

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 2, 2016

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

New items were added to the agenda—an additional personnel recommendation and a request for change in student assignment. A Board member made the request to hold action on personnel until after closed session. Following these changes, a motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the agenda.

A public hearing was held to give parents and the community an opportunity to discuss the construction and location of a new middle school for grades 6-8. Only one person signed up to speak on this issue. Anna Thomas, a parent from the Blue Ridge district, asked the Board to remember families in outlying communities when selecting a new location for the middle school.

Board Liaison to the Endowment Committee Marcia Elledge and Committee Member Joyce Kilby recognized the following Ashe County Schools Endowment Fund recipients. Grant awards for 2016 totaled \$11,906.

Blue Ridge—Allie Shoemake—*Math Built to Last*
Mountain View—Kelly Lambert, Kathy Maloney, Sarah McLeese, Tina Key—*Education Electrified*
Ashe County High—Christy Rivers—*Taming Our Monsters*
Ashe County High—Olivia Jenkins/Roxanne Gilbert—*Medical Terminology Advancement*
Westwood—Laura Bowers—*Make a Space at Westwood*
Westwood—Jessica Dotson, Charlene Goodman—*All Hands In*
Ashe County High—Amber Dillingham—*Glaze, Engobe and Underglazing Testing*
Westwood—Michelle Blevins, Lindsey Hagel, Charles Johnson, Amanda Bloomer—*Showcasing Social Skills*
Ashe County Middle—Holly McClure—*Learning by Osmo*
Mountain View—Ruth Turnmire, Beth Shelton—*Media Madness Book Explosion*
Westwood—Monica Parsons—*Time to Flex*
Mountain View—Chelsea Clanton, Jessica Lyalls, Kelly Mullis, Robin Nethery—*We Have a Dream*
Ashe County High—Phyllis Ashley—*Fundamentals of Gerontology*
Mountain View—Misty Prichard, Pam Potter—*Family Fitness Field Day*
Westwood—Martie Latham—*Specifically Spelling*
Ashe County High—Marty McKenzie, Jenny Risk, Rachel Shepherd, Brittany Wood—*History Alive*

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the special budget meetings on March 21 and March 29 and the regular meeting of the Board on April 11, 2016.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Darin and Heidi Hodges, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Paul and Joy Barlow, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Paul and Alicia Vest, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Jennifer Stone, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from Nicole Norman, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from David and Michelle Miller, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Ramona Renfro, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Scott and Sarah Gordon, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2016/17 school year.

Following an overview of the AIG Local Plan 2016-2019 by Curriculum Director Sandra Peterson, a motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the plan as presented.

Following an overview of the offer from the Department of Transportation by the Superintendent, a motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the construction of a drainage easement on the Fleetwood School property for a consideration of \$6,000.

The administrative contract recommendations and the 2016/17 one-year teacher contract recommendations were presented to the Board for its consideration. Action will be taken at the regular meeting for June.

The Superintendent informed the Board that May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation Week and commended teachers for what they do for the students of Ashe County.

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

- Tuesday, May 3—Special Olympics at the high school (rain dates—Wednesday, May 4, or Thursday, May 5)
- Tuesday, May 3—National Teacher Day
- Friday night, May 20, and Saturday, May 21—*Heart of a Husky* athletic exams, Ashe County High
- Spring Testing Calendar
- Friday, June 3—High school graduation @ 7:00 pm—Project Graduation immediately following @ Mountain View
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Monday, June 6, 2016, in the annex.
- Tuesday, June 7—last day for students—early release—11:00, 11:30, 12:00
- Wednesday, June 8—Required Teacher Workday

- Thursday, June 9—Optional Teacher Workday—last day for teachers
- June 13-June 30—Summer Reading Camps @ each elementary school

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth at 7:52 pm 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)].

The Board began closed session at 8:04 pm and returned to regular session at 9:01 pm.

Upon return to regular session, a motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following personnel recommendations.

CERTIFIED

Central Office

- Resignation of Dr. Todd Holden as Superintendent of Ashe County Schools effective June 30, 2016

Teachers

- Re-employment of Dianne Eldreth as temporary interim teacher for exceptional children at Westwood effective April 11, 2016 through the end of the 2015/16 school year (filling parental leave)
- Resignation/retirement of Shelia Reed, literacy specialist at BRES, effective July 1, 2016
- Resignation of David Cox, Junior ROTC Instructor at Ashe High, effective June 10, 2016

Substitute Teachers

- Addition of Judith Ledford, Emily Lewis and Tonya Sheets to the approved substitute teacher list

Employee Leaves

- Request from Amy Bare, teacher for exceptional children at Mountain View, for a medical leave of absence beginning on April 1, 2016 and ending on May 13, 2016 (FMLA = 5 weeks)
- Request from Joanne Reavis, 5th grade teacher at Westwood, for a medical leave of absence beginning on April 11, 2016 and ending on or about May 6, 2016 (FMLA = 4 weeks)
- Request from Kristi Booker, 3rd grade teacher at Mountain View, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about May 25, 2016 and going through the 2016/17 school year
- Request from Rachel Shepherd, social studies teacher at Ashe High, for a parental leave of absence beginning on August 16, 2016 and going through October 31, 2016 (FMLA = 11 weeks)
- Request from Katherine Waddell, 3rd grade teacher at Blue Ridge, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about September 8, 2016 and ending on December 1, 2016 (FMLA = 12 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Middle grades language arts/social studies teacher
- Math teacher at Ashe High
- JROTC instructor at Ashe High
- Substitute teachers

CLASSIFIED**Bus Driver**

- Resignation of Denise Austin, bus driver at Westwood Elementary, effective April 15, 2016

Custodian

- Resignation of Tyler Richardson, 2nd shift custodian at Blue Ridge Elementary, effective end of day April 29, 2016

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Maintenance worker
- Regular route bus driver for Westwood
- Custodian at Blue Ridge
- Classified staff as necessary to begin the 2016/17 school year
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the promotion of Dean Rupard from custodian at Blue Ridge to county maintenance mechanic effective on or about June 1, 2016.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to employing a custodian at Blue Ridge.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to appointing Phyllis Yates, the current associate superintendent, to serve as interim superintendent effective July 1, 2016.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.