

June 14, 2018
6:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the consent agenda.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from May 10, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.; May 30, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.; and June 12, 2018, at 8:00 a.m.

All members voted yes to approve the items on the consent agenda; motion carried.

The Extracurricular Update was presented by Evelyn Doss, an upcoming senior at Fannin County High School. Miss Doss shared her experience as a United States Senate Page during her Fall 2017 semester.

Benny Long also recognized Denver Foster for his success in Georgia's technician competition. Denver will travel to Oklahoma City in October to represent Georgia and compete in the America's Best Competition.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the district financial report for April 30, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received in May for April was \$432,125.94.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Timeline. This will include the first meeting to be held on July 12, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve a spending resolution for July 2018 (**see attached**). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Susan Holloway presented the Sales Ratio Study to the Board for information only. This presentation included data from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts, Sales Ratio Division. No action was taken by the Board.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to table Revised Board Policy JCDAF – Use of Electronic Devices by Students for public comment and to be voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting (**see attached**). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Robert Ensley, Curriculum Director, informed Board members that they have received certification for Exemplary Board status with the Georgia School Boards Association.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the contract for Superintendent Michael Gwatney. The contract is for 36 months and will take effect July 1, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett to accept the resignations of Amanda McBride and Nicole Schuknecht effective June 11, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley to accept the resignation of Vickie Taylor effective August 1, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Kaitlyn Chastain, Samantha Bond, Vanessa Lee Strausbaugh, Nathan Dean, and Donna Graham as teachers effective school year 2018 – 2019, depending on completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Heather Smith as a paraprofessional effective school year 2018 – 2019, depending on completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett to transfer Lisa Payne and Christy Sparks from School Nutrition Foodservice Assistants to School Nutrition Cashiers beginning SY 2018-2019. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Michael Gwatney thanked Jerry Rice and Elaine Owens for the invocation and pledge. He congratulated Denver Foster, Evelyn Doss, and the Board of Education for their accomplishments. Dr. Gwatney thanked citizens of Fannin County for their support of SPLOST.

He stated that he is pleased to serve as superintendent and honored by the 36-month contract. He said that the people – faculty, staff, students, community members – make Fannin County an excellent place to work.

Dr. Gwatney delivered a PowerPoint to honor retiring Associate Superintendent Betsy Hyde. Ms. Hyde has served the district as a teacher, assistant principal, director of student services and as the associate superintendent. Dr. Gwatney stated she has been a wonderful colleague and friend and will be missed by all.

Dr. Gwatney recognized the Fannin County High School Class of 2018 and the Fannin County Elementary Schools for an incredible tradition that has begun. The seniors walked through the halls of the elementary school(s) that they attended in Fannin County and received cheers, hugs, and high-fives from students and former teachers. Congratulations to the Class of 2018 – Their success is a result of a combination of elementary, middle, and high school teachers, administrators, and support staff working together!

Board Members' Comments:

Mr. Bobby Bearden thanked everyone for being at the meeting this evening. He congratulated Denver Foster and Evelyn Doss. He stated that we are lucky to have Dr. Michael Gwatney as our superintendent saying that he has exceeded all expectations. He complimented the new softball coach on a great job. He stated that the Board is “top of the line,” and it is a blessing, privilege, honor to sit with the fellow board members and Dr. Gwatney.

Mr. Steve Stanley congratulated Denver Foster on his achievement and stated it as a privilege for the school system to have him on board taking care of children. He complimented Evelyn Doss on doing a great job as a United States Senate Page and appreciated her representing the school system and community well. He thanked Susan Holloway for her diligence as Director of Finance and welcomed Darren Danner to the Central Office. He stated that it is a privilege to work with Dr. Gwatney, and he has kept him informed and knowledgeable of all things going on in the district. He congratulated Betsy Hyde on her retirement.

Mr. Terry Bramlett offered congratulations to Evelyn Doss and stated that she represented the District well. He thanked FCHS administration for supporting her while she was enrolled in the United States Senate Page program in Washington, D.C.

He offered congratulations to Denver Foster for being skilled and knowledgeable to maintain the district's fleet safely. He stated that Dr. Gwatney and the Central Office staff work as a well-oiled machine, and he enjoys seeing all of the talents that each brings to the table. Regarding Dr. Gwatney's contract, he said (stating this was also on behalf of Chad Galloway) that Dr. Gwatney has exceeded expectations, and we are blessed to have him.

Mr. Bramlett expressed appreciation to Betsy Hyde in assisting with the transition in administration. It was smooth and easy, and she provided continuity and structure for the new administration.

He thanked Ms. Elaine Owens for her service to the country and her comments prior to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He also thanked Mr. Jerry Rice for his comments.

Lewis DeWeese stated that kids come first and love and passion for children is felt in the room. He complimented Mrs. Lynn Doss for her commitment to community activities. He thanked Jerry Rice and Elaine Owens for their comments at the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, 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