

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
August 8, 2016

The meeting was held 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 to add an addendum to the personnel recommendations, the agenda was approved by general consensus of the Board.

Blue Ridge 5<sup>th</sup> grade student Josie R. was recognized for her winning essay that was published in the 2015/16 issue of Young Authors *Making the Most of Me* sponsored by the North Carolina Reading Association (NCRA). Josie read her essay to everyone in attendance. Dr. Ellen Pesko from Appalachian State University, who is a member of NCRA, and Julie Little, the AIG teacher who opened up the world of writing to Josie, commended Josie for her success and, on behalf of the Board of Education, presented her with a certificate acknowledging her achievement.

Board Member Lee Beckworth recognized Joallen Lowder as the 2015/16 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Administrator of the Year for the Northwest Region and presented her with a certificate acknowledging her achievement. Dr. Beckworth commended Mrs. Lowder for her strong leadership and vision for the ongoing CTE program in grades 7-12.

Board Member Terry Williams recognized Blue Ridge teacher Allison Shoemake as a recipient of the 2016 Price-Deverick Scholarship for \$500 and presented her with a certificate acknowledging her achievement. Mrs. Shoemake will use her scholarship to attend the national convention of the Council of English Teachers.

Board Member Polly Jones recognized Ashe County High English teacher Christy Rivers as a recipient of the 2016 Price-Deverick Scholarship for \$500. Principal Jason Krider accepted on behalf of Mrs. Rivers who was out of town. Mrs. Rivers plans to use the scholarship for costs related to the national board certification process.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular June/July meeting on June 29, 2016 and the special budget meeting on July 11, 2016.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from Pamela Kinnaman, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her daughter, Miranda Kinnaman, 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 the ACHS Husky Vanguard Marching Band for an overnight trip to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, during Spring Break 2017. Teacher Zach Fulbright commended the Band Boosters who have agreed to pay for the charter bus in full which will decrease the per student cost.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Laura Bowers, media coordinator at Westwood, to attend the summit for school media coordinators in Washington, DC, October 14-16, 2016. Ms. Bowers has been the treasurer of the NC School Media Association since 2012 and was invited by the Association to attend the summit with all expenses paid.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Coordinator**

- Employment of Whitney Van Sant as coordinator of school-based mental health at Ashe High effective August 16, 2016

### **Teachers**

- Employment of Alice Everette as English teacher at Ashe High effective August 16, 2016 pending pre-employment screenings (prior approval)
- Employment of David Hollis as JROTC Instructor at Ashe High effective August 16, 2016 (prior approval)
- Promotion of Stacy Greer from teacher assistant at Ashe Early Learning to teacher at Mountain View effective August 16, 2016 (prior approval)
- Resignation of Meagan Lancaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Mountain View, effective July 29, 2016
- Resignation of Johnna Church, middle grades language arts and social studies teacher at Ashe Middle, effective August 1, 2016
- Resignation of Rachel Shepherd, social studies teacher at Ashe High, effective July 25, 2016
- Employment of Anna Thomas as middle grades language art and social studies teacher at Ashe Middle—effective date to be determined pending pre-employment screenings (prior approval)
- Employment of Preston Roberts as 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Mountain View effective August 16, 2016 pending pre-employment screenings (prior approval)
- Transfer of Stephanie Stolt from middle grades language arts and social studies teacher at Ashe Middle to social studies/history teacher at Ashe County High effective August 16, 2016
- Resignation of Brittany Wood, social studies teacher at Ashe High, effective August 9, 2016
- Resignation of Brittany Wood, pool manager at Ashe County Middle, effective September 3, 2016

### **Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Miranda Brown, Cindy Parsons, Cindy Puckett, Fran Franca and Katelyn Shaw Wolfe to the approved substitute list

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

- CTE career management at Ashe High
- Social studies at Ashe High
- Middle grades language arts/social studies at Ashe Middle
- Certified staff as necessary to begin the 2016/17 school year
- Substitute teachers

## **CLASSIFIED**

### **Bus Drivers**

- Resignation of Dillon Harless, regular route bus driver at Mountain View, effective July 28, 2016
- Resignation of Terry Lyalls, regular route bus driver at Westwood, effective June 7, 2016
- Reassignment of David Miller from substitute bus driver to regular route bus driver at Westwood effective August 22, 2016
- Reassignment of Randall Baldwin from substitute/temporary bus driver at Ashe High to regular route bus driver at Ashe High effective August 22, 2016

- Reassignment of James Stephenson from substitute/temporary bus driver at Mountain View to regular route bus driver at Mountain View effective August 22, 2016
- Reassignment of Brodrick Shepherd from substitute bus driver to temporary regular route bus driver at Ashe High effective August 22, 2016
- Reassignment of James "Jamie" McNeill, Jr. from substitute bus driver to regular route bus driver at Mountain View, effective August 22, 2016
- Transfer of Daniel Miller from regular route bus driver at Westwood to regular route bus driver at Ashe Middle effective August 22, 2016
- Transfer of Vanessa Latham from regular route bus driver at Westwood to regular route bus driver at Blue Ridge effective August 22, 2016
- Release of Marla Powell, bus driver at Westwood, from employment effective August 3, 2016
- Employment of Craig Little as part-time regular route bus driver at Westwood effective August 22, 2016

#### **Bus Driver Substitutes**

- Addition of Roy Dale Ring and Stephen Adams to the approved substitute bus driver list effective August 22, 2016

#### **Cafeteria Assistant**

- Resignation of Emily Sheets, part-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge, effective August 8, 2016

#### **Leaves of Absence**

- Request from Amanda Royal for a medical leave of absence beginning August 16, 2016 and ending on or about August 31, 2016 (FMLA eligible)

#### **Office Support**

- Employment of Laken Francis as accounting specialist at Ashe County Schools Central Support Services effective August 8, 2016
- Employment of Alexandra Miller as receptionist at Ashe High effective August 16, 2016

#### **Teacher Assistants**

- Resignation of Debbie Eller, teacher assistant for exceptional children at Blue Ridge, effective June 30, 2016
- Reassignment of Jocelyn Bruening from substitute teacher to teacher assistant for exceptional children at Blue Ridge effective August 16, 2016
- Reassignment of Crystal Crouse from substitute teacher to teacher assistant for exceptional children at Mountain View effective August 16, 2016
- Reassignment of Jessica Miller from substitute teacher to teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe High effective August 16, 2016

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

- Three part-time cafeteria assistants at Ashe County High, Blue Ridge and Westwood
- Classified staff as necessary to begin the 2016/17 school year
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2016/17 coaching assignments for Ashe County High.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the 2016/17 coaching assignments for Ashe County Middle.

Community Health Services Director Stephanie Bunch gave an overview of the upcoming 5k Ashe Dash fundraiser on September 10, 2016 for the School Based Health Center. She asked about the possibility of the school system supporting the event by providing apples/oranges for approximately 200 participants and an activity bus to transport runners. A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to providing support as requested.

Board Liaison to the Ashe County Endowment Committee Marcia Elledge reported on the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Endowment Golf Tournament held at Jefferson Landing on July 13, 2016. Once again the corporate and business community extended tremendous support through sponsorships and more than 32 businesses and individuals from Ashe and Watauga counties made donations either in cash or products. A field of 28 teams participated in the tournament. Once all revenues and expenses have been finalized, Mrs. Elledge will give a report on the net proceeds from the tournament.

Student Services Coordinator Jamie Little gave an update on the third year *Summer Read to Achieve* program as mandated by the State Legislature. The program, initially required for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade only, was expanded to any student in grades 1 and 2 who wished to participate. 120 students, including the 33 required 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, participated in the program. Eighty-six percent of students showed growth and nine students achieved proficiency. Mrs. Little felt the program was very beneficial to students.

The Superintendent expressed appreciation to the Board for the reception prior to the meeting and for the show of support from all administrative staff members.

Items of information included the following:

- Tuesday, August 16—first day for teachers
- August 16-19—required professional development activities and workdays at individual school sites
- Monday, August 22—first day for students
- The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 7:00 pm at the Central Office annex.

A motion at 7:50 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)].

The Board began closed session at 8:06 pm and returned to regular session at 9:40 pm. No action was taken.

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