

March 14, 2013
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Sandra Mercier, Chair; Bobby Bearden; Terry Bramlett; and Lewis DeWeese. One member was absent - Steve Stanley, Vice-Chair. Mrs. Mercier stated Mr. Stanley was unable to attend the meeting because he was sick.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to amend the agenda so item 12 – Request approval to obtain bids for EFES Freezer/Cooler – and item 13 – Approve generator bids – could be added. All members voted yes; motion carried.

By motion from Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from February 14, 2013, the strategic planning session on March 12, 2013, and the work session on March 12, 2013.

Approve the following facility use requests:

Fannin County Recreation T-Ball 5 & 6 year old team – Use of East Fannin Elementary School upper Baseball Field on Saturdays and 1 day through the week from March 15 – May 31, 2013, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Approve the following field trip requests:

East Fannin Elementary Third Grade – Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA, on May 6, 2013;

Fannin County High School Intermediate Education Class – Atlanta Speech School in Atlanta, GA, on March 26, 2013;

Fannin County High School Cosmetology Department – Paul Mitchell - The School Esani in Roswell, GA, on April 18, 2013; and

Fannin County High School Senior Class Trip – Dollywood Theme Park in Pigeon Forge, TN, on April 26, 2013.

Approve the following fundraiser requests:

Fannin County School System ALPHA students – Sale of flower bulbs – March 11 – 22, 2013;

Fannin County School System ALPHA students – Sale of candles – March 11 – April 5, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay For Life Team – Sale of t-shirts – March 14 – April 22, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Art Class – Penny war – April 1 – 12, 2013;

Fannin County High School FCCLA – Sale of Krispy Kreme doughnuts – March 18 – 23, 2013;

Fannin County High School FCCLA – Donations from community members and businesses to sponsor students – March 18 – May 18, 2013;

Fannin County High School FFA – Sale of Vidalia Onions – March 25 – April 29, 2013;

Fannin County High School FCCLA – Cupcake war/contest – March 26, 2013; and

Fannin County High School FFA – Sale of annual plants and vegetable plants – April 17 – May 8, 2013.

Public comment:

None.

After public comment, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the financial report for the month ending January 31, 2013. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in February 2013 for the month of December 2012 was \$262,307.75.

Cynthia Panter, Associate Superintendent, shared with the Board an award the system received from the Georgia Department of Education and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Ms. Panter stated the award was for Fannin County Schools having met all “Highly Qualified” requirements for teachers and paraprofessionals in 2011 – 2012. Ms. Panter stated she accepted this award for the system at the recent Title II conference and only 90 systems in the state received it.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to set the 2013 Fannin County High School Prom for Saturday, May 4, 2013, at North Georgia Technology College, and to set the graduation date for the 2012 – 2013 school year for Friday, May 24, 2013, at 8:00 p.m. in the football stadium. The rain date will be Saturday, May 25, 2013, in the Fannin High Football Stadium at 10:00 a.m. If necessary, due to weather, the graduation ceremony will be moved to

the new high school gym. Terry Bramlett stated he would be unable to attend graduation because of a prior commitment in Dallas, Texas.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Option 1 of the 2013 – 2014 school calendar (see attached). Mr. DeWeese stated he would like to see Veterans' Day as a holiday.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to table revised policy DJED – Bids and Quotations (see attached) – for public comment and to be approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve revised policy GBRIG – Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (see attached). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to request bids for a new cooler/freezer at East Fannin Elementary School to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve generator and fuel supply installation bids from Black Mountain Electric, Inc. to be paid out of SPLOST funds: East Fannin \$5,500.00; Fannin County Middle School \$6,500.00; West Fannin Elementary \$4,500.00; Blue Ridge Elementary \$5,000.00; Central Office \$3,500.00; and Fannin County High School \$5,500.00. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the purchase of two 48-passenger special needs school buses from Rush Motor Trucks at a per-unit price of \$111,830.00 for a total of \$222,660.00 to be paid out of SPLOST funds (additional Board action on this agenda item is referenced below).

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the purchase of 96 Dell computers for a total of \$57,368.64 to be paid out of SPLOST funds. Blue Ridge Elementary will receive 33 computers at \$597.59 per unit price for a total of \$19,720.47. East Fannin Elementary will receive 31 computers at \$597.59 per unit price for a total of \$18,525.29. West Fannin Elementary will receive 32 computers at \$597.59 per unit price for a total of \$19,122.88. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Regarding the purchase of the two 48-passenger special needs school buses from Rush Motor Trucks referenced above, Benny Long, Director of Transportation, stated the total dollar amount he initially presented on the bus bids was incorrect. The amount stated was \$222,660.00, and the correct total should have been \$223,660.00. As a result, Bobby Bearden withdrew his motion to approve the bus bids at \$222,660.00 and made a motion, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the purchase of two 48-passenger special needs school buses from Rush Motor Trucks at a per-unit price of \$111,830.00 for a total of \$223,660.00 to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Karen Walton, Director of Curriculum and School Improvement, gave Board members an overview of the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI). Mr. Henson warned members of a possible decrease in the upcoming Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) scores. He stated this decrease was because of a higher cut score on test rigor and also implementation of the new Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve a resolution requesting the Fannin County Board of Education become a member of the Pioneer RESA, to include the provision of Georgia Learning Resources System services, beginning July 1, 2013, and further agrees to remit membership dues and other costs for services provided by the RESA. The resolution also stated the Fannin County School System will remain a member of the Northstar Educational and Therapeutic Services VNETS program and such services will not be affected by the change of RESA. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Donald Evans as a substitute teacher contingent upon meeting all requirements for employment with the school system. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Kristen Kay as substitute teachers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson asked Mrs. Walton to present the annual report for Fannin County School System. Mrs. Walton stated the report takes hours of work to put it together and much of the credit goes to the school principals and Mary Ann Walker, District Technology Specialist, for compiling the information. Mr. DeWeese stated the information in the annual report was enough to make a school board member smile. Mr. Henson stated the annual report is a useful tool to see where we have been and where we need to go.

Mr. Henson introduced Susie Taylor as Fannin County School System's Teacher of the Year (TOTY). Mr. Henson congratulated Mrs. Taylor on her achievement.

Mr. Henson stated March 18 – 22, 2013 has been proclaimed "School Board Member Appreciation Week" in Georgia. Mr. Henson stated Fannin's Board was a dedicated group that strived to make our schools better. Mr. Henson stated Fannin Board members take care of students who cannot vote. Mr. Henson stated Fannin Board members have continued to keep the millage rate low, offer students 180 days, and consistently keep students in the forefront. Mr. Henson stated that during this past election, three incumbent members went up for reelection and all were reelected. Mr. Henson stated this shows the trust the community has in the Board.

Board Members' Comments:

Bobby Bearden stated he was almost ready to cry. He said it was a privilege to work with his fellow members. Mr. Bearden thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and stated he thoroughly enjoyed the visit to high school classrooms on the strategic planning session day.

Mr. Bearden stated he appreciated all North Georgia RESA had done for Fannin Schools through the years.

Terry Bramlett stated he also appreciated the visitors at the meeting. Mr. Bramlett said it was an honor to serve on the Board, and he was impressed with the high school visit. Mr. Bramlett stated he was amazed at the improvements the facility during the past couple of years.

Lewis DeWeese stated he was in agreement of prior comments, and he also welcomed everyone who attended the meeting.

Regarding the classroom visits during the strategic planning session, Sandra Mercier said once a teacher, always a teacher. Mrs. Mercier stated she saw so many great things happening in the classroom on the Board's recent visit to the high school, and it was inspiring. She said the advancements in technology in the classroom have been amazing, and it was wonderful to see technology implemented and embraced by the students. Mrs. Mercier stated she appreciated her fellow board members.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to adjourn subject to being called into special session by the Chair when deemed necessary. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Sandra Mercier, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent

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