

## MINUTES

Cheatham County Board of Education

August 6, 2007

### Call to order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 6, 2007 in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairman Barry Breen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and asked Ms. Kemp to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, following a moment of silence.

### Roll call:

Present were Barry Green, Susan Greer, Jackie Kemp, Dianne Proffitt, Chris Spiegl, and Rickey Thomas (arrived at 7:07). 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:

Chairman Breen asked if any Board Member wished to make a change to the printed agenda. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Greer, and carried unanimously by those present to approve the agenda as printed. Thomas was not present for this vote.

### 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. SHS band director Linden Lantz, band student Matt Thompson, and band student Emily Anderson informed the Board about the band's activities and their recent two-day Leadership Conference workshop. Lantz strongly believes the Leadership Conference is for life, not just for school. The band's new leadership mission statement is: *We, the proud members of the Sycamore High School War Eagle Band Leadership Committee, will achieve unity through complete cooperation, respect, commitment, and communication. Our goals as a membership are to passionately entertain while capturing the finesse of the performing arts. Ultimately, we will focus on developing our skills and growing as a family. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Breen congratulated the band.*

Jamie Morse, HHS teacher with twenty-five years experience, pleaded with the Board to retain the three points added to semester grades as a reward for perfect attendance. This is

in reference to the proposed revision of Board Policy 6.200, Attendance. She cited the late hour for the change, stressing the three points would be an incentive and beneficial to the “regular” student.

#### Presentations and Awards:

Chairman Breen announced that Rita Herndon has been asked to serve on the Governor’s Task Force for Alternatives Schools.

Director Seifert displayed a photo of Chairman Breen with Governor Phil Bredesen, Senator Rosalind Kurita, and Representative Philip Johnson. The photo was taken following the Governor’s signing the law allowing students to appeal Student Disciplinary Hearings decisions behind closed doors. Breen saw a need at a Board meeting to protect a minor’s privacy and spear-headed a drive to change the law. The law became effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Reports:

A) Director Seifert reported the sprinkler bids at CCCHS have been opened and other parts of the renovation project are ready for bid. She stressed that much planning is being finished and the actual work will begin about September 1<sup>st</sup>.

B) WCES Principal Raymer proudly announced they were in their building following renovation and new additions, but waiting on library furniture. On behalf of the community, she thanked all the “powers that be” for the enlarged and renovated building. Seifert stated the certificate of occupancy was received Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

C) Transportation Committee Chairman Proffitt stated the committee met on July 10, 2007 in a special called meeting, with minutes included in the Board’s packet. She noted Transportation Director Wilson asked for the meeting in regards to route changes.

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 on the Consent Agenda that any Board Member wished to pull for separate consideration. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Greer made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

A) Approval of minutes: July 2, 2007

B) Approval for tenure: None

C) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials: None

D) School fees:

1) PES Principal Barrow granted approval of 07-08 fees:

\$ 5.00	K-4 Tech
\$ 2.00	K-4 P.E.
\$ 6.00	K-4 T-shirt
\$37.00	Classroom fees

2) HMS Principal Schliwa granted approval of 07-08 fees:

\$ 7.00	Band
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3) CHS Principal Leavitt granted approval of 07-08 fees:

\$ 5.00	Lockers
\$ 7.00	Planners
\$15.00	FACS
\$10.00	Drama

E) Field trips: None

F) School/Principal request: None

G) Early Graduation Request: None

H) Committees: None

Budget and Finance: None

Old Business:

A) Kemp made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, and passed unanimously to bring from the table (tabled June 4, 2007 on second reading) Board Policy 6.312, Use of Personal Communication Devices.

Greer made a motion, seconded by Spiegl to amend the proposed revision to Board Policy 6.312, Personal Communication Devices, by substituting the revised policy from the Board work session. The Board will review the policy after the first semester. The motion to amend Board Policy 6.312, Use of Personal Communication Devices, passed unanimously.

Chairman Breen asked Policy Committee Chairman Jones to read the amended revision of Board Policy 6.312. Breen asked for a vote on second reading of the amended revision of Board Policy 6.312, Personal Communication Devices. That motion passed unanimously. Director Seifert stated a copy of the revised policy would be distributed to each student this week. Breen confirmed it would be on the website and a copy sent to the media.

Proffitt made a motion to revise on second reading Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment. Spiegl seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. Much discussion followed, noting that currently only five students are affected.

Kemp made a motion, seconded by Greer to amend the revision of Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment. The amended policy would read in part: *Students whose parent or legal guardian is an employee of the Cheatham County School System may attend a school other than their assigned school.* Discussion followed. When questioned, Seifert stated she recommends this change. Chairman Breen requested a roll call vote on the amendment to the policy. Voting yes were Kemp, Proffitt, Spiegl, Greer, and Breen. Thomas voted no. Breen declared the amendment to the motion passed.

Chairman Breen asked for a vote on second reading of the revision of Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment, as amended. That motion carried with Thomas voting no. The policy will be reviewed no later than January.

New business:

A) Kemp made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to revise Board Policy 6.319, Alternative School Programs. The revised portion would read: *Attendance in alternative school programs shall be mandatory and students attending an alternative school will ride a bus to and from the alternative school (exceptions may be made by the Director of Schools).* Discussion followed. When questioned, Cheatham Academy Director Herndon stated the change would alleviate problems before and after school when students are on campus without supervision. Herndon added that buses currently come to the location with Plus 2 students; therefore, there would be no extra financial cost.

Kemp made a motion, seconded by Spiegl to declare an emergency situation due to the beginning of school and accept this revision of Board Policy 6.319, Alternative School Programs, on first reading. That motion passed unanimously.

There being no further discussion, Breen called for a vote on the revision of Board Policy 6.319, Alternative School Programs, that has been declared an emergency situation and will become effective with passage on first reading. That motion passed unanimously.

B) Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Kemp, and carried unanimously to revise on first reading Board Policy 1.403, Agendas. The policy will be presented for second reading September 10, 2007.

C) Proffitt made a motion to approve on second reading Board Policy 6.200, Attendance. Board Policy #1.600, Policy Development and Adoption, reads in part: The Board's approval of the proposal or return for study and/or further revision shall constitute the first reading. This was accomplished during the July 19<sup>th</sup> and July 24<sup>th</sup> work session. Seifert noted the policy deals with time-for-time and removing the three points now given students for perfect attendance. Chairman Breen declared the motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Thomas made a motion to revise Board Policy 6.200, Attendance, to delete time-for-time, students cannot make up absences, and award students three points for **perfect** (the only exception would be a school approved field trip) attendance. Greer seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. Discussion followed.

Kemp made a motion to table revision on Board Policy 6.200, Attendance, stating it was too late, with school in session, to make changes to this policy. Greer seconded the motion. Chairman Breen declared the motion passed with Proffitt voting no.

D) Thomas made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to approve the Mass Care Shelter Agreement with the Nashville Area Chapter, American Red Cross. Seifert stated this agreement would allow the Red Cross to use the Board's building, grounds, and equipment to conduct disaster services, should there be a need. The motion passed unanimously.

E) Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Greer granting permission to Harpeth High School and Wrestling Coach Ricky Woods to make a 40X40 foot addition to the existing field house on the HMS campus at 170 Harpeth View Trail. The permission to proceed is based on the following conditions: 1) required county permits are in place and stamped blueprints are on hand; 2) completed by the December 20, 2007 winter break; 3) fundraising and donations/contributions will form the basis of funds for the building project, with no county funds requested; and 4) monies shall be in place prior to commencement of the project. Coach Woods fielded Board questions and thanked them for their consideration. Greer thanked Woods for developing students through the wrestling program and for coordinating the building program. She noted that citizens have already committed to donating most of the building materials and labor. The motion carried unanimously.

F) Thomas made a motion, seconded by Spiegl to approve a contract with Lynn E. Seifert as Director of School for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2012. Chairman Breen reviewed the contract and stated the board attorney indicated that all provisions meet statutory and legal requirements. Discussion followed. Greer stated the contract had both checks and balances. Kemp and Proffitt questioned and commented on the twenty-four month or less buy-out clause. Chairman Breen requested a roll call vote. Voting yes were Spiegl, Thomas, Greer, and Breen. Voting no were Proffitt and Kemp. Chairman Breen declared the motion passed.

#### Other business:

Director Seifert extended condolences to the family of Opal Shearron, longtime Pleasant View Elementary teacher and Title I Supervisor.

Director Seifert announced the retirement of Pleasant View Elementary teacher Donna Goehring following thirty-three years of service as an educator, with the last twenty-two in Cheatham County.

The Board will conduct a budget work sessions on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and a work session on August 27<sup>th</sup> in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building at 6:00 p.m. Due to the

Labor Day holiday, the next Board meeting will be September 10, 2007, at which time a vote will be taken on the budget.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Breen adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Submitted by

Carol F. Cannon

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Barry E. Breen Board Chairman

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Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools