

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 9, 2013

The September 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.

Following a change in the order of business, the agenda was approved by general consensus of the Board

During open comments, members of the Ashe County Arts Council, Judy Dancy, Connie Hardison and Martin Little, welcomed in the new school year to the tune of *Home on the Range*.

Superintendent Holden recognized Mountain View Elementary as a *Title I Reward School for 2013/14* and Vice Chairman Jones presented the school with a certificate. Principal David Blackburn and Tina Key accepted on behalf of the school.

Transportation Director Shea Coldiron recognized the following bus drivers for perfect attendance in 2012/13:

- Ashe County High—James Pennington
- Ashe County Middle—Paul “Eddie” Taylor
- Blue Ridge—Darlene Eller, Janet Lyons and Randy Mahaffey
- Westwood—David Higgins and Burl Lyalls

Following deletion of the next to last paragraph regarding Policy 7241 which had already been approved at the June 28, 2013 meeting, 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 August 5, 2013.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High JROTC for an overnight trip to the Lost Sea in Sweatwater, TN, November 23-24, 2013.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High Chorus for an overnight trip to attend the Gardner-Webb Choral Clinic, October 9-10, 2013.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to entering into a one-year contract with NC Driving School to deliver the driver education curriculum at no cost to students as presented by Associate Superintendent Phyllis Yates.

Superintendent Holden provided an update on the attendance policy in relation to make-up time as approved at the June 2011 Board meeting. The School Improvement Team at the high school has decided on time-for-time makeup before and after school.

Amy Walker, Alisa Taylor, Callie Grubb and Cathy Gentry introduced Board members to Smarter Balance online assessments. The team highlighted the complexity of these assessments and expressed the need to make additional wireless devices available for student instruction and interaction.

Human Resources Director Lesia Nave presented a draft of the policies/procedures on the Code of Ethics for certified and non-certified staff. Dr. Beckworth felt that the wording under item numbers 3 and 10 is too threatening and asked that it be changed.

Jamie Little, K-6 Curriculum Coordinator, gave a presentation on the 2013/14 K-12 Writing Assessment Plan. The purpose of this assessment plan is to ensure that all Ashe County students will be prepared with the writing skills needed to be 21st century ready. Revision of this plan also aligns with the more rigorous Common Core state standards.

Associate Superintendent Phyllis Yates informed the Board of the 2013 rate adjustment notice from Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation. The overall 2.5 percent adjustment will become effective with the October billing. Mrs. Yates also informed the Board that she had been notified by First Citizens that the bank is increasing its monthly service fee from \$150 to \$450 per month.

Human Resources Coordinator Marcia Elledge gave an update on contracting with Background Investigation Bureau (BIB) for drug screening and back ground checks, which should save the school system approximately 22 percent.

Dr. Holden informed the Board that he and his staff are exploring the pros and cons of the school system having a Facebook page.

Other informational items included the following:

- North Carolina School Boards Action Center (NCSBAC)—do we want to participate?
- Correspondence from NC Lieutenant Governor Dan Forest—ATTACHMENT
- Wednesday, September 25—Ashe County hosting Region 7 North Carolina Schools Boards District Meeting, Ashe County High, 4:00 pm
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2013, 7:00 pm, at the Central Office annex.

A motion at 8:15 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)].

The Board went into closed session at 8:30 pm and returned to regular session at 9:30 pm.

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

CERTIFIED

Administration

- Resignation of Travis Richardson, assistant principal at Blue Ridge, effective August 14, 2013

Teachers

- Reassignment of Katie Furches from substitute teacher to 6th grade teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 15, 2013 (prior approval)

- Reassignment of Jessica Yearick from substitute teacher to temporary science teacher at Ashe High effective August 15, 2013 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Margaret Story from substitute teacher to temporary music teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 16, 2013 through the end of the first semester 2013/14 (prior approval)
- Re-employment of Pat Hopkins as temporary science teacher at Ashe High effective August 15, 2013 through the end of the first semester 2013/14 (prior approval)
- Re-employment of Travis Richardson as science teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 15, 2013 (prior approval)
- Resignation of Olivia Snider, art teacher at Westwood, effective August 9, 2013
- Re-employment of Nancy Campbell as art teacher at Westwood effective August 15, 2013 (prior approval)
- Resignation of Rebecca Frost, CTE health occupations teacher at Ashe High, effective September 28, 2013
- Resignation/retirement of Mary Howell, PE teacher at Ashe Middle, effective October 1, 2013
- Resignation/retirement of Melanie Jordan, CTE/technology facilitator at Ashe Middle, effective October 1, 2013

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Elizabeth Cheek, Rebekah Turnmire, Kristi Powers, Justan Reavis, Martha Sue Prichard, William Brown, William DeJonge, Kelly Price, Jelynn Richie and Meghan Craft to the approved substitute teacher list

Employee Leaves

- Request from Angela Brock, teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about October 14, 2013 and ending on January 1, 2014 (FMLA = 12 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Interim temporary physical education teacher at Ashe Middle
- CTE coordinator/technology facilitator at Ashe Middle
- Substitute teachers

CLASSIFIED

4-H Afterschool

- Resignation of Ryan Little, 4-H onsite coordinator at Mountain View, effective August 9, 2013
- Re-employment of Erica Roten, 4-H school-age coordinator with Ashe County Schools, effective August 19, 2013 (prior approval)

Bus Drivers

- Release of Catherine Miller, bus driver at Westwood, from employment with Ashe County Schools effective August 29, 2013
- Resignation of Kelly McNeil, bus driver at Westwood, effective August 28, 2013
- Reassignment of Terrance Kepple, substitute bus driver with Ashe County Schools, to regular route bus driver at Westwood effective September 3, 2013
- Transfer of Denise Austin, bus monitor at Mountain View, to bus driver at Westwood effective September 10, 2013

Cafeteria Assistant

- Employment of Tammy Jones as full-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge effective August 21, 2013 (prior approval)
- Employment of Kathy Joines as part-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge effective August 21, 2013 (prior approval)

Cafeteria Assistant Substitute

- Addition of Carolyn Testerman-Greer and Elizabeth Stewart to the approved cafeteria assistant substitute list

Coaches

- Addition of Jose Montoya to the approved coaches list as non-faculty girl's head soccer coach at Ashe Middle effective August 15, 2013 (paid)
- Addition of Joseph Schommer to the approved coaches list as non-faculty assistant soccer coach at Ashe Middle effective August 28, 2013 (volunteer)

Office Support

- Reassignment of Jennifer Hart, substitute teacher with Ashe County Schools, to receptionist at Ashe County Middle, effective August 15, 2013 (prior approval)

Teacher Assistants

- Resignation of Karen Calhoun, teacher assistant at Blue Ridge, effective September 13, 2013
- Employment of Crystal Bennett as teacher assistant with the program for exceptional children at Ashe High, effective August 15, 2013
- Employment of Jessica Calhoun as teacher assistant with the program for exceptional children at Ashe Middle, effective August 15, 2013
- Employment of Stephanie Day as teacher assistant with the program for exceptional children at Westwood, effective August 19, 2013

Tutor

- Transfer of Elizabeth Griffin, part-time ESL tutor, from Ashe High to Westwood effective August 15, 2013

Employee Leave

- Request from Kimberly Osborne, cafeteria assistant at Mountain View, for a medical leave of absence effective August 19, 2013 and ending on or about September 30, 2013

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from the Superintendent to pay his moving expenses in the amount of \$1,401.16.

There being no further business, a motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm.