

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 1, 2015

The 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 request by Dr. Beckworth to move action on the personnel recommendations until after closed session, the agenda for the meeting was approved by general consensus.

Public comments were heard. Emily B., a senior at Ashe County High, expressed concern over student mental health issues and the need to treat it the same as a physical illness. Her primary goal was to incite change and to bring awareness to this issue. Dorothy E. spoke on behalf of students and the strict rules by which they must abide while riding the school bus. She requested that the rules be reviewed and asked that they be fair and consistent across the district.

The Board recognized the Mountain View team winners for the local Battle of the Books competition. Mountain View had two teams, one for grades 4-5 and one for grade 6. The Board, along with the county coordinator of the program Amy Walker, commended the students for their accomplishment and dedication to reading.

Chris Robinson from Wilkes Community College gave an overview of the Career and College Promise pathway that allows high school students to begin their college work during high school. The pathway makes two-year community college or four-year college/university degrees more affordable to student and their families. He then recognized Ashe High seniors Abby L. and Courtney W. for their participation in and dedication to the dual enrollment program. Both Abby and Courtney served as marshals for commencement at Wilkes Community College on May 20, 2015.

Dr. Beckworth recognized Amy Walker for her work in helping to organize the *Heart of a Husky* screening held at the high school on Saturday, May 30, 2015. All student athletes are screened by medical professionals who volunteer their time and services to ensure that students do not have any health issues prior to participating in athletic activities for the upcoming school year.

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 May 4, 2015.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Lisa Brown, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son, Jeffrey Ray Dunn, to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2015/16 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Ashe County High FFA for an overnight trip to attend the State FFA Convention in Raleigh, June 16-18, 2015.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Ashe County High FFA to begin cost projections for an overnight trip to attend the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, October 28-31, 2015.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following 2015/16 bid extensions for the Child Nutrition program:

- US Foods—food and food supplies
- Pet/H&S Dairy—ice cream
- Bimbo Bakeries—bakery
- Dr. Pepper Bottling—water, isotonic beverages and juice
- Pet Dairy—dairy

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2015/16 school lunch/meal prices as presented by Child Nutrition Coordinator Martha Turner. Prices will remain the same as in 2014/15.

- student breakfast—paid \$1—reduced \$0
- student lunch—paid grades PK-6 \$2, reduced \$0.40—paid grades 7-12 \$2.25, reduced \$0.40
- extra milk—\$0.40
- adult meals—breakfast \$1.25—lunch \$3.25

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2015/16 Local Plan for Career and Technical Education as presented by CTE Director Joallen Lowder.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2015/16 School Calendar with the begin date of August 11, 2015 for teachers and August 17 for students.

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

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the 2015/16 one-year teacher contract recommendations.

Martha Turner requested that the Board consider changes to Policy 6130 *Student Wellness*. In keeping with Board policy, action will be taken at the regular June/July meeting.

K-6 Curriculum Coordinator Jamie Little gave an overview of the Read to Achieve Summer Camp as required by current legislation. Final numbers have not been confirmed, but it appears there are approximately 26 students who will be required to attend. The camp will be held at Westwood June 15-July 2 and will be open to others who wish to participate. Breakfast, lunch and transportation will be provided.

The Superintendent gave an update on the partnership between Ashe County Schools, Ashe 4-H and Ashe Wildlife Club to form a shooting club for grades 7-12 with emphasis on hunter and firearm safety. Ashe 4-H will be responsible for the liability insurance. Club members will have the opportunity to compete regionally with other schools. The initial meeting for students interested in participating is scheduled for tomorrow.

The Board established June 30 as the date for its regular June/July meeting at 7:00 pm in the annex.

The following announcements and information items were shared with the Board.

