

MINUTES

Cheatham County Board of Education
June 2, 2008

Call to order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2008, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Vice Chairman Susan Greer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Moment of silence: led by Mr. Scott

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mr. Scott

Roll call:

Present were Kurt Scott, Rickey Thomas, Dianne Proffitt, Chris Spiegl, and Susan Greer. Absent was Barry Breen. 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:

Vice Chairman Greer asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, she entertained a motion. Scott made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to approve the agenda as presented. That motion passed unanimously by those members present.

Public forum:

The public forum offers the public an opportunity to address the Board about various subjects. Greer specified that anyone wishing to address the Board must complete the Public Forum form prior to speaking. Michael Adcock appealed to the Board for an easement to property he purchased behind Cheatham County Central High School. Willa Garrett, Ft. Campbell liaison officer, thanked the Board and Ms. Seifert for being partners in education to help minimize challenges for students changing schools.

Presentations and awards:

A) Director Seifert announced the winners of the 4th grade spelling contest. Vice Chairman Greer presented them with certificates and medals.

- 1st place – Ayla Patton, ECE – absent
- 2nd place - Emily Hickerson, PES
- 3rd place - Dylan Parchman, WCE – absent

B) Two students from each high school represented the county at the March 7, 2008 TSBA Student Congress on Policies in Education (SCOPE). Sponsor Wayne Darrow gave a brief

overview of the student's role and ways they have been instrumental in changing policies and laws. Director Seifert congratulated the following who were presented certificates by Vice Chairman Greer:

- Chandler Nichols, CHS – absent
- Bailey Ragsdale, CHS – absent
- Joseph Diate, HHS – absent
- Karissa Senn, HHS – absent
- Chase Newman, SHS
- Cara Shivers, SHS – absent
- Wayne Darrow, CHS - sponsor

C) HMS Assistant Principal McCarthy said students from the 8th Grade Horizon Enrichment Class at HMS participated in the YMCA Youth in Government, Middle School Youth Legislation at the Tennessee State Capitol. Student Clay Weaver displayed incredible leadership skills while competing against students from other schools and was able to debate and amend many bills presented. Clay received the Youth Legislation Award for Outstanding Delegate. Vice Chairman Greer congratulated Clay, who was absent, and asked Ms. McCarthy to deliver his certificate.

D) Little Kids Rock is dedicated to bringing free musical instruments with teacher accountability to public school children throughout the United States. Little Kids Rock inspires children to express themselves through music, building the creativity, confidence, and self-esteem that are critical to success in school and beyond. ACE music teacher LaNaye Pearson attended a workshop at Vanderbilt in November 2007 and started an after school group in December.

Pearson submitted songs written by eight of the students for nationwide competition. Only thirty 1st place winners were selected and won a full sized acoustic guitar with a gig bag – six from Pearson's group won: Georgia Evans, Lauren Hawkins, Katie Lewis, Anna Person, Deanna Pippin, and Nick Rogers. Cameron Carroll won second place and received guitar supplies. Only twenty grand prize winners were selected to receive a Fender electric guitar with a gig bag and an amplifier – Will Murphy was one of the winners.

Pearson showed a video clip from the Channel 4 newscast earlier in the evening about this Little Kids Rock group. The group performed one song. Vice Chairman Greer presented certificates to each student for their outstanding accomplishments and to Pearson for her outstanding leadership.

- Brandon Allen – absent
- Christian Buhler
- Cameron Carroll
- Georgia Evans
- Lauren Hawkins
- Samuel Hutton
- Katie Lewis
- Marie Morrow – absent
- Will Murphy

Anna Person
Deanna Pippin
Nick Rogers
LeNaye Pearson, Instructor

Reports:

A) Gary Curtis, Kaatz, Binkley, Jones, and Morris Architects, gave a report on the CCCHS renovation project. Proffitt had visited the site and expressed several concerns. Maintenance Director Dority was also on hand to answer questions and clarify that some of the concerns were actually not in the scope of the renovation project, but were being addressed through the school system's maintenance staff. Director Seifert, Mr. Curtis, and Mr. Dority all strongly encouraged board members or anyone that had concerns regarding the CCCHS renovation, to promptly report the concerns to Ms. Seifert so that a coordinated effort could be made to address any problems in a timely manner. Director Seifert stated the Board Members plan to tour the building prior to the Board's June 12th meeting.

Hearing of delegations: None

Consent agenda:

Items are placed on the consent agenda that are routine and do not require discussion. Vice Chairman Greer asked if there was an item any Board Member wished to pull for separate consideration. Hearing none, she entertained a motion. Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, and passed unanimously by those present to approve the agenda as printed.

A) Approval of minutes: May 5, 2008

B) Approval for tenure:

ECE - Melissa Barr
ECE - Shana Harrison
ECE - Beverly Jordan
PVE - Crystal Cummings
SMS - Matt Clark
SMS - Jennifer Lamb
SHS - Jill Frost
SHS - Amy Harvison
SHS - Betsy Huffman
SHS - Mary Maxwell
SHS - Michael Rochelle
SHS - Andrea Van Vleet
ACE - Jenny Lockerman
WCE - Cynthia Diane Lytle
CMS - Kema Williams

CHS - Theresa Chandler
CHS - Chris Dawson
CHS - Michael Jackson
CHS - Stephanie Vlahos
CHS - Nora Wolthers
KSE - Melissa Hardesty
PES - Lori Johnson
PES - Beth Roysden
HMS - Tonya Chase
HMS - Elizabeth Davis
HMS - Allison Johnson
HMS - Michelle Scott
SHS - Gayla Paul

The following tenured personnel returned to Cheatham County and served a one-year probationary period per Board Policy 5.117:

SHS - Mary Jo Holmes
SHS - Dawn Wenning
SHS - Steve Wenning
CHS - Steve Cothran

C) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials:

- 1) WCE Principal Raymer granted permission to discard the following irreparable items: 8 CPUs, 7 monitors, and 6 printers
- 2) KSE Principal Dorris granted permission to dispose of the following irreparable items: 4 printers, 3 keyboards, 1 monitor, 2 VCR, 1 VCR tape, 26 CDs, and 28 library books

D) School fees: None

E) Field trips:

- 1) HHS Principal Simpkins granted permission for the band to travel to Kentucky Kingdom in Louisville, Kentucky, on May 27, 2008. Eighty students and twelve adults will travel by chartered bus.
- 2) SHS Principal Newton granted permission for the dance team to attend dance camp in Florida – July 19th – July 26th, 2008. The coach and three parents will attend and provide transportation for the sixteen students.
- 3) HHS Principal Simpkins granted permission for the wrestling team to participate in a wrestling tournament at St. Charles High School, St. Charles, Missouri. The twenty students and coach will depart by charter bus at 6:00

a.m. on Friday, January 16, 2009, and return at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 18, 2009.

F) School/Principal request: None

G) Early Graduation Request: None

H) Committees: None

Budget and Finance:

A) Thomas made a motion, seconded by Scott, and carried unanimously by those Board Members present to approve the budget amendments that are within a major category and require only Board approval. Greer noted these amendments were discussed at the recent work session.

B) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Scott, and passed unanimously by those members present to approve the budget amendments that are between major categories and must be forwarded to the County Commission for approval. Greer stated these amendments were discussed at the recent work session.

Old business:

Thomas made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to approve on second reading the policies listed in items A – I as presented. Greer commented the policies passed on first reading May 5, 2008 and have been discussed at several work sessions. That motion passed unanimously by those members present.

A) Adopt Board Policy 6.2061, Unsafe School Choice. This policy insures that all staff, parents, and students are aware of their rights and responsibilities. This was a compliance issue addressed by the Federal Monitors.

B) Revise Board Policy 1.200, Method of Election of Officers. Neither the current Chairman nor Vice Chairman is seeking re-election. This revision will allow a Chairman pro tem to be elected, assume, and fulfill all duties and responsibilities of the chairperson from September 1 until a Chairman and Vice-Chair are elected.

C) Revise Board Policy 1.803, Tobacco-Free Schools. Greer stated this prohibits the use of tobacco products on all of the school district's property, not just in the facilities.

D) Revise Board Policy 5.100, Personnel Goals.

E) Revise Board Policy 5.109, Evaluation.

F) Revise Board Policy 5.113, In-Service and Staff Development Opportunities.

- G) Revise Board Policy 5.205, Retirement.
- H) Revise Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment.
- I) Revise Board Policy 6.208, Release During School Hours.

New Business:

A) Vice Chairman Greer explained that when a Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority decision is appealed, the Board has three options based on the evidence presented: grant a new hearing, reverse or lessen the penalty, or the SDHA decision will stand if there is no motion by the Board.

Greer asked if a Board Member wished to grant a new hearing. No one spoke. Greer asked if there was a motion to reverse or lessen the penalty handed down by the SDHA for the SMS student. Hearing none, Vice Chairman Greer declared the decision of the Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority for the SMS student is upheld.

B) Vice Chairman Greer said several parents have appealed for their child to attend school out-of-zone for the 2008-2009 school year. She stated that each of these appeals have been addressed by a committee who has made recommendations to the Board. Greer cautioned Board Members about the privacy and confidentiality of the information and asked that each student be addressed only by their initials.

- Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Scott for R.R. to attend SMS (zoned CMS) as requested. Thomas amended the motion, seconded by Scott to grant the appeal for R.R. to complete middle school at SMS and return to the student's zoned school for high school. That amendment passed. Greer asked for a vote on the amended motion that would allow R.R. to attend SMS but return to the zoned high school. That motion passed.
- Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Scott to deny the request for C.R. to attend SMS out-of-zone (zoned CMS). That motion passed by those present and C.R. will attend CMS as zoned.
- Scott made a motion, seconded by Proffitt for K.C. to attend ECE (zoned WCE). Discussion followed. The motion failed, and KC will attend WCE as zoned.
- Thomas made a motion, seconded by Proffitt for J.C. to attend PES (zoned KSE) as requested and recommended by the committee. Some discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously by those present and J.C. will attend PES.
- Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Scott for R.N. to attend HMS (zoned CMS) as requested. Thomas amended the motion, seconded by Spiegl for R.N. to attend out-of-zone through middle school, then return to the student's zoned high school. The amendment to the motion passed unanimously by those present. Greer asked for a vote on the amended motion that would allow R.N. to attend HMS through middle school and return to the student's zoned high school. The amended motion passed unanimously by those present.

- Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Thomas to allow D.D. to attend HHS (zoned CHS) as requested and recommended by the committee. Some discussion followed and Greer stressed that if the request is approved, coaches must abide by all TSSAA rules and regulations. The motion passed unanimously by those present.
- Thomas made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to deny the request for L.J. to attend WCE (zoned ACE). Discussion followed and it was noted the older sibling attending WCE next year was “grandfathered in”. Vice Chairman Greer declared the motion failed. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Scott to allow L.J. to attend WCE, if space is available, for the 2008-2009 school year with the older sibling and returned to the student’s zoned school the following year when the sibling advances to middle school. That motion passed unanimously by those Board Members present.
- Scott made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to uphold the decision of the committee and deny the request for S.S. to attend PES (zoned ACE). That motion passed unanimously by those members present and S.S. will attend ACE as zoned.

C) Thomas made a motion, seconded by Scott, and carried unanimously by those present to grant the request by Pre-K Supervisor Adams for Pre-K teacher assistants with TECTA certification to receive a \$2.00 per day salary increase. That motion passed unanimously by those members present.

D) Scott made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, and carried unanimously by those present to approve the Mass Care Shelter Agreement with the Nashville Area Chapter, American Red Cross. This agreement allows the Red Cross to use the Board’s buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care shelters required to conduct Red Cross Disaster Services activities.

E) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Thomas, and carried unanimously by those Board Members present to accept the \$7,500.00 offered by North Crest Medical Center for the .22 acres in Pleasant View. This action will provide legal documentation for the deed.

Brief comments from Board Members: None

Announcements and recognitions:

Director Seifert stated that three new principals have been selected:

- Dr. Betty Steen for Ashland City Elementary
- Jill Bramble for Kingston Springs Elementary
- Tim Ray for Sycamore High School

Vice Chairman Greer announced a called Board meeting to vote on a preliminary budget for June 12, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Prior to the meeting the Board Members and anyone else interested will tour the CCCHS renovation project.

Director Seifert said the next training for perspective Board Members will be at 6:00 p.m. on June 10th.

Vice Chairman Greer congratulated Paulette Cothorn on her retirement and thanked her for her many years of service.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Greer adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Submitted by
Carol F. Cannon

Susan A. Greer, Vice Chairman

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools