

January 8, 2015
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Steve Stanley, Chair; Sandra Mercier, Vice-Chair; Bobby Bearden; Terry Bramlett; and Lewis DeWeese. All members were present.

The meeting was called to order by Steve Stanley, Chair.

Steve Stanley, Chair, relinquished the Chair to Mark Henson, Superintendent, for reorganization of the Board.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, called for nominations for Chair for the 2015 calendar year.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to nominate Steve Stanley as Chair for the 2015 calendar year. Sandra Mercier, Lewis DeWeese, Terry Bramlett, and Bobby Bearden voted in favor of Steve Stanley as Chair. Steve Stanley abstained. Motion carried.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, turned the meeting over to the newly elected 2015 Chair, Steve Stanley.

Steve Stanley, Chair, called for nominations for Vice-Chair for the 2015 calendar year.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to nominate Sandra Mercier as Vice-Chair for the 2015 calendar year. Steve Stanley, Lewis DeWeese, Terry Bramlett, and Bobby Bearden voted in favor of Sandra Mercier as Vice-Chair. Sandra Mercier abstained. Motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of Mark Henson, Superintendent, a motion was made by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Sandra Mercier, to set the regular monthly Board of Education meetings for the 2015 calendar year on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m., and the Board's work sessions to be held at 8:00 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the regular monthly meeting. Both meetings are to be held at the Board of Education office. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

By motion from Terry Bramlett, seconded by Sandra Mercier, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from December 11, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.; January 6, 2015, at 8:00 a.m.

Approve the following Facility Use request:

Fannin County High School Old Gymnasium for indoor soccer Practice
December 22 to March 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Approve the following field trip requests:

Fannin County High School Chorus – Lee University in Cleveland, TN, Honor Choir, February 6 at 7:00 a.m. and returning February 7 at 4:00 p.m.

Fannin County High School Mock Trial/Gifted– Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta , GA, on January 21, 2015, 7:30a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Approve the following fundraiser requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School Special Ed – Sale of BRES Car Tags – January 9, 2015, through May 22, 2015.

Blue Ridge Elementary School – Postcard mailings; Sale of Great American Opportunities catalog items – February 24, 2015 –March 10, 2015.

Fannin County High School FFA – 50 % profit of Sales of Smoked Meat Sticks – January 12, 2015, to February 12, 2015.

Fannin County High School Baseball – Sale of Name Brand Laundry Detergent and Fabric Softener-January 21, 2005, to February 11, 2015.

Fannin County High School Cheerleading- Sweet Shoppe Night- 20% of sales profit the week of February 14, 2015.

Fannin County High School Baseball- Sale of Fan Cloth Spirit Wear- February 23, 2015, to March 13, 2015.

Public comment:

None.

After public comment, a motion was made by Sandra Mercier, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2014. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in December for the month of October was \$371,425.08.

Motion made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Fannin County High School Salvage Property. All members voted yes; motion carried.

- 95 Student Combo Desk
- 5 large TVs

Karen Walton, Director of School Improvement and Instructional Services, discussed Local Board training solutions. The Board decided to participate in the next session on March 10, 2015. The training will address “Board Roles and Responsibilities.”

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, 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 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 Bobby Bearden, to resume the regular meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Steve Stanley, Chair, announced while in executive session no action was taken.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the executive session minutes for December 11, 2014. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to accept the resignation of Catherine A. Patterson effective January 6, 2015. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Shannon Cioffi and Cynthia Rhodes as paraprofessionals . All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Sandra Mercier, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Cynthia Ridings and Cynthia Ware as substitute teachers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Wanda Pickelsimer, William “Bill” Seber, and Carrie Wooten as substitute nutrition workers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent’s Comments:

Mark Henson stated several school systems ran a two hour delay this morning, the reason Fannin County schools chose not to was the buses would be sitting in sub zero weather for two additional hours, and Mr. Henson felt the rooms would be warm. During this time, Mr. Art Hubbard stated he ran the heat in occupied mode all night and not a single classroom was below 65 degrees. Mr. Henson stated there was one gym below that but that was easy to work around.

During this time Benny Long, Transportation Director, gave an update on the buses. Mr. Long stated the drivers started their buses 30 minutes early to warm up and be warm for the students on the bus. Plus, if there were mechanical issues, it would give time to get it fixed or get another bus. Mr. Long stated all the buses were at the schools on time. Mr. Henson stated we were able to feed the students breakfast, keep them in a warm environment, and had the resource officers out early. He also stated the point he wanted to make is our morning routes start at 6:15 a.m. and end at 7:30 a.m. A 2-hour delay would have started at 8:15 a.m. and finished at 9:30 a.m. The temperature at 7:00 a.m. was 7 degrees, and 9:30 it was 8 degrees. During this time there was only one complaint of a student being cold. The lowest classroom's temperature was 66 degrees. Mr. Henson stated there is the ability to look at the history of the temperatures in the buildings, and this was made possible by SPLOST. Mr. Henson had Mr. Long explain the engine block heaters on the buses. He stated all the buses have engine block heaters and the drivers plug them up at night to keep the engine and oil warm making it easier to start in cold weather. Mr. Henson commended the transportation department, maintenance department, Mr. Hubbard, and all the teachers who came in and made sure all the students were warm and well-fed. Mr. Henson commended the Board for having the foresight to help fund the things that make a difference in the school system.

Board Members' Comments:

Steve Stanley stated it was the first meeting of the New Year, as well as the first meeting of his new term, and he is looking forward to it. Mr. Stanley stated he hopes with SPLOST there will be improvements and upgrades to the facilities, and he hopes to maintain what we have accomplished. Mr. Stanley stated he is looking forward to working with everyone.

Sandra Mercier wished everyone a happy 2015 and hopes it brings all kinds of goodness to the school system and, in particular, SPLOST.

Lewis DeWeese challenged everyone that doesn't know about SPLOST to look at it, look at the facts, or talk to Mr. Henson and the people in the system and see it is the grandest thing that has blessed the school system for many years.

Terry Bramlett stated if you own property in Fannin County, he can't imagine you not being thankful for SPLOST. A lot of the projects that had to be funded would have taken place with or without SPLOST. New roofs and state requirements for expansions on the buildings are expensive. Mr. Bramlett stated he is a big supporter of SPLOST. Mr. Bramlett followed up with Mr. Benny Long about the engine block heaters. He stated that not only do they make it easier to crank the engine but also makes a big difference on the long-term wear of that engine. Mr. Bramlett stated the was in agreement with Mr. Henson, and Mr. Long made the right decision on taking care of the children and getting those children to school under warm conditions and feeding them breakfast.

Bobby Bearden thanked everyone for being at the meeting. Mr. Bearden congratulated Mr. Stanley and Mrs. Mercier for being elected Chair and Vice-Chair. He stated the school

system had saved tremendous dollars since the school started using the Energy Ed. Program, and that was made possible with SPLOST. Mr. Bearden stated he was glad to be here.

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.

Steve Stanley, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent

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