

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
December 7, 2015

The December meeting was held at the Board of Education annex as scheduled with all members present except C. B. Jones who later arrived at 7:11 pm. Superintendent Holden called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Policy 2200, *Election of Officers/Organization of Board*, requires that the Board of Education hold an organizational meeting at the first meeting in December of each year at which time a chairman and vice chairman are elected. Following opening remarks by Superintendent Holden, the floor was opened for nominations for chairman. Mr. Williams nominated Charlie King followed by a second by Dr. Beckworth. Unanimous approval was given to Mr. King continuing to serve as chairman. Superintendent Holden relinquished the meeting to Chairman King who opened the floor for nominations for vice chairman. Dr. Beckworth nominated C.B. Jones to continue as vice chairman followed by a second by Mrs. Jones. Unanimous approval was given to Mr. Jones continuing to serve as vice chairman. There was no opposition to the Chairman's suggestion that the Board continue meeting on the first Monday night of each month (unless altered by a holiday) at 7:00 pm in the annex.

The agenda was approved by general consensus.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on November 2, 2015.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Ashe County High HOSA students for an overnight trip to attend the State HOSA competition in Greensboro, March 31-April 3, 2016.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from Anika Hollifield to graduate early contingent upon completing all the first semester requirements.

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

**CERTIFIED**

**Abstinence Educator/Prevention Counselor**

- Reassignment of Alice Langseth from substitute teacher for Ashe County Schools to Abstinence Educator/Prevention Counselor effective December 1, 2015 (prior approval—grant funded/part-time)

**Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Ruth Blair and Natalie Lea to the approved substitute teacher list

**Employee Leave**

- Request from Allison Weaver, literacy teacher at Westwood, for a leave of absence to care for parent with serious illness beginning on December 1, 2015—ending date to be determined (FMLA = 12 weeks)

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

- Pre-K teacher at AELC
- CTE teacher at Ashe High
- Substitute teachers

**CLASSIFIED**

**Bus Driver**

- Reassignment of Kenneth Blevins from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Blue Ridge effective December 1, 2015 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Ann Clark from part-time temporary bus driver at Blue Ridge to regular route bus driver at Blue Ridge effective December 1, 2015 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of David Goss from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Ashe Middle effective January 5, 2016 (prior approval)

**Bus Driver Substitute**

- Addition of Bradley Richardson to the approved substitute bus driver list (prior approval)

**Cafeteria Assistant Substitute**

- Addition of Kimberly “Nichole” Walker to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list (prior approval)

**Coaches**

- Addition of Darwin Wolfe to the approved coaching list as assistant varsity basketball coach at Ashe High (paid position—filling TBD on August approved list)
- Addition of Aaron Scott to the approved coaching list as assistant wrestling coach at Ashe High (volunteer)

**Teacher Assistant**

- Reassignment of Stacy Greer from temporary teacher assistant for exceptional children at Westwood to PK teacher assistant at Ashe Early Learning Center effective January 4, 2016 through the end of the current school year

**Tutor**

- Reassignment of Madison Cook from substitute teacher to GEAR UP math tutor with Ashe County Schools effective November 30, 2015 (prior approval)

**Employee Leaves**

- Request from Teresa Ham, part-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge, for a medical leave of absence effective November 13, 2015 and ending on or about December 2, 2015 (Ø FMLA eligible)
- Cathy Campbell, full-time bus monitor for exceptional children, for a medical leave beginning on December 16, 2015 and ending on or about March 16, 2016 (FMLA = 12 weeks)

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

- Part-time cafeteria assistants
- Bus drivers
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

K-12 Curriculum Director Sandra Peterson gave a presentation on the school system’s vertical alignment tool for the K-12 math curriculum and vocabulary, noting that all grades K-12 are now aligned. Alignment is based upon the standard course of study which includes the foundational skills and content requirements. Mrs. Peterson explained that the math alignment tool is a live working document that is being continually updated by teachers.

More discussion was heard on the Option and Structure Lease Agreement between Ashe County Schools and Carolina West which was initially presented at the October meeting. Due to a number of items within the lease still needing further clarification, the matter was delayed until the January meeting.

Maintenance Director Kenny Richardson gave an overview of the 2015/16 Facility Needs Survey due January 8, 2016 to the Division of School Planning at the Department of Public Instruction. The survey divides project needs into immediate (0-5 years) and long-term (6-10 years). A new middle school will be included in the immediate needs category.

Several policy revisions and/or updates were presented to the Board for its consideration (Policies 1320/3560, 1710/4021/7230, 2302, 4040/7310, 4152, 4320, 5022, and 5026/7250). Pursuant to Board policy, action will be taken at the regular meeting of the Board in January.

Board member Terry Williams was selected to serve on the 2016/17 School Calendar Committee.

The following informational items were shared with the Board:

- Tuesday, December 1—State-level school report cards released <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/src/>
- December 14-18—CTE and high school EOC testing
- Because of the Christmas break, the next regular meeting of the Board has been rescheduled to Monday, January 11, 2016, 7:00 pm, at the Central Office annex.
- Thursday, January 28—Spelling Bee—6:30 pm, Ashe County High auditorium—snow date is Tuesday, February 9
- Approval of 2016/17 Calendar Waiver Request by State Board of Education
- 2016/17 NCSBA Legislative Committee Service opportunity
- Ashe County Schools Accountability Report—2014/15 Summary
- DIAL 4 Kindergarten Screenings
  - NC PreK—March 21-24
  - Blue Ridge—March 28-30
  - Mountain View—April 11-13
  - Westwood—April 28-30

At 8:08 pm, a motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to having 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 8:16 pm. No action was taken.

Upon return to regular session at 10:06 pm, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned.