

March 9, 2017
4:30 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in a strategic planning session/local board training session and regular session with the following members present: Bobby Bearden, Chair; Lewis DeWeese, Vice-Chair; Terry Bramlett; Chad Galloway; and Steve Stanley. All members present.

The meeting was called to order by Bobby Bearden, Chair.

Holly Mauney, School Improvement Specialist for Pioneer RESA, facilitated the Local Board Training Session, Planning for Boards of Education. As part of the training, the Board discussed sustaining the strategic plan and exploring options to support birth to age three babies and their families with literacy and numeracy needs. This was the first LBT session for the 2016-2017 SY.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to move the following Board policies into the consent agenda:

- Rescind Board Policy IDCH – Dual Enrollment- Move on When Ready
- Rescind Board Policy GAD – Professional Learning Opportunities
- Revise Board Policy IDDD – Gifted Students Programs
- Revise Board Policy BH – Board Code of Ethics

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from March 7, 2017, 8:00 a.m.; February 23, 2017, 8:00 a.m.; and February 9, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Approve the following Board policies:

- Rescind Board Policy IDCH – Dual Enrollment- Move on When Ready
- Rescind Board Policy GAD – Professional Learning Opportunities
- Revise Board Policy IDDD – Gifted Students Programs
- Revise Board Policy BH – Board Code of Ethics

Public Comment:

None.

After public comment, motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the financial report for the month ending January 31, 2016. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Henson stated the SPLOST check received in February for January was \$333,780.64.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Budget Amendments FY2017, Amendment 3- March 9, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, Seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the recommendation for the School Calendar for the SY 2017-2018 Option 1. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to award mowing bids to Sean Queen at East Fannin Elementary School in the amount of \$1,850.00 per month and Fannin Middle School in the amount of \$1,200.00 per month. Gary Stanley was awarded mowing bids at Blue Ridge Elementary School for \$684.00 per month, West Fannin Elementary School for \$918.00 per month, and Fannin County High School in the amount of \$2,174.00 per month. Bobby Bearden, Lewis DeWeese, Chad Galloway and Steve Stanley voted yes; Terry Bramlett opposed; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to set the 2017 Fannin County High School Prom for Saturday, April 29, 2017, at North Georgia Technology College From 7-11:00 p.m., and to set the graduation date for the 2016 – 2017 school year for Friday, May 26, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. in the football stadium. If there is inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the new gym on Friday, May 26, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Karen Walton, Assistant Superintendent, School Improvement & Curriculum (P-8), announced that the next Local Board Training will be on April 13, 2017. Pioneer RESA will facilitate the training on Leading Change from the Board Level. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to accept the resignation of Walter Clonts effective May 31, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to accept the resignation of Keith Gilliam effective March 3, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to accept the resignation of Robin Gilliam effective March 3, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Tammy Standridge as a paraprofessional. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Terri Paulson for the transportation department. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Rodney Ensley as a substitute bus driver. All members vote yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Robert Seabolt as a substitute bus driver. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Mark Watson as a substitute bus driver. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mark Henson, Superintendent, had Karen Walton speak about the upcoming third year of having the REACH scholarship and what an amazing opportunity it is for the five students selected each year for the program. Mr. Henson said during his time as an educator, being involved in the REACH scholarship program is one of the most gratifying things he has ever done. Mr. Henson announced an anonymous person in the community has committed to making the full donation to the program indefinitely meaning "our kids are taken care of."

Mr. Henson announced it is Georgia School Board Appreciation Week but feels the Board should be appreciated for all they do every day of the year. One of the reasons the schools have such great success like the REACH scholarship, STEM, and Charter Schools is because of the community's support and a Board that works for the stakeholders and the children. Mr. Henson stated he has worked with some of the Board members his entire career serving as Superintendent, and he has been lucky indeed, and they have made his job easy. The Board doesn't sit and bicker or try and run their own agenda. They work for the kids, the staff, and the teachers. One of the reasons our schools are on the top of the charts at Pioneer RESA is because it begins with the five people at the table. Mr. Henson wanted to say "Thank you" to the Board and the school system. Thanks for what you do.

Board Members' Comments:

Bobby Bearden was privileged to attend connections at the middle school with his granddaughter. As a school Board member it was humbling to see all the parents there with their children. He commended the staff at the middle school and the staff that attended from the high school in explaining the transition from the middle school to the high school. He shared how you can take 4 classes at the middle school and receive high school credit for them. Mr. Bearden appreciated everyone for showing up for the meeting. He congratulated Sarah Finch and Shannon Miller on their new positions they will start at central office at the beginning of the 2017-2018 SY. Mr. Bearden thanked Blue Ridge Elementary School for their "Hugs" gifts they received from the students for Board member appreciation week.

Lewis DeWeese thanked Candy Sisson for the fruit parfaits she served to everyone before the work session on Tuesday. He thanked the staff for giving their hearts to the children and said he prays they will be blessed and rewarded for all they do. He said when you change a child's life, it's for a lifetime.

Terry Bramlett stated “What an incredible team!” it is an honor to be a part of the Board. He said the central office staff and everyone involved does an incredible job. He commended all the principals for being present at the meeting. The results they have achieved over the last year is remarkable, along with the help of their hardworking teachers. He congratulated the principals for the difference they are making and the significant gains being made as a system. The Fannin School system is bumping number one at Pioneer RESA, and that is remarkable.

Chad Galloway thanked everyone for showing up. He congratulated Sarah Finch and Shannon Miller on their new positions at the central office. Mr. Galloway commended Candy Sisson on the fruit Parfait she served before the work session on Tuesday. He said it has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the Board, and he has been impressed with the feedback from the community, employees and staff. Working with an incredible Board is a joy.

Steve Stanley thanked Mr. Henson for his kind words. He said it was very humbling. Mr. Stanley was very enthused with the training session that was conducted before the Board meeting. He stated it was a pleasure to serve on the Board.

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

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent