

MINUTES

ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 13, 2015

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

The agenda was approved by general consensus of the Board.

During open comments, Arts Council Director Jane Lonon thanked the Board for its support of arts education and pointed out the K-12 Annual Young at Art Exhibit showcased around the room. She gave an overview of the upcoming arts programs—the Very Special Arts Festival and Spring Fest. Mrs. Lonon also expressed appreciation to the students who provided the music prior to the start of the meeting.

The 2014/15 Dick Miller Youth Leadership participants were recognized.

Ed Baker, Chairman of the Ashe County Schools Endowment Board, recognized retiring Board members Darrell and Colleen Campbell. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell served thirteen years on the Endowment Board.

Olivia Jenkins, Health Occupations teacher, recognized members of the HOSA team who recently attended the annual conference in Greensboro and highlighted their accomplishments in the competition categories.

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 March 2, 2015.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Michael and Haley Childers to allow their daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2015/16 school year.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Gary and Jeanie Hicks to allow their daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2015/16 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from the Ashe County Middle Science Olympiad Team for an overnight trip to attend the Science Olympiad State Tournament in Cary, North Carolina, April 24-25, 2015.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from the Ashe County High Science Olympiad Team for an overnight trip to attend the Science Olympiad State Tournament in Cary, North Carolina, April 24-25, 2015.

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

CERTIFIED

Teacher

- Re-employment of Jennifer “Jenny” Blevins as interim teacher of exceptional children at Ashe Middle effective March 16, 2015 through the end of the 2014/15 school year (prior approval)

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Dixie Kamplain and Patricia “Nicole” Tucker to the approved teacher substitute list

Employee Leave

- Request from Meagan Lancaster, 5th grade teacher at Mountain View, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about May 23, 2015 through the end of the 2014/15 school year (FMLA = 2 weeks + 2 days)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Director of K-12 Curriculum and Federal programs
- Substitute teachers

CLASSIFIED

Bus Driver Substitute

- Addition of Ann Clark to the approved substitute bus driver list

Coach

- Addition of Matt Covington as non-faculty assistant men’s golf coach at Ashe High to the approved coaches list (volunteer)

Office Support

- Resignation/retirement of Jackie Marsh, guidance secretary at Ashe High, effective July 1, 2015

Teacher Assistant

- Reassignment of Wendy Spainhour from substitute teacher to temporary, full-time teacher assistant with pre-kindergarten at Ashe Early Learning Center effective March 4, 2015 (prior approval March 2, 2015)

Tutor

- Employment of Lillian Ann Yates as part-time, temporary tutor at Westwood effective March 25, 2015 (prior approval)

Employee Leave

- Request from Jimmy Lewis, part-time bus driver for Blue Ridge, for a medical leave of absence beginning on March 3, 2015 and ending on or about April 9, 2015 (FMLA = 4 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the submission of the 2015/16 County Budget Request as presented by Associate Superintendent Phyllis Yates.

Ed Baker, Endowment Board Chairman, gave an overview of the 2015 Ashe County Schools Endowment Grant Awards. The Grant Committee awarded a total of \$7,707 to 10 of the 13 grants submitted. A

motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the disbursement of grant monies. The recipients will be recognized at the May meeting of the Board.

The Board approved by general consensus a letter from the Board of Education to the General Assembly in support of funding for the Driver Education program in 2015/16.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the proposed 2015/16 School Calendars—one with a student start date of August 17 and one with an earlier student start date of August 11 which is contingent upon a petition filed with the General Assembly requesting a waiver for early start. The final calendar is dependent upon the action of the General Assembly.

The Superintendent expressed appreciation to the Calendar Committee for their work in developing the two calendars.

Announcements and information items included the following:

- New Learning Management System Convenience Contract
- Current fleet of activity buses
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2015, 7:00 pm at the central office annex.
- DIAL 4 Kindergarten Screenings
Westwood—April 20-22
Blue Ridge—April 27-29
- Special Olympics—Tuesday, May 5, ACHS (rain date is Wednesday, May 6)
- Saturday, May 30—*Heart of a Husky* athletic exams, Ashe County High

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.