

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 3, 2016

The meeting was held as scheduled with all members present—Vice Chairman 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.

The Board heard public comments from Cathy Yates and Carol Kendrick. Mrs. Yates expressed concerns about potential traffic problems, the small town infrastructure and the cost per acre and asked if the Board had considered using the Greenfield property. Mrs. Kendrick was curious as to who was on the committee to find land and to whom feelers were extended in the Warrensville community. She had concern over student bus ride times and asked if a study had been done on ride times and the impact on parent involvement due to the distance. Mrs. Kendrick also inquired about upgrading the infrastructure at the current site and questioned whether the Board was making the best choice.

Following the open comments, Dr. Beckworth spoke on behalf of the Board and addressed each of the following questions raised during open comments at the September meeting—the process used to determine the location for the proposed new middle school, what other sites were considered for the school, how the Board became aware of these sites, the criteria used to determine the site, the cost of the site, traffic flow and congestion, the plan for public entrance to the site and the amount of time children would spend on buses.

Dr. Beckworth recognized Kenneth Richardson as the 2016 North Carolina Public School Maintenance Association Maintenance Director of the Year and presented him with a certificate. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Richardson for his thorough understanding of grounds and facility maintenance and the value that he and his department bring to the school system.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the special called meeting on September 6, 2016 and the regular meeting of the Board on September 12, 2016.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the requests from Ashe County Husky Choir for overnight trips to attend the following events.

- Gardner-Webb Choral Clinic, Boiling Springs, North Carolina, October 12-13, 2016
- Music in the Parks Festival in Dollywood, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, May 5-7, 2017

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Ashe High JROTC for an overnight trip to the Lost Sea Caverns in Sweetwater, Tennessee, November 12-13, 2016.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from Ashe County Middle 8th grade for an overnight trip to the Outer Banks, April 4-7, 2017.

The Board approved by general consensus the requests from the following students for early graduation: Brian Calhoun, Kelsey Church, Kimberly Dillard, Caitlyn Hoosier, Courtney Livingston, Dwight Pennington, Courtney Sawyer and Trajan Wellington.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the Title V Abstinence Education Grant as presented by Student Services Coordinator Jamie Little.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the following 2016/17 Budget Resolution as presented by Finance Officer Amanda Coldiron.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Ashe County Administrative Unit:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the State Public School Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Instructional Programs	\$	<u>18,470,193</u>
Supporting Services		3,719,559
Ancillary Services		75,821
Non-Programmed Charges		0
TOTAL State Public School Fund	\$	22,265,573

Section 2: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the State Public School Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

State Funds	\$	22,265,573
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Section 3: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the Local Current Expense Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Instructional Programs	\$	2,589,416
Supporting Services		3,216,915
Ancillary Services		17,000
Non-Programmed Charges		<u>35,000</u>
TOTAL Local Current Expense	\$	5,858,331

Section 4: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the Local Current Expense Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Local Funds	\$	4,691,903
Fund Balance Appropriated		<u>1,166,428</u>
	\$	5,858,331

Section 5: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the Federal Grants Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Instructional Programs	\$	2,056,353
Supporting Programs		149,043
Non-Programmed Charges		<u>77,395</u>
TOTAL Federal Grants Fund	\$	2,282,791

Section 6: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the Federal Grants Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Federal Funds	\$	2,282,791
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Section 7: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the Capital Outlay Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Instructional Programs	\$	571,825
Supporting Programs		368,732
Non-Programmed Charges		20,299
Capital Building Projects		<u>1,040,702</u>
TOTAL Capital Outlay Fund	\$	2,001,558

Section 8: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the Capital Outlay Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

State and Federal Funds	\$	103,276
Local Funds		1,423,434
Fund Balance Appropriated		<u>474,848</u>
TOTAL Capital Outlay Fund Revenues	\$	2,001,558

Section 9: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the Child Nutrition Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Ancillary Services	\$	2,217,414
Non-Programmed Charges		<u>170,000</u>
TOTAL Child Nutrition Fund		2,387,414

Section 10: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the Child Nutrition Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Federal Funds	\$	1,417,900
Local Funds		593,700
Fund Balance Appropriated		375,814
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TOTAL Child Nutrition Fund Revenues	\$	2,387,414

Section 11: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the school administrative unit in the Local Fund 8 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Instructional Programs	\$	1,318,199
Supporting Programs		245,520
Ancillary Services		42,547
Non-Programmed Charges		11,200
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TOTAL Local Fund 8	\$	1,617,466

Section 12: The following revenues are estimated to be available to the Local Fund 8 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

State & Federal Funds	\$	1,255,343
Local Funds		338,575
Fund Balance Appropriated		23,548
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TOTAL Local Fund 8 Revenues	\$	1,617,466

Section 13: All appropriations shall be paid firstly from revenues restricted as to use, and secondly from general unrestricted revenues.

Section 14: The superintendent is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund and between funds under the following conditions:

Superintendent may transfer amounts between functions subject to the legal limitations of \$25,000.

Section 15: Copies of the Budget Resolution shall be immediately furnished to the superintendent and school fiscal officer for direction in carrying out their duties.

As required by Senate Bill 330 in regard to change orders on school construction projects, a motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to Policy 9130 Supervision of Construction Contracts. This policy gives the Superintendent authority to approve any proposed change orders that do not exceed \$25,000. The legislation required that this policy be approved at the October meeting.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the contract for School-Based Mental Health Services between Appalachian State University and Ashe County Schools for the Assessment, Support and Counseling Center (ASC) to provide services in grades 7-12.

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

CERTIFIED

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Heather Phillips and Doris Stroud to the approved substitute list

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Substitute teachers

CLASSIFIED

Bus Drivers

- Reassignment of Anna Miller from substitute bus driver to temporary, regular route, bus driver at Westwood effective October 4, 2016

Bus Driver Substitutes

- Addition of Miranda Brown and Dillon Harless to the approved substitute bus driver list

Cafeteria Assistant Substitutes

- Addition of Mehida Ruth Roark, Ginger Brown, Michelle Gibbs, Linda Tucker, Miranda Brown and Kimberly Gray to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list effective September 1, 2016

Employee Leave

- Request from Matthew Key, bus driver at Mountain View, for a medical leave of absence beginning September 19, 2016—ending date is undetermined (FMLA eligible for 12 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Part-time ESL tutor at Mountain View
- Part-time cafeteria assistants at Ashe High, Blue Ridge and Westwood
- Bus drivers at Ashe County Middle, Blue Ridge and Westwood
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

Phil Howell, Accountability Services, presented results of the 2015/16 State assessments as approved by the State Board of Education in September. Mr. Howell prepared the 2015/16 Accountability Summary Report in a comparative format, noting that the disparity between the proficiency between males and females should be on the watch list of concerns. Testing data revealed a trend in the reading performance of male students. Young male readers continue to lag behind their female counterparts in literacy skills which follows them throughout their middle and high school years. This is not a pattern that is seen just in Ashe County, as studies show that young men fall behind their female peers across the nation by significant margins.

Following a presentation from representatives from Mountain View (David Blackburn and Ruth Turnmire) and Pam Gyon, a motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval

to the use of a reading dog for reading instruction. Mrs. Gyon owns a specially trained therapy dog, Gov, to assist young struggling readers. This new dimension to instruction has been proven to be very effective.

The Superintendent publically recognized and thanked local businesses—Parker Tie, Ashe Memorial Hospital and Farm Bureau—for their sponsorship of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month program.

The Superintendent gave a brief overview of the grant awarded from the Federal level to fund *The Journey to Literacy on the Literacy Express*. This grant was written by the Director of Human Resources Lesia Goodman to fund a mobile unit to provide literacy programs for children during the summer. Mrs. Goodman, who was out of town for this meeting, will present a full account of the grant at the November meeting.

The following informational items were shared with the Board.

- October 2016—National Principals Month
- Thursday, October 6—Interviews for Principal of Year
- Elementary Fall Festivals
 - Blue Ridge and Mountain View—Thursday, October 6, 5:00-8:00 pm
 - Westwood—Thursday, October 13, 5:00-8:00 pm
- Monday, October 10—Parent/Teacher Conferences, grades K-12, 11:30-7:00 pm
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2016, 7:00 pm, at the Central Office annex.
- American Education Week—November 13-19, 2016

A motion at 8:31 pm by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to taking 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)]. Closed session began at 8:43 pm. No action was taken.

Upon return to regular session at 10:26 pm, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned.