

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
December 4, 2017

The December meeting was held at the Board of Education annex as scheduled with all members present. Superintendent Yates called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Policy 2200, *Election of Officers/Organization of Board*, requires that the Board of Education hold an organizational meeting at the first meeting in December of each year at which time a chairman and vice chairman are elected. Following opening remarks by the Superintendent, the floor was opened for nominations for chairman. Mr. Williams asked that C. B. Jones be approved by acclamation as Chairman followed by a second from Dr. Beckworth. Superintendent Yates relinquished the meeting to Chairman Jones who opened the floor for nominations for vice chairman. Mr. King asked that Lee Beckworth be approved by acclamation as Vice Chairman followed by a second from Mrs. Jones. The Board will continue to hold its meetings on the first Monday night of each month (unless altered by a holiday) at 7:00 pm in the annex.

Following an addendum to the personnel recommendations, a motion by Vice Chairman Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the agenda for the meeting.

Mountain View Elementary was recognized for receiving the 2017 Exemplar School award at the annual Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Conference held in Greensboro on November 14, 2017. This is the highest recognition bestowed at the state level for PBIS participation.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mr. King gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on November 6, 2017.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Amber L. to graduate early contingent upon completion of all course work at the end of the first semester.

A motion by Mr. King and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the requests from the Ashe County Husky Choir for overnight trips to attend the following events.

- Fiesta-Val Choral Music Festival, Myrtle Beach SC, April 5-8, 2018
- Dollywood Music in the Park, Pigeon Forge TN, April 20-22, 2018

A motion by Vice Chairman Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from four Ashe County Husky Band students for an overnight trip to participate in the prestigious annual Virginia Tech Honors Band in Blacksburg VA, January 19-21, 2018.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mr. King gave unanimous approval to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Council as recommended by CTE Director Joallen Lowder. Senate Bill 257 requires that each local education agency appoint an education advisory council for CTE programs.

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

CERTIFIED

Teachers

- Resignation/retirement of Phillip Marc Payne, athletic director at Ashe High, effective March 1, 2018
- Promotion of Elaine Cox from assistant principal at Ashe Middle to principal at Ashe County Early College High School effective July 1, 2018

Substitute Teacher

- Addition of Shelia Reed to the approved substitute list

Employee Leaves

- Request from Jessica Lyalls, 2nd grade teacher at Mountain View, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about December 22, 2017 and ending on February 19, 2018 (FMLA = 12 weeks)
- Request from Luci Jackson, 1st grade teacher at Mountain View, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about February 12, 2018 and ending on April 9, 2018 (FMLA = 8 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Kindergarten teacher at Westwood
- Athletic director
- Substitute teachers

CLASSIFIED

Bus Drivers

- Release of Miranda Brown from assignment as regular route bus driver at Westwood effective November 21, 2017 due to unavailability to drive
- Reassignment of Brandy Staton from substitute bus driver to regular route bus driver at Westwood effective November 27, 2017

Cafeteria Assistants

- Reassignment of Gina Phillips from substitute cafeteria assistant to part-time (4-hours per day) cafeteria assistant at Ashe High effective November 27, 2017
- Reassignment of Evelyn Shoemake from cafeteria manager at Blue Ridge to temporary assistant cafeteria manager at Ashe High effective November 27, 2017
- Reassignment of Sherrie Harless from assistant cafeteria manager at Ashe High to temporary cafeteria manager at Blue Ridge effective November 27, 2017
- Employment of Emmy Halsey as interim cafeteria assistant at Ashe Middle effective December 4, 2017 (filling leave of absence)

Cafeteria Assistant Substitutes

- Addition of Karen Morris, Dawn Cliborne-Eskey and Beth Roten to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list
- Removal of Dawn Cliborne-Eskey from the approved cafeteria assistant substitute list

Custodian

- Resignation of Jason Goodman as 2nd shift custodian at Ashe High effective end-of-day November 21, 2017

- Employment of Matthew Rupard as 2nd shift custodian at Ashe High effective November 30, 2017

PowerSchool Coordinator

- Promotion of Michelle Kitson from receptionist/secretary at Blue Ridge to the county-wide PowerSchool coordinator and data manager at Ashe High effective January 5, 2018

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- Receptionist/secretary at Blue Ridge
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

A motion by Vice Chairman Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the following policy adoption, revisions and/or updates as presented at the November meeting: Policies 4231, 3210, 7130, 7405, 7510, 7530, 7810, 7900, 7930 and 7940. Policy 7410, *Teacher Contracts*, was removed from approval for further discussion.

Principal David Blackburn, along with teacher and student team members, focused on the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) program implemented at Mountain View in 2005/06. PBIS is a positive way for schools to encourage good behavior. The multi-tiered system focuses on expectations and respect for yourself, others and the environment. The key to PBIS is prevention, not punishment. Students learn from the start about what behavior is appropriate, just like they learn math or science. Students are taught social skills, including how to act in different settings such as the classroom, on the bus or with friends. The behavior matrix allows students to achieve social, emotional and academic success.

The Board approved scheduling an in-house training session for Board members in January 2018. Possible topics include the following: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), Testing and Accountability, Thinking Maps, Canvas and Ashe Early College High School.

Tuesday, December 12, was designated to meet with selected middle school faculty, administration and team of sixth grade teachers to discuss and provide input to Architect Larry Greene, the Board, Superintendent and Maintenance Director Kenny Richardson on the preliminary architectural plans for the middle school.

The Board approved the Superintendent submitting a resolution on K-3 class size implementation if she felt it to be in the best interest of the school system.

Ashe Arts Center will host the April Board meeting to showcase the *Young at Art* exhibit.

Board Member Terry Williams was selected to serve on the 2018/19 School Calendar Committee.

The Superintendent reported that the State class-size report for Ashe County had no exceptions or overages.

The following informational items were shared with the Board.

- EOC testing—last five days in the semester—December 15-December 21
- December 22-January 1—Christmas break—*student early release on December 21*

- Tuesday, January 2—required teacher workday
- Wednesday, January 3—students return
- Due to the Christmas break, the next regular meeting of the Board has been rescheduled to Monday, January 8, 2018, at the Central Office annex.
- Spelling Bee—Thursday, January 18, 6:30 pm, Ashe County High auditorium—snow date is Tuesday, January 23

At 7:52 pm, the Board took 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 8:05 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:50 pm.

A motion by Vice Chairman Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to contracting with Randy Rhodes to survey the Woodie property for \$1,000 and to complete a soil erosion plan in order to construct a practice field for \$2,500. The Board purchased the Woodie property to replace the practice field sold to Wilkes Community College for its facility expansion program.

The Board gave the Superintendent the authority to contract with a local attorney to process the deed for the Woodie property.

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