mrs. Jones and Dr. Beckworth abstained due to conflict of interest.

NAME	CURRENT ASSIGNMENT	SCHOOL SITE
Mark Baldwin	Social Studies	ACHS
Christy Rivers	English	ACHS
Stephen Simms	CTE-Auto Technology	ACHS
Sarah Tugman	Science	ACHS
Janice Brice-Nash	Reaching/Chorus	ACMS
Patricia Burkhart	EC	ACMS
Gina Calhoun	Language Arts/Social Studies	ACMS
Summer Davis	Math	ACMS
Johnna Church	Language Arts/Social Studies	ACMS
Gordan Prince	Science/Social Studies	ACMS
Margaret Fernandez	EC/Sign Language Interpreter	BRES
Susan Poe	Grade 5	BRES
Kim Turnmire	Grade 3	BRES
Jessica Greer	Kindergarten	WWES
Audrea Little	Grade 2	WWES

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to non-renewal of Kelly Holleman, Ashe Middle social studies teacher, based on student population.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following administrator contracts.

Name	Administrative Assignment	Term of Contract
Kim Barnes	Director of Student Services/Title I	4 yrs
Shea Coldiron	Director of Transportation	4 yrs
Amanda Coldiron	Assistant Finance Officer	4 yrs
Marcia Elledge	Coordinator Classified Personnel	4 yrs
Earl Pennington	Principal, ACMS	4 yrs
Terry Richardson	Assistant Principal, WWES	4 yrs
Jennifer Robinson	Principal, WWES	4 yrs
Teresa Stansberry	Director of EC/PreK	4 yrs
Amy Walker	Director of Technology	4 yrs

Travis Birdsell provided a presentation on Outreach Ministries of West Jefferson. He shared a brochure entitled “Out Grow Hunger” and explained how this community program operates to help provide fresh produce for the hungry. The Board was invited to the next school orchard planting, Monday, May 14, 10:00 am, at Mountain View. Mr. Birdsell also expressed thanks for use of the former West Jefferson School freezer and cooler space to help with the program.

Accountability and Curriculum Director Phil Howell gave a power point presentation on *The Next Generation, Assessment and Accountability, 2012-2016*.

Human Resource Director Lesia Nave presented a summary of the following policies. Pursuant to Board policy, action on these policies will be taken at the June 2012 meeting.

- Policy 7430—Substitute Teachers
- Policy 4300—Student Behavior
- Policy 4302—School Plan for Management of Student Behavior
- Policy 4302R—Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools
- Policy 4700—Student Records

The Superintendent, who is serving on a committee with the State Board of Education to draft a position paper on the state of public education now and the vision for public education in the future, reported on his recent committee meeting in Raleigh.

The Board established the date of May 14 at 5:00 pm to meet with Larry Greene to discuss the middle school feasibility study he was asked to prepare.

The Board is to check their calendars for a date between June 25-29 to hold the June year-end and July meeting.

Information items included the following.

- Ashe Dash 5K—Saturday, May 19—Partnership between Ashe County Schools, Ashe Memorial Hospital and the Appalachian District Health Department—Strategic Plan Priority III
- May 11—Senior Awards Day @ ACHS
- May 17—The Board is invited to the District 7 Maintenance Association meeting, 6:30 pm, at ACHS. Dinner will be served.
- May 23—last day for students—early release
- May 23—6<sup>th</sup> promotion ceremonies—Blue Ridge @ 8:45 am, Mountain View @ 8:30 am and Westwood @ 8:30 am
- Ashe County Middle Awards Day—May 22—7<sup>th</sup> grade @ 9:00 am and 8<sup>th</sup> grade @ 12:30 pm
- May 25—High school graduation @ 7:00 pm—Project Graduation immediately following
- May 30—last day for teachers
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, June 4, 7:00 pm, at the central office annex.
- June 11-13—Summer Conference @ Ashe County High

A motion at 8:47 pm by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a short recess prior to going into closed session to discuss personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board [N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(6)] and student matter [N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(1)]. Closed session began at 9:00 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:53 pm.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the employment of Chris Wilson as band director at Ashe County High effective August 2, 2012.

The Board changed the meeting with Larry Greene as established earlier in the evening from May 14 at 5:00 pm to May 15 at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned at 10:55 pm.