

MINUTES

Cheatham County Board of Education
August 4, 2008

Call to order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 2008, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairman Barry Breen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of silence: led by Ms. Greer

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Ms. Greer

Roll call:

Present were Kurt Scott, Rickey Thomas, Barry Breen, Dianne Proffitt, Chris Spiegl, and Susan Greer. The law requires a majority of the membership of the Board for passage; therefore, four votes are required to pass any question before the Board.

Approval of agenda:

Director Seifert asked that an overnight, educational field trip for Harpeth High School be added as item 10-D under New Business. Chairman Breen asked if there were any other changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Scott made a motion, seconded by Thomas to approve the printed agenda, with the addition of item 10-D. That motion passed unanimously.

Public forum:

The public forum offers the public an opportunity to address the Board about various subjects. Breen specified that anyone wishing to address the Board must complete the Public Forum prior to speaking. There were no speakers.

Presentations and awards:

SHS history teacher Lane Miller presented a plaque to Jim Summerville, American History Project Director. Miller praised Summerville for writing the four-year Federally funded grant to teach American History in the Tennessee Heartland. Miller commented that it was rewarding for the teachers to be at the places history was made. Summerville thanked Director Seifert and the Board for their support.

Reports: None

Hearing of delegations: None

Consent agenda:

Items are placed on the consent agenda that are routine and do not require discussion. Chairman Breen asked if there was an item any Board Member wished to pull for separate consideration. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A) Approval of minutes: July 7, 2008
- B) Approval for tenure: None
- C) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials: None
- D) School fees:
 - 1) CHS Principal Leavitt granted approval of 2008-09 fees:
\$20.00 Art
 - 2) HHS Principal Simpkins granted approval of 2008-09 fees:
\$ 5.00 Locker
\$10.00 Parking permit
 - 3) SHS Principal Ray granted approval of 2008-09 fees:
\$100.00 Advanced Placement History
- E) Field trips: None
- F) School/Principal request: None
- G) Early graduation request: None
- H) Committees: None

Budget and Finance: None

Old business:

A) Scott made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, and carried unanimously to revise on second reading Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment. The last sentence of item 8 shall read: *Any approval by the school board for such a transfer shall only be effective through the current school year, with this revision on August 4, 2008.*

New business:

- A) Request/appeal for child to attend school out-of-zone – names are withheld due to privacy:
 - 1) Greer made a motion, seconded by Scott, to uphold the committee's decision and allow student 2008-10 to attend SMS, zoned CMS. Chairman Breen noted that according to policy, this is for only one year, and must be renewed for each additional year. That motion carried unanimously.

2) Scott made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, to uphold the committee's decision and deny student 2008-11 permission to attend ACE, zoned ECE. That motion passed unanimously.

B) Scott made a motion, seconded by Greer, to approve the Cheatham County Youth Basketball Association's use of the school gyms under the terms and conditions of the proposal. Discussion followed. Board members thanked those involved in preparing the document, saying they had been very cooperative and wanted to get it right. That motion passed unanimously.

C) Greer moved that due to the anticipated budget shortfall for diesel fuel, the Director of Schools shall design a diesel fuel utilization plan which will be implemented when 50% of the annual fuel budget has been depleted. This plan may also include a critical or emergency reserve, at the Director's discretion. The plan may be modified by the Director of Schools, depending upon any changes to the estimated date on which fuel will run out (price fluctuations, usage fluctuations, austerity measures, etc.). If additional funding becomes available from the County which allows sufficient fuel to run buses without jeopardy to the end of the current school year, this plan shall terminate. Any usage plan developed shall include ample and periodic notice to parents, students, and the news media. Thomas seconded the motion.

Chairman Breen noted that at the current rate, one-half of the diesel fuel budget is anticipated to be used up no later than fifty-four days after the start of school or October 30, 2008. Much discussion followed. Breen maintained this allows for a plan and gives the Director authority to implement a plan. Proffitt remarked that the Board doesn't know what the plan is and she would like to see a plan before voting. Greer stated the Director already has authority to execute, will share the plan, working with the staff prior to 50% of usage. Breen asked for a roll call vote. Voting yes were Scott, Thomas, Spiegl, Greer, and Breen. Voting no was Proffitt. Chairman Breen declared the motion passed.

D) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Thomas granting permission to HHS AP Wilson for an educational field trip to *The Bodies Exhibit* at the Cincinnati Museum in Ohio. Thirty-five students and five adults will leave by charter bus at 6:00 a.m. on Friday and return approximately 8:00 p.m. on Saturday. They will leave on August 22nd or August 29th. That motion passed unanimously.

Brief comments from Board Members:

Thomas expressed thanks to Greer and Breen for their service as a member of the School Board.

Scott said it had been a pleasure to serve with Greer and Breen, thanking them for serving and giving back to the community.

Chairman Pro Tem Spiegl revealed highlights of Breen's four years on the Board, the last two as chairman. He mentioned Breen's work with lawmakers to pass a law protecting the privacy of students; his work with the Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority and the Student Board Representatives; recognition by the Tennessee School Board's Association; and much more. Spiegl thanked Breen for his expert guidance and presented him with a plaque

that read: *Barry E. Breen In appreciation for your dedication and commitment to our educational system. We love you and are grateful for your four years of service as a member of the Cheatham County Board of Education. August 4, 2008.* Breen received a standing ovation.

Chairman Pro Tem Spiegl praised Ms. Greer for ten years of service on the School Board, the last seven as vice chairman. He commented on her amazing recall of Board issues and Board policies, speaking highly of her compassion while serving. Spiegl praised Greer's tenure, expressed thanked for her guidance, and presented her with a plaque that read: *Susan A. Greer – In appreciation for your dedication and commitment to our educational system. We love you and are grateful for your ten years of service as a member of the Cheatham County Board of Education. August 4, 2008.* Greer received a standing ovation.

Greer thanked her family for sticking with her during her ten years of service, past and present Board Members, administrators, and directors with whom she has served. She noted she was proud her children were in the Cheatham County School System from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Greer expressed her thanks for being allowed to serve.

Breen expressed thanks to the entire staff and all their support, citing Director Seifert's leadership. He stressed that Cheatham County has some of the greatest teachers.

Announcements and recognitions:

Director Seifert stated the swearing in ceremony for newly elected Board Members will be September 4th, followed by a work session. The next Board meeting will be September 8th.

Seifert distributed school audit reports to Board Members.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Chairman Breen adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Submitted by
Carol F. Cannon

Chris Spiegl, Chairman Pro Tem

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools