

MINUTES

Cheatham County Board of Education
January 29, 2009

Call to Order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, January 29, 2009, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairman Chris Spiegl called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Moment of Silence: led by Mr. Horton

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mr. Horton

Roll Call:

Present were Michele Collins, Tim Williamson, Gregory Horton, Dianne Proffitt, Chris Spiegl, and Tammie Lavender. 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 Spiegl asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Williamson made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as printed.

Public Forum:

The public forum offers the public an opportunity to address the Board about various issues. Spiegl specified that anyone wishing to address the Board must complete the Public Forum form prior to speaking. The chairman stated he would call the individuals in the order he received their request. He asked each to please abide by the three minute time limit when speaking. The following individuals spoke:

- Brad Causey regarding Sycamore High School
- Mike Zumbrunnen regarding Sycamore High School
- Dr. Dan McNally regarding Harpeth High School Drumline field trips
- Edythe Carroll-Moss regarding Harpeth High School Drumline field trips
- Angel Gabbard regarding Sycamore High School
- Kayla Zumbrunnen regarding Sycamore High School
- Clayton Weaver regarding Harpeth High School Drumline field trips
- Abbey Francis regarding Harpeth High School Drumline field trips

Presentations and Awards:

A) The following students had the highest scores for the Gateway and End-of-Course tests for the 2008 fall semester and were presented certificates by Chairman Spiegl and Vice-Chairman Proffitt:

Gateway , Algebra I – scored 54 out of a possible 62
Jeremy Thomas Brown, SHS - absent

Gateway, English 2 – scored 53 out of a possible 62

Aeron Wayne Bess, CCCHS

Caylyn Brooks Collier, CCCHS - absent

Megan Danielle Nicholson, CCCHS - absent

Gateway, Biology 1 – scored 54 out of a possible 62

Hollie Noel West, SHS

End-of-Course, English 1 – scored 49 out of a possible 60

Anna Claire Robinson, HHS - absent

End-of-Course, U S History – scored 49 out of a possible 60

Brendan James Felts, HHS - absent

Kelsey Austin Scott, HHS

B) The EXPLORE is the first part of testing that continues and includes PLAN in the tenth grade and ACT during the junior or senior year. All three tests are in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. The composite score range for the EXPLORE test is 1 to 25.

The following students had the highest scores for the EXPLORE:

Jonathan Keith Farley, CMS-scored 20 - Absent

Felicia Diane Gaston, CMS-scored 21

Leif Michael Templeton, CMS-scored 21

Alexis Faith Bradley, HMS-scored 22

Stephen Andrew Davison, HMS-scored 21 - Absent

Rachel Marie Dufresne, HMS-scored 20

Lydia Pearl Gleaves, HMS-scored 23 - Absent

Rachel Renee Leonard, HMS-scored 21

Kelley Marie Miller, HMS-scored 21 - Absent

Sarah Ann Murrell, HMS-scored 21

Chandler Mark Oakley, HMS-scored 22 - Absent

Jacob Mark Parrish, HMS-scored 20 - Absent

Isa Remon Richard, HMS-scored 20

Sam Clay Sneed, HMS-scored 20 - Absent

Spencer Braden Bell, SMS-scored 22

Derek Randall Bush, SMS-scored 22

Alexandria Nicole Damer, SMS-scored 20 - Absent

Zachary Andrew Kurilich, SMS-scored 20

Evie Anna McNeese, SMS-scored 22

Jeffery Dale Moody, SMS-scored 21

Ryan Marlon Shivers, SMS-scored 22 - Absent

Emily Amanda Fox, SMS-scored 23 - Absent

Sable Gabriele Gudino, SMS-scored 21

Jeffery Tyler Harris, SMS-scored 21

Erin Elizabeth Magee, SMS-scored 21 - Absent

MacKenzie Brianna McNeese, SMS-scored 20

Tanner Rex Pritchett, SMS-scored 21

Austin Staton, SMS-scored 21

Reports:

A) ELL instructors Jon Kaas and Bill Seifert gave a thumbnail sketch of their services

for the county's ELL students. The Board received a progress report from Adult Education Supervisor Jones regarding In-House Suspension (IHS).

B) Middle School Supervisor Williams presented a power point presentation reflecting the EXPLORE tests and results.

C) Gary Curtis of Kaatz, Binkley, Jones, and Morris Architects gave a capsule view of the Cheatham County Central High Schools renovation project, saying the job was 75% complete.

D) Director Seifert stated that due to the precarious economy, she did not wish a merit pay tied to her 2008-2009 evaluation. The Board will discuss this issue at a work session.

Hearing of delegations: None

Consent agenda:

Items are placed on the consent agenda that are routine and do not require discussion. Chairman Spiegl asked if there was an item any Board Member wished to pull for separate consideration. Proffitt asked that item E, field trips, be pulled for separate consideration. Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Horton to approve the consent agenda with item E pulled for separate consideration. Chairman Spiegl declared the motion passed with Lavender voting no.

A) Minutes approved: December 1, 2008 and January 8, 2009

B) Approval for tenure: None

C) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials:

1) ECES Principal Young granted permission to dispose of the following irreparable/obsolete items: 8 computer monitors, 3 computers, 1 printer, 1 Califone cassette recorder

2) Vocational Director Lockert granted permission to dispose of the paint booth at Cheatham Vocational Building. Estimated value – over \$250.00

D) School fees: None

E) Field trips: pulled for separate consideration

F) School/Principal request: None

G) Early Graduation Request: None

H) Committees/Appointments: None

E) Field trips:

Chairman Spiegl asked if there was a motion to discuss the field trip items separately. Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Williamson, and carried unanimously to discuss the three requested field trips separately.

1) Much discussion ensued due to the request for field trips that would allow more than one consecutive day of school to be missed. Horton questioned how academics are involved with the cheerleader competition. Collins noted the students have reached a rare pinnacle to be in the cheerleading competition, stating the kids will long remember this trip. Proffitt referred to Board Policy 4.302, Field Trips and Excursions, as her reason for pulling the items for separate consideration. The policy states that field trips should not cause students to be away from school for more than one consecutive school day. Proffitt agreed it was a rare opportunity for the children and she is not against field trips, but remarked that repeatedly the Board is asked to approve trips for more than one consecutive day. She said there must be a compromise – abide by the policy or change the policy. Lavender suggested revising the policy and to consider tying academics to the policy before allowing a student to make such a trip. The policy will be discussed in a work session.

Proffitt called for the question. Williamson made a motion, seconded by Horton to approve the request by SHS Principal Ray for the cheerleading team to attend the National High School Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, Florida. The fifteen students and 2 adults will leave by plane on Thursday, February 5, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. and return Monday, February 9, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. Three days of school will be missed. Chairman Spiegl declared the motion passed with Proffitt voting no.

2) Horton made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to approve the request by HHS Principal Simpkins for the Winter Drumline to attend a competition in Indianapolis, Indiana. Twenty-five students, two teachers, and chaperones will depart HHS at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2009, and depart from Indianapolis late Sunday, March 8, 2009. No school will be missed. The motion passed unanimously.

3) Horton made a motion, seconded by Lavender to approve the request by HHS Principal Simpkins for the Winter Drumline to attend a competition in Dayton, Ohio. Twenty-five students and four teachers will depart HHS Wednesday, April 15, 2009, and depart from Dayton late Sunday, April 19, 2009. Students would miss two days of school. Proffitt maintained that the Board has a policy stating no more than one consecutive school day should be missed for field trips and that would not be followed by granting this request. Spiegl declared the motion passed with Proffitt voting no.

Budget and finance: none

Old business:

A) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Collins, and carried unanimously to revise on second reading Board Policy 1.1021, Student Board Representatives. Page one, line 22 shall read:

Recommended qualifications for the SBR from each regular high school are as follows:

B) Lavender made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to revise on second reading Board Policy 1.104, Memberships. The third paragraph would read: *Dues for membership in the AdvancED shall be included in the annual budget as well as sufficient funds required to conform to standards set by the organization.*

Williamson moved to amend the motion by deleting: *as well as sufficient funds required to conform to standards set by the organization* – because he felt it was writing a blank check. Horton seconded the amendment saying the Board must abide by the standards set or lose accreditation. Spiegl feared by striking those words the schools would pay dues and not do due diligence required to conform to standards set by the organization. He said the change in wording could be used to cut budgetary items. Horton called for the question. Horton called a point of order. The amendment to the motion passed with Spiegl and Lavender voting no.

Chairman Spiegl asked for a vote on the amended motion with the third paragraph reading: *Dues for membership in the AdvancEd shall be included in the annual budget.* That motion passed with Spiegl voting no.

C) Horton made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to revise on second reading Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment. Page two, item 7 shall read:

7. All other out-of-zone situations require the parent(s) to complete a request/appeal for the child(ren) to attend out-of-zone, which must be submitted to the Director of Schools. The request/appeal will be considered by a request/appeal committee which will consist of: 1) a chairperson; 2) a health services representative; 3) a special education personnel; and 4) a representative from each school involved. The committee will meet each month as necessary. If the decision of the committee is not agreeable for the parent(s), a written request to review the decision of the committee can be submitted to the Director of Schools within ten (10) business days. If the decision of the Director of Schools is not agreeable, the parent or guardian can appeal in writing to the Board of Education within ten (10) business days. Any out-of-zone approved request/appeal approved by the committee, the Director of Schools, or the Board of Education shall only be effective through the current school year.

Williamson moved to amend the motion by striking the following: *a written request to review the decision of the committee can be submitted to the Director of Schools within ten (10) business days. If the decision of the Director of Schools is not agreeable.* Proffitt seconded the amendment. Horton noted that any issue which can't be handled by the Director will be brought before the Board. Lavender called for the question and asked for a roll call vote. Voting yes was Williamson. Voting no were Lavender, Collins, Horton, Proffitt, and Spiegl. Chairman Spiegl declared the amendment failed.

Chairman Spiegl asked for a vote on second reading to the revision of Board Policy 6.205, Student Assignment, as presented for second reading. Chairman Spiegl declared the motion passed with Williamson voting no.

According to Board Policy 1.403, Agendas, the meeting shall adjourn at 9:30 p.m. or by a majority vote the meeting may continue, but not exceed thirty (30) minutes. At 9:28 p.m.,

Horton made a motion, seconded Proffitt to extend the meeting until 10:00 p.m. That motion passed with Lavender voting no.

New business:

A) At 9:30 p.m., Chairman Spiegl declared an adjourned session, allowing for attorney client privileges.

The meeting reconvened at 9:46 p.m.

B) Horton made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to revise on first reading Board Policy 3.400, Student Transportation Management. This policy will be presented for second reading on March 2, 2009. Lengthy discussion followed. Some members stressed the need for the seniority issue to be addressed as discussed in the work session.

Proffitt moved to amend the motion by adding: *Seniority is defined within the cluster in which they currently are assigned based on the most recent date of hire for transporting students* and deleting the sentence – *Second routes already assigned will remain*. Horton seconded the motion. The amendment to the motion passed with Lavender and Spiegl voting no.

Chairman Spiegl asked for a vote on the amended motion. The amended motion passed with Spiegl voting no.

The revised Board Policy 3.400, Student Transportation Management, will be presented for second reading as follows:

The *Transportation Committee* section shall be deleted.

The first paragraph for *Bus Drivers* section shall read as follows:

The bus drivers' handbook shall be reviewed each year by the Director of School, Director of Transportation, and six bus drivers (two per cluster) elected by a vote of current bus driver at fall in-service.

Add the following as the last paragraph:

MULTIPLE ROUTES, FIELD TRIPS, AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION

Drivers and bus aides shall be assigned by cluster seniority. Seniority is defined within the cluster in which they currently are assigned based on the most recent date of hire for transporting students.

Every driver shall be given the opportunity to drive field trips and extra-curricular transportation, including but not limited to, band trips, ball games, and etc. Drivers shall be assigned by seniority within the cluster after signing up for the opportunity.

The complete list by cluster shall be exhausted before driving opportunity is offered to the next seniority person in line for multiple routes, field trips, and extra-curricular activity regardless of cluster. If no driver within the cluster can be found, a driver from outside the cluster may have the opportunity by order of seniority.

Every driver shall have one route. Every driver shall have the opportunity to receive a second route before third routes are offered.

Any exceptions to this policy must have board approval.

C) Collins made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, and carried unanimously to revise on first reading Board Policy 5.114, Personnel Records, as proposed by TSBA. Changes to “The Following guidelines shall be followed” shall read:

6. Members of the public may not obtain the home telephone number, personal cell phone number, bank account information, social security number, residential street address, or driver license information (except where driving or operating a vehicle is considered to be a part of the employee’s duties), of an employee or of the immediate family members or household members of an employee, unless release of this information is expressly authorized by the employee.

7. A record of the person inspecting and the date of inspection shall be recorded. The employee shall be notified that a request has been made and approved to inspect their personnel record and the viewer identified.

D) Collins made a motion, seconded by Williamson, and passed unanimously to approve the revised 2009-2010 school calendar. The changes were required due to TCAP testing dates.

E) Collins made a motion, seconded by Horton to approve the 2010-2011 school calendar as presented. Proffitt voiced concerns about school beginning on a Friday. The motion passed with Proffitt voting no.

Brief comments from board members: None

Announcements and recognitions:

- Beth Campbell congratulated as the Coordinated School Health Supervisor
- Board work sessions at 6:00 p.m. on February 12th and February 26th
- Next Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. on March 2, 2009

Adjourn:

Chairman Spiegl adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Submitted by:
Carol F. Cannon

Chris Spiegl, Board Chairman

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools