

MINUTES
Called Meeting

Cheatham County Board of Education
February 19, 2008

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in a special called meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2008, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairman Barry Breen called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Moment of silence: led by Mr. Breen

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mr. Breen

Roll call:

Chairman Breen announced that First District Board Member Jackie Kemp delivered her letter of resignation on February 12, 2008, effective immediately. Breen stated it had been a joy working with her, adding she was a well-balanced business minded individual with an attention to detail. He asked that Ms. Kemp's original letter become a part of the minutes.

Breen advised that School Board Attorney Rob Wheeler stated that until someone is appointed, the majority of the membership of the Board for passage would be three votes.

Present were Barry Breen, Susan Greer, Dianne Proffitt, Chris Spiegl, and Rickey Thomas.

Approval of agenda:

Greer Made a motion, seconded by Thomas, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

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 form prior to speaking. There were no speakers.

Old business:

A) Breen stated the request by Misty Glenn, with the Coordinated School Health Program, to conduct a Youth Risk Behavior Survey with middle school students was tabled December 3, 2007 with a motion by Thomas and second by Greer. During the February 4, 2008 Board meeting, presiding Chairman Greer stated the Board was not ready to act on the request.

Proffitt made a motion, seconded Spiegl to bring from the table the request to conduct a Youth Risk Behavior Survey with middle school students. That motion passed unanimously.

Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Spiegl granting permission for Misty Glenn, with Coordinated School Health Programs, to conduct a Youth Risk Behavior Survey with middle school students. Discussion followed. It was noted that Ms. Glenn will explain and conduct the survey, parents will be notified, either parents or students may opt out, and this survey will assess the wellness and health of the students giving the board good data. This survey is required by the State and must be completed by the end of the school year. The motion passed unanimously.

B) Chairman Breen said, if there were no objections, he would suspend the rules to allow for discussion of the five-year plan. At the February 4, 2008 Board meeting, Third District Commissioner and Education Committee Chairman John-Paul Wood gave a detailed power point presentation of the five-year capital expenditure plan and Ms. Seifert distributed additional information. Following much discussion and failed motions, Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Kemp, and passed to review the plan at the February 12, 2008 Board work session.

Much discussion followed. Greer believes the plan is a result of sound data. Seifert distributed the June 15, 2006 Board's revision of the five-year plan and the minutes of the February 28, 2006 Education Committee meeting and reviewed those. Proffitt noted the planner predicted increase in enrollment at Pleasant View Elementary will be the umbrella of the balloon. She noted the elementary school is land locked and feels it should be the immediate concern, not the high school. Seifert stated she hoped the Board could reach a consensus or present two separate plans for consideration by the commission – not send a plan that all Board Members are not comfortable with. The vocational additions at Sycamore High and Harpeth High would alleviate transporting students to Cheatham High. It was noted there is not an easy decision.

Greer made a motion to revise the Board's five year plan by accepting and incorporating the Planning Committee's recommendations as presented previously by Mr. Wood. However, the revision is also to include the build-out of a new elementary school by 2011 and any necessary purchase of property for that purpose with a request that the planning committee take up discussions on that matter as well as the potential for a redefined north cluster. Further, the revision to the five year plan will incorporate the new replacement schedule for HVAC equipment and facility roofs. The revised plan will be forwarded to the Commission for consideration. After asking if there was anything any Board Member wished to add to the motion, Spiegl seconded the motion.

Discussion was extensive in formulating the above motion with ideas from all Board members. Proffitt stated her opposition to the plan as presented by the planning committee because it included the build-out of a new high school in the north cluster rather than an elementary school. Build-out of an elementary school was added to motion by Greer, and accepted by other Board members, as a result of Proffitt's voiced concern. Chairman Breen attempted to develop a compromise solution in order to gain unanimity. Breen asked for a roll call vote. Voting yes were Thomas, Spiegl, Greer, and Breen. Proffitt voted no. Chairman Breen declared the motion passed.

C) Greer made a motion, seconded by Spiegl to purchase Transportation and Planning Software from VersaTrans to be utilized beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. This item was discussed at the February 4, 2008 Board meeting, but it was not known where the

approximately \$39,000 would be found. Seifert stated the money would come from the teacher line item – several teachers with many years experience and Master’s degrees have been replaced by teachers with Bachelor’s degrees and less experience. Discussion followed. Breen declared the motion passed with Thomas voting no.

D, E, F) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Thomas to approve Board Policies 2.404, 1.1021, and 6.312 on second reading. Each passed first reading on February 4, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Board Policy 2.404, School Support Organizations. The policy became necessary due to new state laws for support organizations that do not run their finances through the school books.

Revise Board Policy 1.021, Student Board Representatives. This would change the SBR tenure to be July – June and be elected in April.

Revise Board Policy 6.312, Use of Personal Communication Devices in School. Effective with the 2008-2009 school year, upon entering the school bus or building, the device must be deactivated and put away.

New business:

A) Transportation Director Wilson was asked to explain the bus bids. He noted three large buses and three mini buses were scheduled to be purchased, but he is recommending purchase of one large bus with an undercarriage, two mini buses with the capacity for three wheel chairs, and one mini bus with the capacity for two wheel chairs. He stated the three wheel chair capacity would alleviate double runs, beneficial for community based training, and could be utilized for extra-curricular activities. When questioned, Wilson stated regular buses must be on a twelve year rotation and mini buses on a fifteen year rotation.

Thomas made a motion, seconded by Greer to approve the purchase of one large bus with an undercarriage, two mini buses with a three wheel chair capacity, and one mini bus with a two wheel chair capacity from Company B. The motion passed unanimously.

Brief comments from Board Members:

Spiegl said he would miss the next Board meeting and apologized for his absence. Director Seifert announced that Mr. Spiegl would be in Costa Rica for two weeks thanks to a Toyota International Teacher’s Grant. He was congratulated and asked to give the Board a report on his return.

Announcements and recognitions:

Some Board Members will attend TSBA’s Day on the Hill on February 26, 2008.

A work session is scheduled for February 28, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be March 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Chairman Breen adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by
Carol F. Cannon

Barry E. Breen, Board Chairman

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools