

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
February 3, 2015

The February meeting was held at Ashe County High School as re-scheduled due to inclement weather. All members were present; however, C.B. Jones was late due to his work schedule. 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.

Superintendent Holden thanked Edwina Parsons and Sherrie Harless, cafeteria managers, and their staff for preparing the refreshments for the reception.

Superintendent Holden recognized the following individual school *Teacher Assistant of the Year* nominees and presented each with a certificate acknowledging their achievement: Dwayne Farmer, Ashe High; Judy Stallings, Blue Ridge; Pam Potter, Mountain View; and Sherry Shepherd, Westwood. Pam Potter was then recognized as the *2014/15 Ashe County Teacher Assistant of the Year*.

Board Member Polly Jones recognized the following individual school *Teacher of the Year* nominees and presented each with a certificate acknowledging their achievement: Keana Triplett, Ashe High; Gordon Prince, Ashe Middle; Summer Severt, Blue Ridge; Frances Eller (absent), Mountain View; and Kristina Norris, Westwood. Keana Triplett was then recognized as the *2014/15 Ashe County Teacher of the Year*.

Board Member Terry Williams recognized participants in the Governor's Teacher Network—Courtney Eller, Rachel Nave-Lewis and Sonya Vannoy.

Board Member Dr. Lee Beckworth recognized Ashe High teachers Josh Beckworth, Christy Rivers and Keana Triplett as recipients of the *2014 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)* certification and presented each with a certificate acknowledging their achievement.

Board Member Terry Williams recognized Ashe Middle teacher Josh Church as the *2014/15 North Carolina Outstanding Secondary Math Teacher* and presented him with a certificate acknowledging his achievement.

Superintendent Holden recognized Callie Grubb, principal at Blue Ridge, as the *2014/15 Ashe County Schools Principal of the Year* and presented her with a plaque acknowledging her achievement.

Superintendent Holden noted that Ashe County Schools ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state as reported in the 2015 Niche Rankings for the Best K-12 Schools.

Chairman King recognized Associate Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer Phyllis Yates and the finance department—Amanda Coldiron, Donna Phillips, Geneva Spencer, Kevin Anderson and Sandy Rhodes—for receiving the *2012/13 Excellence Award from the National Government Finance Officers Association*.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on January 5, 2015.

A motion by Mr. Williams followed by a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to a request from Ashe County High JROTC for an overnight trip to attend the Army National Drill Competition in Louisville, Kentucky, April 10-12, 2015.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Michelle Dix, Marjorie Fuller, Erin Funderburk, Michele Lemly, Kelly Peak, Jeffrey Wegmann and Daniel Waln to the approved substitute teacher list

### **Employee Leaves**

- Request from Kelly Lopp for a medical leave of absence beginning on February 26, 2015 and ending on April 2, 2015 (FMLA = 5 weeks)
- Request from Tomi Erin Hayes for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about March 2, 2015 and extending through the end of the 2014/15 school year (FMLA = 12 weeks)

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

- Kindergarten teacher at Westwood
- Teacher for exceptional children at Ashe Middle
- Substitute teachers

## **CLASSIFIED**

### **Bus Drivers**

- Resignation of Richard Piepenbrok as bus driver with Westwood and Ashe County Schools effective January 8, 2015
- Reassignment of William Eller, Jr. from substitute bus driver to regular route bus driver (≈4 hours per day) at Westwood effective January 21, 2015

### **Bus Driver Substitute**

- Addition of David Goss to the approved bus driver substitute list

### **Cafeteria Assistant Substitute**

- Addition of Jackie Chatham to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

### **Coaches**

- Addition of Larry Bare as non-faculty head 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade baseball coach to the approved coaches list at Ashe Middle
- Addition of Martin Little as non-faculty assistant 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade baseball coach to the approved coaches list at Ashe Middle

- Addition of Don Conrad as non-faculty assistant 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade baseball coach to the approved coaches list at Ashe Middle
- Addition of Justin Chad Burgess as non-faculty head 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' softball coach to the approved coaches list at Ashe Middle
- Addition of Glenn Sullivan as non-faculty assistant 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' softball coach to the approved coaches list at Ashe Middle

#### **Teacher Assistant**

- Reassignment of Shannon Barnes from substitute teacher to teacher assistant with exceptional children at Ashe High effective January 21, 2015 (temporary—emergency hire due to student need)

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

- In-school suspension (ISS) assistant at Ashe Middle
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the amendment to *Policy 4320 Tobacco Products* to encompass the use of electronic cigarettes.

Superintendent Holden presented *Policy 4201/7271 Injury and Loss Prevention* as mandated by the State Board of Education for review. Pursuant to Board policy, action will be taken at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Board Member Terry Williams volunteered to serve on the 2015/16 School Calendar Committee.

Announcements and information items included the following:

- 2014 Turnover Percentages by LEA
- Five-Year Average LEA Turnover Rates
- Article—*Fewer education majors, and worries about where tomorrow's teachers will come from*—ATTACHMENT
- February 2015—CTE Month
- Wednesday, February 11—induction of 21 seniors into the National Technical Honors Society (first ever!) during 1<sup>st</sup> period—Board members invited to attend
- Friday, February 27—CTE Open House—all-day event—invitations forthcoming
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2015, 7:00 pm, at the Central Office annex.
- Friday, March 13—Elementary Battle of the Books (EBOB)—Grades 4-5, 9:00 am, Ashe County High auditorium
- Friday, March 20—Battle of the Books (BOB)—Grades 6-8, 9:00 am, Ashe County High auditorium

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.