

MINUTES  
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
August 14, 2017

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

A request was made to add an addendum to the personnel recommendations. Dr. Beckworth moved that the addendum be added and that personnel items 4.13 and 4.13A be moved until after closed session. The agenda was approved by general consensus of the Board.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman King gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular June/July meeting on June 29, 2017, the special budget meeting on July 11, 2017 and the closed session on July 19, 2017.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the request from Serene Solinski and Tate Rawl, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their daughter 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 Serene Solinski and Tate Rawl, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Thomas and Tracey Huyck, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their children 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 Marsha Bristle, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Michelle Oakes, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her 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 Laurie Desautels, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Allen and Jessica Barker, who reside in Ashe County, to allow their children to attend school in Alleghany 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 Amanda Ennquez, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son 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 Amanda Ennquez, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her daughter to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2017/18 school year.

A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the request from Erika Testerman, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son to attend school in Alleghany 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 Ashe County High School FFA for an overnight trip to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 24-27, 2017.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2017/18 Coaching Assignments for Ashe County High as presented by Athletic Director Marc Payne.

A motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Vice Chairman King gave unanimous approval to the 2017/18 Coaching Assignments for Ashe County Middle as presented by Athletic Director Mitchell Mash.

Ranger Thomas Randolph gave a presentation on the curriculum-based science fieldtrips available at Mt. Jefferson State Park. The fieldtrip best practices include conducting hands-on activities, presenting the programs outdoors, correlating each activity to the state curriculum standards and presenting pre-and post-site activities before and after the fieldtrip. Grants in the amount of \$400 are available to help offset the cost of transportation, supplies and snacks.

Marcia Elledge, liaison to the Ashe County Board of Education Endowment Fund, gave an update on the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Endowment Golf Tournament held at Mountain Aire on July 20, 2017. The event hosted 126 players, requiring both morning and afternoon starts. Support from the local community businesses and corporate sponsorships helped to make the event a success—the profit is expected to be in excess of \$11,000. Mrs. Elledge expressed appreciation to everyone who had a part in this annual fundraiser.

The Superintendent gave an update on expanding the Assessment, Support and Counseling (ASC) mental health service model to the middle school site. A meeting of representatives from Appalachian State University (ASU), the Appalachian District Health Department and school officials was held on this date to work out the logistics of implementing a successful replica at the Top Dog Clinic. The Health Department is providing funding for a certified mental health counselor for the Clinic, and Whitney Van Sant and Dr. Kurt Michael from ASU will provide assistance and training for the new staff member. The Superintendent recommended that the Board of Education employ Mrs. Van Sant to continue the mental health services at the high school and provide oversight and training to the counselor at the middle school site. Administration at the middle school was very pleased with what this program can provide to students.

The Superintendent gave an overview of an administrative regulation on student use of cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom. Mr. Beckworth asked that the regulation be incorporated into Policy 4318 *Use of Wireless Communication Devices* and presented at the next regular meeting of the Board for consideration.

Items of information included the following:

- Wednesday, August 16—first day for teachers—county-wide meeting at the high school—breakfast beginning at 7:15 am—program from 8:00-11:00
- Wednesday-Friday, August 16-18—required teacher workdays
- Monday, August 21—first day for students
- Due to Labor Day, the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, September 11, beginning at 7:00 pm in the annex.
- Wednesday, September 27—District 7 Annual Meeting, Avery County High School, 4:00-8:00 pm—leave Central Support at 2:30 pm

At 7:58 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 and returned to regular session at 10:40 pm.

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

## **CERTIFIED**

### **Teachers**

- Employment of Lindsay Scarborough as band/chorus teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Jason Kubota as school counselor at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Todd Rivver as middle grades language arts/social studies teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Leslie Rivver as media coordinator at Ashe Middle effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Amanda Black as teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Emily Berglund as teacher for exceptional children at Westwood effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Madison Roberts as math teacher at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Promotion of Jocelyn Bruening from teacher assistant for exceptional children at Blue Ridge to teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Resignation of Laura Foster, PE teacher/coach at Ashe High, effective July 10, 2017
- Resignation of Chelsea Craine, teacher for exceptional children at Ashe Middle, effective July 13, 2017
- Resignation of Tonya Moore, teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High, effective July 31, 2017
- Resignation of Jill Starling, teacher for exceptional children at Ashe High, effective July 31, 2017

- Resignation/retirement of Sheila Richardson, media coordinator at Ashe Middle, effective August 1, 2017
- Transfer of Jodi Grubb from teacher for exceptional children at Westwood to teacher for exceptional children at Ashe Middle effective August 16, 2017

#### **Cafeteria Manager**

- Employment of Beverly Darlene Wetmore as cafeteria manager at Ashe High effective August 3, 2017 (prior approval)

#### **Maintenance Department**

- Promotion of Greg Lyons from maintenance mechanic to assistant maintenance director effective July 1, 2017

#### **Substitute Teachers**

- Addition of Evelyn Colvard, Don Gray, Erica Goodman, Colleen Glover, Taylor Hinrichs and Phil Howell to the approved substitute teacher list

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

- PE/Health teacher at Ashe High
- Certified staff as necessary to begin the 2017/18 school year
- Substitute teachers

#### **CLASSIFIED**

#### **Bus Drivers**

- Resignation of Daniel Wayt, bus driver at Mountain View, effective July 26, 2017
- Resignation of Carrie Argetsinger, bus driver at Westwood, effective July 31, 2017
- Resignation of David Miller, bus driver at Westwood, effective August 7, 2017
- Employment of Tina Shepherd as part-time regular route bus driver at Westwood Elementary effective August 21, 2017 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Sharon Price from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Mountain View effective August 21, 2107 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Gale Elliott from substitute bus driver to part-time regular route bus driver at Westwood effective August 21, 2017 (prior approval)

#### **Cafeteria Assistants**

- Reassignment of Ruth Blair from substitute teacher to part-time ( $\leq 4.5$  hours per day) cafeteria assistant at Mountain View Elementary effective August 14, 2017 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Linda Powers from part-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge to full-time cafeteria assistant Blue Ridge effective August 14, 2017 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Virginia "Ginger" Sheets from substitute cafeteria assistant to part-time ( $\leq 4$  hours per day) cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge effective August 14, 2017 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Ruth Roark from part-time cafeteria assistant at Ashe High to full-time cafeteria assistant at Ashe High effective August 14, 2017 (prior approval)
- Transfer of Tammy Jones from full-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge to full-time cafeteria assistant at Ashe High effective August 14, 2017 (prior approval)

#### **Teacher Assistant**

- Re-employment of Donald Conrad as teacher assistant with ISS at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017

**ESL Tutor**

- Employment of Jillian Baldwin as part-time ESL tutor at Mountain View effective August 21, 2017 (prior approval—federal funding)

**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

**Personnel Addendum****CERTIFIED****Teachers**

- Employment of Michael Gore as physical education and health teacher at Ashe High effective August 16, 2017 (prior approval)
- Employment of Annerys Soto as teacher for exceptional children at Westwood effective August 16, 2017
- Resignation of Sonya Vannoy, literacy specialist at Westwood, effective August 9, 2017

**Non-Instructional Support**

- Approval of one-year contract for Whitney Van Sant as school-based mental health coordinator (ASC Program)

**Employee Leave**

- Request from Paige Sturgill, third grade teacher at Westwood, for a parental leave of absence beginning on or about October 22, 2017 and ending on or about December 22, 2017 (FMLA = 9 weeks)

**Substitutes**

- Addition of Johnna Church to the approved substitute teacher list

**CLASSIFIED****Teacher Assistants**

- Transfer of Renee Weaver from pre-kindergarten teacher assistant at Ashe Early Learning to teacher assistant for exceptional children at Blue Ridge effective August 16, 2017

**Volunteer**

- Approval of Lawrence Goodman as volunteer driver for the Literacy Express effective July 1, 2017

The Board directed the Superintendent to add employer verification to the Out-of-County Request for Change in Student Assignment form.

There being no further business, a motion by Vice Chairman King and a second by Mr. Williams at 10:45 pm immediately adjourned the meeting.