

## MINUTES

### ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 4, 2013

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

Following a change in the order of business for coaching assignments, the agenda for the meeting was approved by general consensus.

Dr. Beckworth recognized 6<sup>th</sup> grade Mountain View student Anna Blackburn as the 2013 Ashe County Spelling Bee Champion and presented her with a trophy for her accomplishment.

Superintendent Johnson recognized and presented the *February Employee of the Month* award to David Higgins, custodian/bus driver at Westwood Elementary.

The Superintendent recognized the following individual school *Teacher of the Year* nominees and presented each with a certificate acknowledging their achievement: Christy Rivers, Ashe High (not present); Tonya Blevins, Blue Ridge; Lori Hensley, Mountain View; and Michele Lemly, Westwood. Mr. Johnson then recognized Westwood 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher Michele Lemly as the *2012/13 Ashe County Schools Teacher of the Year* and presented Mrs. Lemly with a plaque acknowledging her achievement.

The Superintendent recognized the following individual school *Teacher Assistant of the Year* nominees and presented each with a certificate acknowledging their achievement: Tammy Woods, Ashe High (not present); Ann Combs, Ashe Middle (not present); Mary Graybeal, Blue Ridge; Joyce McNeill, Mountain View; and Pam Cole, Westwood. Mrs. Cole was recognized as the *2012/13 Ashe County Schools Teacher Assistant of the Year* and presented with a plaque acknowledging her achievement.

The Superintendent recognized David Blackburn, principal at Mountain View, as the *2012/13 Ashe County Schools Principal of the Year* and presented him with a plaque acknowledging his achievement.

The Superintendent recognized Mountain View teacher Jenny Johnson as recipient of the *2012 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)* certification and presented her with a certificate acknowledging her achievement.

The Superintendent recognized Christina Pennington, math teacher at Ashe High, as the *2011/12 Outstanding Secondary Mathematics Teacher* by the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Superintendent Johnson recognized Beth Hodges for receiving the 2013 Blue Ribbon Award sponsored by the North Carolina School Public Relations Association (NCSPRA) in the newsletter category for publication of *Net News*.

The Superintendent recognized Ashe County Middle as one of two schools in the nation to receive *Schools to Watch* re-designation for a third time.

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 4, 2013.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe High FFA for an overnight trip to attend the North Carolina FFA MEGA Leadership Conference in Greensboro, March 23-24, 2013.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe Middle 8<sup>th</sup> grade for an overnight trip to the Outer Banks, April 14-17, 2013.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Rachel Barker for early graduation under the 24 credit plan contingent upon completion of all remaining courses.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Christopher Harrington for early graduation under the 24 credit plan contingent upon completion of all remaining courses and community service hours.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Molly Lyle for early graduation under the 24 credit plan contingent upon completion of all remaining courses.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to a request from Megan Testerman for early graduation under the 24 credit plan contingent upon completion of all remaining courses.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Teachers**

- Resignation of Melissa Ashley, kindergarten teacher at Westwood, effective February 15, 2013 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Karen Toomey from substitute teacher to temporary kindergarten teacher at Westwood effective February 18, 2013 through the end of the 2012/13 school year (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Rae Filsinger from substitute teacher to interim art teacher at Westwood effective March 4, 2013 through March 28, 2013 (filling parental leave)

### **Substitute**

- Addition of Sarah Trollinger to the approved substitute list

### **Employee Leaves**

- Request from Olivia Snider, art teacher at Westwood, to extend parental leave to end on April 5, 2013 (FMLA = 12 weeks total)
- Request from Sara Lambert, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Westwood, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about April 8, 2013 and continuing through the end of the 2012/13 school year (FMLA = 6 weeks + 3 days)
- Request from Connie Howell, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at Mountain View, for a medical leave beginning on February 20, 2013 and ending on or about March 26, 2013 (FMLA = 4 weeks + 3 days)

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

- Substitute teachers

## **CLASSIFIED**

### **Substitute Bus Driver**

- Addition of Paula Fox to the approved substitute bus driver list

### **Substitute Cafeteria Assistants**

- Addition of Margaret Heafner and Kathy Weaver to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

### **Custodians**

- Resignation of Marvin McCoy, custodian at Ashe High, effective February 18, 2013
- Employment of Matthew Reeves as custodian at Westwood effective March 1, 2013 (prior approval)

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

- Custodian at Ashe High
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval the *Memorandum of Understanding* with the Community Corrections of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Corrections, to allow probation officer visits at school with the following changes as noted by Dr. Beckworth. Under *School Official's Responsibility*, the words *on school property* are to be added to the end of item H. Item I—*the student shall comply with curfews established by or at the discretion of the probation officer*—is to be deleted.

Revisions to *Policy 3420 Student Accountability Standards*, was presented to the Board for consideration by Director of Accountability and Testing Phil Howell. Pursuant to Board policy, action will be taken on the policy at the regular meeting for April.

The March budget work sessions were scheduled for March 25 and 26 beginning with dinner at 5:00 pm.

Announcements and information items included the following:

- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2013, 7:00 pm, at the Ashe Arts Council. The week of April 1 is Spring Break.
- Friday, March 15—Required teacher workday for Common Core and Essential Standards (originally scheduled for March 8)
- Wednesday, March 20—Battle of the Books—Grades 6-8, 9:00 am, Ashe High
- Wednesday, March 27—Elementary Battle of the Books—Grades 3-5, 9:00 am, Ashe High
- Thursday, March 28—Student early release—half day required professional development for Common Core and Essential Standards
- Monday, April 22—Regional Battle of the Books, Statesville
- Tuesday, April 23—Regional Elementary Battle of the Books, Hickory
- DIAL Kindergarten Screenings
  - Westwood—April 8-10
  - Mountain View—April 15-17
  - Blue Ridge—April 22-24

A motion at 8:01 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)]. The Board went into closed session at 8:18 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:34 pm.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the resignation of Dusty Lange as the coordinator of the afterschool program at Westwood effective end-of-day February 28, 2013. This same motion gave prior approval to employing a replacement for this position.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the coaching assignments for spring sports at Ashe Middle for track and baseball. The Superintendent is to look at other options for softball.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the addition of Kassee Roberts to the spring sports coaching list as assistant track coach (replacing Jessica Smith) at Ashe County High.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the following ***Resolution in Opposition to School Property Transfer from Local School Boards to County Commissioners.***

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes prescribe that the powers of general control and supervision of school systems are to be vested in local boards of education, not county commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Public school placement, design, and maintenance are integral components of the control and supervision authority that local boards of education have been statutorily assigned; and

WHEREAS, to maximize efficiency and maintain supervisory powers, local boards of education must continue to control basic powers of school property ownership; and

WHEREAS, as duly elected officers, local school boards members must continue to discharge their duties and responsibilities for the citizens of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

The Ashe County Board of Education, for the reasons herein noted, opposes any proposed legislation that would authorize counties to assume control of school property and respectfully requests that the North Carolina General Assembly oppose any such legislation during its 2013 session.

The Chairman shared a recent report on the State lottery with Board members.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:43 pm.