

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
June 5, 2017

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

An addendum to personnel was added to the agenda. Following a request to move personnel items 4.15, 4.16 and 4.17 until after closed session, the agenda was approved by general consensus. Student recognitions were deleted from the agenda.

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on May 1, 2017.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Scott Cahan, who resides in Ashe County, to allow his daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams 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 son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman King gave unanimous approval to the request from Tylor Greene, who resides in Ashe County, to allow his son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Katie Stroud, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman King gave unanimous approval to the request from Keli Gajewski, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the request from the Lansing American Legion Post 275 to extend the lease of the Lansing ball field for an additional ten years for the sum of one dollar. The Board directed the Superintendent to amend the current lease with the American Legion to include an opt-out clause should the Board ever have need of the leased property in the future.

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following 2017/18 bids and/or bid extensions for the Child Nutrition program:

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

- Pet Dairy—dairy—*new bid*

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2017/18 school lunch/meal prices as presented by Child Nutrition Coordinator Martha Turner. Prices will remain the same as in 2016/17 except for student lunch which will increase from \$2 to \$2.25 in grades PK-6 and from \$2.25 to \$2.50 in grades 7-12.

- student breakfast—paid \$1—reduced \$0
- student lunch—grades PK-6 \$2.25 paid, reduced \$0.40—grades 7-12 \$2.50 paid, reduced \$0.40
- extra milk—\$0.40
- adult meals—breakfast \$1.25—lunch \$3.50

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2017/18 Local Plan for Career and Technical Education as presented by the Superintendent on behalf of CTE Director Joallen Lowder. Mrs. Lowder was unable to attend the meeting due to family illness.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman King gave unanimous approval to the agreement for the school system to participate in the North Carolina School Boards Trust Errors & Omissions/General Liability Fund as presented by the Superintendent. Participation in the program as offered by the North Carolina School Boards Association affords boards of education governmental immunity from tort claims.

At its May meeting, the Board approved a utility easement agreement with Blue Ridge Electric Membership which enabled the Town of West Jefferson to install an electric vehicle charging station on school property that is currently leased to the Town of West Jefferson. A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to amending the current lease with the Town of West Jefferson to include the Town's removal of the charging station from the property at its own expense should the Board have need of the leased property in the future.

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to revisions to Policy 5030 *Community Use of Facilities* as presented at the May meeting.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the administrative contract recommendations. A list of the recommendations is on file in the Department of Human Resources.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the submission of training activities, in which Board members participated at the local level, to the North Carolina School Boards Association for professional development credit.

Members of the School-Based Health Advisory Board Nancy Kautz and Beth Lovette presented the School-Based Health Center Annual Update, highlighting all the services provided to students and staff at the Top Dog Clinic. Mrs. Kautz and Mrs. Lovette requested that the Board give thoughtful consideration to where the clinic fits into the planning for the new middle school and went on to say that the Advisory Board would like to see a school-based health center on the high school site in the future.

Principal Jason Krider, staff members and student representatives gave a second presentation on the implementation of the "Smart Lunch" program at the high school this upcoming school year, highlighting

the additional school visits that have been made. Both students and staff were excited about what this program has to offer. The Board voiced its support of the program.

Principal Jason Krider presented the annual update on the attendance policy and waivers at the high school. Overall attendance improved slightly from the prior year—94.52 percent to 95.43 percent. The number of student waivers significantly decreased for the year.

Amy Walker gave an update on the *Heart of a Husky* program held May 19-20 for all 7-12 athletes. A total of 488 students participated in the screening—206 on Friday and 282 on Saturday. Twenty-five students were identified for follow-up with their family doctor. Mrs. Walker recognized Blue Ridge Electric Membership and Ashe Memorial Hospital for its financial support of the program and thanked the many medical providers, paramedics, doctors, nurses and school staff who volunteered their services and expertise to ensure that students are physically able to participate in athletics.

Student Services Coordinator Jamie Little gave an update on the Read to Achieve Summer Camp for grades 1-3. Camps will be held at each elementary school June 13-29. Transportation, meals and a snack will be provided at no charge each day.

Thursday, June 29, was established as the date for the June/July meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm in the annex.

The Superintendent commented on her school visit to Alexander Central to review their Smart Lunch Program, graduation and Project Graduation, the memorial service at Westwood for Melissa Ashley Coughlin, the high school band concert, the student choral trip to Pigeon Forge, the Springs Sports Awards, the presentation by Westwood's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Drama Club, and student presentations by the Social Studies honor classes.

Items of information included the following.

- Summer Schedule for *The Literacy Express*
- June 5-7—required teacher workdays
- June 8—optional teacher workday
- June 9—annual leave
- June 12—annual leave—last day for teachers
- June 13-29—Summer Reading Camps @ each elementary school—4 days per week—7:30-3:00
- Thursday, July 20—Endowment Golf Tournament—Mountain Aire
- Monday, August 14—regular meeting of the Board—*tentative change to 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in month*

At 8:43 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 8:55 pm and returned to regular session at 10:38 pm.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2017/18 one-year teacher contract recommendations as amended. A list of the recommendations is on file in the Department of Human Resources.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the nonrenewal contracts as amended. A list of the recommendations is on file in the Department of Human Resources.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Teachers**

- Resignation of Ronda Donner, kindergarten teacher at Mountain View, effective June 12, 2017
- Transfer of Robin Roberts from teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High to teacher of exceptional children at Mountain View effective August 16, 2017
- Re-employment of Chelsea Eller as regular classroom teacher at Mountain View effective August 16, 2017

### **Non-Instructional Support**

- Approval of school nurse contracts (two years) for Tammy Craine at Blue Ridge and Robin Goss at Ashe High

### **Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Allison Price, Rachel Davis, Katrina Frye, Katelyn Pugh and Mason Morris to the approved substitute list

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

- Band teacher at Ashe High
- CTE teacher at Ashe High
- Teacher at Mountain View
- Certified staff as necessary to begin the 2017/18 school year
- Substitute teachers

## **CLASSIFIED**

### **Substitute Bus Driver**

- Addition of Sharon Price to the approved substitute bus driver list

### **Cafeteria Assistant**

- Resignation of Linda Bennett, cafeteria assistant at Ashe Middle, effective end of day June 1, 2017

### **Lifeguards**

- Re-employment of Jordan Avery as lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective May 5, 2017
- Re-employment of Lauren Robinson as lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective May 5, 2017
- Re-employment of Mason Shumate as lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective May 5, 2017
- Re-employment of Gareth Berry as lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective May 15, 2017
- Re-employment of Travis Hartsoe as lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective June 5, 2017
- Employment of Tanner Kilby as lifeguard at Ashe Middle—effective date to be determined

**Employee Leave**

- Request from Alexandra Miller, receptionist at Ashe High, for a parental leave of absence beginning August 16, 2017 and ending on or about November 8, 2017 (FMLA = 12 weeks)

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

- Classified staff as necessary to begin the 2017/18 school year
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately adjourned the meeting at 10:43 pm.