

December 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Prior to the meeting, a reception was held to honor Steve Stanley. Mr. Stanley served on the Fannin County Board of Education for two terms.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Lewis DeWeese, Chair; Chad Galloway, Vice-Chair; Terry Bramlett; and Steve Stanley. Bobby Bearden was absent. A quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by Lewis DeWeese, Chair.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from November 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Approve the school bus request from Fannin County Recreation Department to use one school bus for their After School Program on December 21 and 28, 2018; and January 3, 2019. The Fannin County Board of Commissioners will pay for this use.

Approve Schedule of Approved Local Option Sales Tax Projects for the year ending June 30, 2018. **(see attached)**

Approve FY19 budget amendment #3. **(see attached)**

Approve Fannin County Middle School surplus property. **(see attached)**

Approve FCSS Technology Center salvage requests. **(see attached)**

All members voted yes to approve the items on the Consent Agenda; motion carried.

James Kroninger and Debbie Curry presented a check for \$2,665.00 to Tara Cantrell and Deb Cantrell. The donation is for the Fannin County Children's Fund.

Director of Achievement Sarah Rigdon presented the *2018-2019 District Improvement Plan Progress Report* to the Board.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the district financial report for October 31, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(see attached)**

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received in November 2018 for October 2018 was \$555,709.03.

Director of Finance Susan Holloway and Director of Planning, Policy, & Curriculum Darren Danner presented a draft of the SPLOST V referendum. **(see attached)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the surplus of district property. The request includes approval for disassembling and removing the one story framed house located in Land Lot No. 263 of the 8th District and 2nd Section of Fannin County, Georgia. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Director of Instructional Technology Heather Finley presented the Central Office Update on Chromebook computers used throughout the district.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the purchase of 480 Chromebook computers from Firefly Computers for \$100,272.00 to be paid for with SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(see attached)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Lynn Doss as the attorney for Fannin County Board of Education from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Assistant Superintendent Robert Ensley reminded Board members of the upcoming Local Board Training dates and topics.

Assistant Superintendent Robert Ensley reviewed the results of the annual Board Self-Assessment. Each member ranked all standards and indicators as satisfactory.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to go in to 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 or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(2))

All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to resume the regular meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Lewis DeWeese, Chair, announced no action was taken during Executive Session.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session on November 6, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

While in Executive Session, the Board reviewed Superintendent Michael Gwatney's annual evaluation. Steve Stanley stated that Dr. Gwatney has received the highest possible marks in all of the performance standard categories, and he has exceeded the Board's expectations on all standards. Mr. Stanley stated that Dr. Gwatney is a blessing to the Fannin County School System.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the resignation of Jessica Craig effective November 15, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the resignation of Adam Wilcher effective November 29, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the resignation of Benny Long effective May 31, 2019. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Hannah Webb Godfrey as a teacher pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Curtis Weldy and Michelle Sechrengost as paraprofessionals pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Kyra White and Carrie Couch to the School Nutrition Department pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Laurie Akins, Lawrence R. Jarmon-Gigetts, Teresa Gunnell, Amber Jones, Carol Jane Parker, and Todd Rilling as substitute teachers pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Metrela Brown and Michael Hawkins as substitutes for the Transportation Department pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Michael Gwatney recognized Family Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) member Cady Finley for her community service project that collected and delivered school supplies to the Bay County School System in Panama City, Florida, following Hurricane Michael. Dr. Gwatney stated that the spirit of love and kindness our students have for helping others is remarkable.

Dr. Gwatney thanked the Fannin County School System "road crew" for their assistance in checking roads for icy conditions. He stated that the district takes delayed starts and cancellations seriously; we want our students in school, but we realize there are times that safety requires a modified school schedule.

Dr. Gwatney thanked those who presented on December 11 and 13: Denver Foster, April Hodges, Heather Finley, Sarah Rigdon, Danny Shinpaugh, and Betsy Hyde, as well as James Kroning and Debbie Curry. He thanked the Board for his annual evaluation and the opportunity to serve as Superintendent.

Dr. Gwatney reminded the Board of the Christmas program schedules for elementary schools and what a wonderful performance our students provide during the programs. He thanked Steve Stanley on behalf of the Fannin County School System for his service and expressed that he would be missed.

Dr. Gwatney wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2019.

Board Members' Comments:

Mr. Lewis DeWeese wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year. He encouraged everyone to take time to stop and appreciate the people and things in life that are important. He stated that what Fannin County School System employees do changes lives and thanked everyone for their dedication to students of Fannin County.

Mr. Chad Galloway appreciated those who made presentations to the Board. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked Steve Stanley for being a mentor to him as a member of the Board.

Mr. Terry Bramlett stated that he is honored to be a member of the Fannin County Board of Education and commended district administrators for their dedication. He stated that he was impressed with all of the presentations. He commented on the value of the vertical alignment of the curriculum and the work by schools across the district to make sure all students are receiving the same instruction. Mr. Bramlett praised the Smart Goals and Actions Steps in place to make sure the students are successful.

Mr. Bramlett complimented Sarah Rigdon on School Improvement and Denver Foster for his update on the inspection of the fleet. Both programs are working for the best interest of the students.

Mr. Steve Stanley reflected on his last eight years serving on the Fannin County Board of Education. He recalled building and facility improvements, computer purchases, the addition of two Pre-K classes, and Chromebooks for students. He stated that his daughter is a product of Fannin County School System. He recognized the current Board, as well as Mrs. Sandra Mercier, who was a mentor to him as a new member. He remembered the relationships of past personnel, including Mark Henson, as well as Cynthia Panter and Karen Walton. Mr. Stanley recognized today's leaders at the Central Office, and he stated that we are fortunate to have Dr. Gwatney as our Superintendent. He encouraged the leadership to continue to work together in the coming years for the success of our students.

Mr. Stanley ended by recalling his seventh grade teacher, Ms. Leslie Nichols. Ms. Nichols had assigned a poem by Robert Frost, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." Mr. Stanley stated, "I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep, and miles to go before I sleep."

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.

Lewis DeWeese, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent