

August 10, 2017
6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Approve the meeting minutes from August 8, 2017, 8:00 a.m., July 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m. and July 13, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Public Comment:

Allison Lindstrom spoke during public comment regarding the Fannin County High School band and the positive impact it has had on her life.

After public comment, motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the School Quarterly Financial Reports. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the district financial report for the month ending June 30, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received in July for June was \$448,717.98.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the FY18 tentative Budget. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the spending resolution for September 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Easement-Epworth. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the Virtual Environmental upgrade project from Mike Collins and Associates in the amount of \$49,714.58 to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve bid tabulation sheet showing no bids received on the school nutrition surplus equipment – EFES and WFES tables. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the salvage of tables at EFES and WFES. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the 2017-2018 Annual Board Planning Calendar. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Curriculum Director Robert Ensley reviewed the local Board training selections for the 2017-2018 school year. Selections made by the Board are as follows:

November 9, 2017: Review and Revision of System Goals and Priorities;
February 8, 2018: Analyzing Student Achievement and Outcome Data;
April 12, 2018: Legal Issues and Ethics for Boards of Education; and
May 10, 2018: Communicating the School System Message.

Curriculum Director Robert Ensley reviewed the discipline reports for the Fannin County Middle School and Fannin County High School. No action needed (see attached).

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the addendum to AmeriCorps Service Site Agreement. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to accept the resignation of Sarah Farnar effective July 31, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Lindsey Denniston as a teacher pending Georgia certification. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Candi Gordy Ray as a paraprofessional. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Lendon David Pelfrey as a substitute bus driver pending successfully completing CDL training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, stated the school year has had a wonderful start. 2017 Georgia Teach of the Year Casey Bethel was the guest speaker at the FCSS General Session on July 31, and his presentation was both powerful and inspirational. Mr. Bethel was impressed with the presence of our Board at the General Session meeting. Out of all his presentations across the state, he stated it was his first one to have a Board present. Dr. Gwatney said that speaks to the great support they show for the employees, citizens, parents and most importantly the students of the Fannin County Schools, and for that he said "Thank You!" to the Board. Dr. Gwatney also said the Open Houses at the schools were wonderful. He and his staff were able to attend each one. There was lots of preparation and hard work that went into each, and the schools looked great. Again, it was a wonderful first day of school, even when the call came in saying the city was about to lose water. Dr. Gwatney is thankful for his fantastic leadership team. After a call to Assistant Superintendent Benny Long and Maintenance Director Danny Shinpaugh, water bottles and portable toilets were delivered so students could complete the first day of school on Friday, August 4. During the weekend, a great deal of time was spent with Mr. Long, Ms. Hyde, Ms. Sisson, and Mr. Shinpaugh preparing the schools and kitchens to be without water. Dr. Gwatney commended Mayor Whitener for her support with the water issue and also Commissioner Stan for making provisions during the road construction in front of East

Fannin Elementary School during parent pick-up on the first day of school. He said we are so blessed to be able to serve Fannin County and make it a wonderful for our kids, and for that he is thankful and proud to be here.

Board Members' Comments:

Lewis DeWeese said it has been a good meeting and a good start for the year: "Thank You!"

Terry Bramlett said compliments all around to an incredible team. Completing the continuous improvement package on time is a great testament to the efficiency of the district leadership. Mr. Bramlett commended Ms. Holloway for her remarkable budget planning. He serves on a couple of State Boards and National Boards, as well, and he often brags on the Fannin County School System operating efficiently and with no bonded indebtedness due to a carefully balanced budget by an extraordinary team. Mr. Bramlett commended the principals for a job well done and stated no one enjoys their successes more than he does.

Chad Galloway congratulated everyone on their first day of school and dealing with the water issues. He commended Danny Shinpaugh on his construction update on the agriculture facility during the work session. He was impressed with Sarah Rigdon and her team for completing the federal funding application. Mr. Galloway thanked Susan Holloway for all her hard work on the budget. He also commended Ms. Lindstrom who spoke at public comment and how proud he was of her and how well spoken she was and appreciated what she had to say.

Bobby Bearden stated Ms. Lindstrom's speech was heartwarming for him. He really appreciates what she is doing and wishes her the best. Mr. Bearden addressed the insurance increase on the employees and said every single employee is worthy because it takes everyone to make the school system work. He feels this is one of the best school systems in the state of Georgia. Mr. Bearden appreciates every one attending the meeting.

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

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent