

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 4, 2013

The November meeting was held as scheduled in the Board of Education Annex 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.

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 October 7, 2013.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High Husky Choir for overnight trips to participate in the following events:

- Music City Classic Music Festival, Nashville, TN, April 10-13, 2014
- Music in the Parks Music Festival in Dollywood, Pigeon Forge, TN, May 2-4, 2014

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

CERTIFIED

Teachers

- Reassignment of Judy Moser from substitute teacher to temporary PE teacher at Ashe Middle effective November 5 to the end of the 2013/14 school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Olivia Jenkins from substitute teacher to CTE health occupations teacher at Ashe High effective November 14, 2013

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Roxane Gilbert and Herbert Parunak to the approved substitute teacher list

Employee Leaves

- Request from Sandy Shaw, 5th grade teacher at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave beginning on or about December 21, 2013 and ending March 3, 2014 (FMLA = 8 weeks + 2 days)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute teachers
- CTE business teacher at Ashe Middle to the end of the 2013-2014 school year
- Science teachers at Ashe High
- Music teacher at Blue Ridge

CLASSIFIED

Bus Drivers

- Reassignment of Michelle Jensen from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Westwood effective October 29, 2013

- Reassignment of Mark Harless from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Westwood effective October 29, 2013

Bus Driver Substitutes

- Addition of Michelle Jensen and Jeffrey Samson Lewis to the approved bus driver substitute list

Cafeteria Assistant Substitutes

- Addition of Judy Shatley and Penny Roten to the approved cafeteria assistant substitute list

Coaches

- Addition of Dwayne Farmer to the approved coaches list as head 8th grade boys basketball coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Jimmy Thompson, Jr. to the approved coaches list as assistant 8th grade boys basketball coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Mark Sheets to the approved coaches list as assistant 8th grade girls basketball coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Harold Osborne to the approved coaches list as non-faculty assistant 7th grade girls basketball coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Alex Wray to the approved coaches list as non-faculty head wrestling coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Larry Bare to the approved coaches list as non-faculty assistant wrestling coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid) {contingent on drug screening and background check}
- Addition of Dalton Lewis to the approved coaches list as non-faculty assistant wrestling coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (volunteer)
- Addition of Ethan Henson to the approved coaches list as non-faculty assistant wrestling coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (volunteer) {contingent on drug screening and background check}

Employee Leaves

- Request from Clarence Dillard for a medical leave of absence effective September 30, 2013 through October 18, 2013 (FMLA =15 days)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants
- Substitute custodians

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2014-2017 Strategic Technology Plan for Ashe County Schools as presented by Technology Director Amy Walker.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to proceed with the Career and Technical Education Program Survey at Ashe County Middle as presented by CTE Director Joallen Lowder.

Superintendent Holden updated the Board on the Tenure Act enacted by the State Legislature. He and Human Resources Director Lesia Nave have been attending School Improvement Team meetings at the schools. The Superintendent felt the school system should move slow and cautiously on this issue.

Superintendent Holden and Accountability Director Phil Howell gave an update on the 2012/13 test scores. Preliminary results are scheduled to be released November 7. Due to the re-norming of tests and implementation of new curriculum standards (Common Core), test scores are expected to be lower than the previous year. Mr. Howell did report that preliminary results indicate that Ashe is above average in 20 of 26 data points in the state.

Superintendent Holden provided clarification of *Policy 5027/7275 Weapons and Explosives Prohibited* as requested at the October meeting. In talking with Sheriff Department officials, he learned that the legislation doesn't include long rifles and shotguns—it only applies to concealed hand guns which must be in a locked compartment.

Superintendent Holden gave an update on the School Climate Survey. He thanked Technology Director Amy Walker and the administrative staff for their help with this task. Results should be available by the end of this week or the first of next week.

Board Member Terry Williams was selected to serve on the 2014/15 School Calendar Committee.

Information items included the following:

- Friday, November 8—Veterans' Day Celebration—Ashe County Middle—1:30 pm in gymnasium
- Tuesday, November 12—Section 3000 Policy Review Committee—2:00 pm in annex
- Friday, November 15—Appalachian State University Choral Assembly—Ashe County High—2:15 pm
- American Education Week—November 18-22, 2013
 - Tuesday, November 19—Blue Ridge @ 3:00 pm and Ashe County Middle @ 3:15 pm
 - Wednesday, November 20—Mountain View @ 3:00 pm
 - Thursday, November 21—Westwood @ 3:00 pm and Ashe County High @ 3:30 pm
- November 28-29—Thanksgiving holidays
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, December 2, 2013, 7:00 pm, at the Central Office annex.

A motion at 7:37 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 involving an officer or employee of this Board [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a) (6)]. The Board went into closed session at 7:50 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:05 pm.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the addition of Chris Miller to the approved coaches list as assistant coach for the 7th grade boys basketball coach at Ashe Middle effective November 5, 2013 (paid—replaced Brett Miller)

The current specialized financial accounting software that meets the unique State requirements for school accounting for approximately 70 counties is being upgraded to a windows-based program. Ashe and Bladen counties were selected to pilot implementation of the new payroll, accounts payable and general ledger software as designed by K12 Enterprise. The nuggets from the vendor to both counties were a reduction in the purchase price and input into the overall product design and development. Once the pilot phase is complete, the software will be installed in the remaining counties. K12 Enterprise notified Associate Superintendent Phyllis Yates that initial training for both counties is scheduled for December 3-5 and will be held in Powhatan, Virginia, the company's home office. A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval for members of the school system's financial staff—Phyllis Yates and Donna Phillips—to attend this specialized training.

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.