- Ashe County Board of Education Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2014
- Ashe County Schools Equity Data Plan for Certified Personnel
- Tuesday, May 26—All state-mandated tests (EOCs and EOGs) began

- Friday, June 5—High school graduation @ 7:00 pm—Project Graduation immediately following @ Mountain View
- Friday, June 5—Ashe County Middle Awards Day—7th grade @ 9:00 am and 8th @ 1:15 pm
- 6th grade promotion ceremonies
 - Blue Ridge—Monday, June 8, 8:30 am
 - Mountain View—Tuesday, June 9, 8:30 am
 - Westwood—Tuesday, June 9, 8:30 am
- Tuesday, June 9—last day for students—early release—11:00, 11:30, 12:00
- Wednesday, June 10—Required Teacher Workday—last day for teachers
- National Schools to Watch Conference—Ashe County Middle—June 24-27, Washington, DC
- Wednesday, July 15—Endowment Golf Tournament—Mountain Aire
- Monday, August 3—regular meeting of the Board

A motion at 8:07 pm by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth 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 8:17 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:42 pm.

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

CERTIFIED

Central Office

- Promotion of Sandra Peterson from assistant principal at Mountain View to director of K-12 curriculum and Federal programs effective July 1, 2015 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Jamie Little from K-6 curriculum coordinator to student services coordinator effective July 1, 2015

Administration

- Promotion of Lindsey Williams from math teacher at Ashe High to assistant principal at Mountain View effective July 1, 2015 (11 months)
- Promotion of Dustin Farmer from assistant principal at Westwood to principal at Ashe Middle effective July 1, 2015
- Reassignment of Earl Pennington from principal at Ashe Middle to assistant principal at Westwood effective July 1, 2015

Teachers

- Employment of Lieutenant Colonel David Cox as JROTC teacher at Ashe High effective August 1, 2015 (prior approval)
- Resignation of Kari Truax, first grade teacher at Blue Ridge, effective June 11, 2015
- Resignation/retirement of Cathleen Gentry, technology facilitator at Blue Ridge, effective July 1, 2015

- Resignation/retirement of Horace Thompson, CTE business education teacher at Ashe Middle, effective July 1, 2015
- Re-employment of Christina Worley as kindergarten teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 11, 2015
- Re-employment of Rhonda Donner as kindergarten teacher at Mountain View effective August 11, 2015
- Transfer of Cynthia Harless from teacher of exceptional children at Mountain View to teacher of exceptional children at Ashe Middle effective August 11, 2015
- Transfer of Jennifer Williams from math teacher at Ashe Middle to math teacher at Ashe High effective August 11, 2015

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Jocelyn Bruening to the substitute teacher list

Employee Leaves

- Request from Amanda Keziah, third grade teacher at Westwood, for a parental leave beginning on or about September 9, 2015 and extending through November 18, 2015
- Request from Heather Parsons, second grade teacher at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave beginning on or about September 25, 2015 and extending through November 30, 2015
- Request from Holly Roten, literacy specialist at Mountain View, for a parental leave beginning on August 11, 2015 and extending through November 11, 2015

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Assistant principal at Ashe High
- CTE business teacher at Ashe Middle
- Teacher for exceptional children at Ashe Middle
- Math teacher at Ashe Middle
- Technology facilitator at Blue Ridge
- Certified staff as necessary to begin the 2015/16 school year

CLASSIFIED

Custodian

- Resignation/retirement of Joe Turnmire, custodian at Mountain View, effective June 1, 2015

Teacher Assistants

- Resignation of Lori Robinson, teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe High, effective end-of-day June 10, 2015
- Resignation of Linda Campbell O'Quinn, teacher assistant at Blue Ridge, effective end-of-day June 10, 2015

Tutor

- Resignation of Elizabeth Griffin, ESL tutor at Westwood, effective end-of-day June 9, 2015

Employee Leave

- Request from Pamela Cole, teacher assistant for exceptional children at Westwood, for an educational leave of absence beginning August 11, 2015 through the end of first semester 2015/16

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Gear-Up summer guide (part-time, grant funded)
- Lifeguards—temporary summer employment
- Custodians at Ashe Middle and Mountain View
- Classified staff as necessary to begin the 2015/16 school year

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned.