

December 13, 2007

6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Bobby Bearden, Chairperson; Garnett Webb, Vice-Chairperson; Junior Farmer; Terry Bramlett; and Emily Dunn. All members present.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes from all previous meetings.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the financial report for the month ending October 2007. Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in November for the month of September was \$370,778.

J.C. Wood, a member of the American Legion/North Georgia Honor Guard, recognized the board of education with a plaque which states, "In recognition of the Fannin County Board of Education for the authorization to use the building located at 4584 Veterans Memorial Highway by the area veterans".

At the annual fall conference of the Georgia Council for Administrators of Special Education (GCASE), Fannin County School System was recognized as a leader in the state of Georgia for outstanding efforts to improve the performance of students with disabilities and was awarded two certificates. The first certificate stated - Recognition for excellence in the education of students with disabilities by meeting state target for: students who meet or exceed achievement standards for Reading/English Language Arts, reducing the students who drop out of school, graduates with regular education diplomas, educating students in the least restrictive environment, and educating young children in the least restrictive environment. The second certificate was for highest performance for excellence in the education of students with disabilities by decreasing the number of students who drop out.

Dr. Connie Huff, Fannin County Middle School Academic Coach gave a presentation on language arts and math vertical content meetings held by K-12 teachers to achieve a seamless curriculum (see attachment).

Art Hubbard, Assistant Superintendent, gave the board an update on the various construction projects (see attachment). Mr. Hubbard reviewed the bids received on the Fannin High School Athletic Complex project.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated out of the last eleven months of SPLOST collections only one collection has met the projected expectation with nine of the collections having been below what was collected the year before. Mr. Henson also stated Fannin County has experienced a significant downturn in its economy. Real-estate sales have fallen far below pace. This has had a trickledown effect on Fannin's construction and building industries. These groups are the key to a healthy local SPLOST. Mr. Henson also stated during the design phase of the stadium, he was assured that the cost of what was specified would bid in the range of 4.5 million dollars. The lowest bid exceeded that projection by more than 1.1 million dollars. Mr. Henson further stated despite the fact that the architect was notified over a year ago of Fannin's intentions to possibly begin construction of a new stadium by mid-November of this year and the countless hours put into this effort by our system, we were still receiving design addendums as late as last Friday. Mr. Henson stated this puts us over a month behind schedule and creates the question of being able to complete the project before the first home game of the 2008-2009 football season. With these points in mind, Mr. Henson

recommended that in consideration of the lack of available time and money that we do not accept any of the bids presented. Moved, seconded, and carried to reject all bids presented for the Fannin County High School Athletic Complex project.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the revised Graduation Requirements Policy (Descriptor Code: IHF(5)).

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following school requests for purchases made on behalf of students in the aggregate sum of \$100.00 or more:

Blue Ridge Elementary – Strawbridge Studio (student pictures and school annuals) and QSP (fundraiser)

East Fannin Elementary – Strawbridge Studio (student pictures) and Remember Me (school annuals)

West Fannin Elementary – Lifetouch Studio (student pictures and school annuals)

Fannin County Middle School – Jostens (school annuals) and Lifetouch (student pictures)

Fannin County Comprehensive High School – Lifetouch Studio (student pictures) and Jostens (graduation items and annuals)

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following facility use request:

Alpha Delta Kappa Honorary Teachers Organization – use of Fannin County High School Media Center on the first Tuesday of January and February 2008 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following field trip requests:

Fannin County High School Advanced Placement Biology – Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, GA for December 14, 2007

Fannin County High School FFA – Area 1 Public Speaking Training in Cartersville, GA for January 10, 2008

Fannin County High School FFA – State Wiring CDE in Covington, GA for January 11 – 12, 2008

Fannin County High School FBLA – Region Competition and Conference in Rome, GA for January 15, 2008

Fannin County High School FFA – Floriculture CDE training in Acworth, GA for January 31, 2008

Fannin County High School FFA – Poultry CDE Training in Calhoun, GA for February 4, 2008

Fannin County High School/Middle School - Mountain Brook – Cohutta Springs in Crandall, GA for February 6 – 8, 2008

Fannin County High School FFA – Farm Bureau Business Management, Job Interviewing, and Agriculture Marketing in Cartersville, GA for February 7, 2008

Fannin County High School Thespians – Georgia Thespian Conference in Jonesboro, GA for February 7 – 9, 2008

Fannin County High School National Arts Honor Society – 2008 Georgia National Art Honor Society at Kennesaw State University at Kennesaw, GA for February 8 – 9, 2008

Fannin County High School Chorus – Lee University Honor Choir at Lee University for February 8 – 9, 2008

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following fund raiser request:

Fannin County High School FFA – Sale of meat sticks, January 15 – February 15, 2008

Mark Henson, Superintendent, also presented the board with the following fund raiser. This information was presented as information only. No vote was necessary.

East Fannin Elementary School – Math-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in January 2008

Moved, seconded, and carried to go into executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)).

Moved, seconded, and carried to resume regular session.

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson, announced no action was taken while in executive session.

Moved, seconded, and carried to accept the resignations of Theresa Newton, Nancy Sue Stewart, and Page Reynolds.

Moved, seconded, and carried to employ Gail Dockery and Vickey Rymer as paraprofessionals; Kristen Mathis as a paraprofessional at Pre-K; Robert Wilson and Kaytie Young as certified teachers for the 2007-08 school year; Jayne Reece, Melissa Clore Anis, and Angela Faye Couch as school nutrition workers.

Moved, seconded, and carried to transfer Vickie Roberson from an eight hour paraprofessional position to a seven hour paraprofessional position (per her request); transfer Mary Corbin from a teaching position to ½ time Special Education teacher and ½ time county-wide ELL teacher; transfer Celeste Baugh from third grade teacher to Special Education teacher; and transfer Lynn Reist from Drama teacher to third grade teacher.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following substitute bus drivers:

Cherri Cochran
Keith Gilliam
Phillip Green

Gordon Kincaid

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following Substitute Custodians:

Jace Gibbs
Terry Lewis
Jammie Phillips

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following Substitute Teachers:

Brooklyn Campbell
Cathy Caylor
Tina Dockery
Maria Rowse
Lisa Stacy
Jennifer Webb

Public Comment:

Jerry Rice who has been involved with youth sports for the past 25 years in Fannin County requested the board consider changing East Fannin Elementary's mascot back to Wildcats. Mr. Rice also stated he supported the board's decision on rejecting all stadium bids. Mr. Rice further stated the board should find another architect who would have the taxpayer's best interest in mind. Mr. Rice also stated he wanted the board to continue making the rebuilding of the stadium a priority.

Board Members' Comments:

Emily Dunn stated she could not believe half of the school year was complete.

Terry Bramlett stated he was impressed with the certificates of achievements Betsy Hyde had received. Mr. Bramlett further stated he continually heard good things about her and the job she does.

Junior Farmer stated he appreciated the good work Betsy Hyde does for the system. Mr. Farmer also thanked Dr. Connie Huff for the presentation she gave. Mr. Farmer also stated he was disappointed about the high price of the stadium bids. Mr. Farmer further stated he enjoyed the school board training which he attended earlier in the month in Atlanta.

Garnett Webb stated he was also disappointed about the high stadium bids. Mr. Webb further stated academics plus sports or band equaled success and he wanted the board to carry the rebuilding of the stadium to fruition.

Bobby Bearden stated he was optimistic about the rebuilding of the stadium. Mr. Bearden further stated the high bids may have happened for a reason and it gives the board an opportunity to create a better project. Mr. Bearden also stated he appreciates everyone's hard work. Mr. Bearden stated he was glad Joe DiPietro is back and staying with *The News Observer*.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson stated he was proud of the accomplishments Betsy Hyde had received and further stated Ms. Hyde truly cares about her students. Mr. Henson also stated he wished Cynthia Panter, Associate Superintendent, a speedy recovery from her surgery. Mr. Henson also stated he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Henson stated the GSBA day at the capital would be conducted on March 17, 2008. Mr. Henson also told board members of a training opportunity conducted by GSBA on March 15, 2008 in Young Harris. This training will be a management tool workshop.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned subject to being called into special session by the chairman when deemed necessary.

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent

slj

Construction Update 12/13/2007

BRES PE Facility

Bleacher installation complete
Fire Marshall inspection 100%
Occupied

WFES PE Facility

Bleachers seating added
Bleachers operational
Awaiting final adjustment of motors and roller assembly

WFES Classroom Addition

Contractor to replace all wood doors
Fire valve tamper switch assembly to be replaced

EFES PE Facility

Concrete sidewalks completed
All plumbing fixtures installed and functional
Flooring installation complete
Bleachers installed and functional
Awaiting delivery of 40 additional seats
Paving to be completed over Christmas vacation

BRES Gym/Cafeteria Renovation

Removal of existing fans/vents complete
Duct fabrication complete
Kitchen Equipment ordered
Masonry work complete
Exterior door frames installed
Mechanical room exterior wall structure complete
Fire water system 90 % complete

FCHS Football Stadium

Bids opened 12/11/2007
Awaiting board action

BRES Cafeteria – Classroom Renovation

Have instructed architect to begin preliminary plans
Projected start date 4/1/2008