

MINUTES
Cheatham County Board of Education

April 6, 2009

Call to order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 6, 2009, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairman Chris Spiegl called the meeting to order at 7:04 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. Collins made a motion, seconded by Proffitt, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Public Forum:

The public form 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. SHS Coach Gary Halstead offered ideas regarding the proposal of re-zoning with regards to athletics. HHS parent Karen Newton addressed issues regarding the Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority. Cheatham County Ambulance Service Director James Gupton questioned a fifty year lease on one acre of property at Harpeth Middle School. SMS parent Kathy Brown voiced concern the local spelling contest winner did not attend the Regional Spelling Bee.

Presentations and Awards:

- A) 2008-2009 Cheatham County Teachers of the Year were recognized and congratulated:
- HHS – Dana Bates - absent
 - CHS – Peggy Pinkelton - absent
 - SHS – Jesi Seifert, System-wide high school winner
 - CMS – Joni Bowen
 - HMS – Tonya Chase
 - SMS – Lisa Ballew, System-wide middle school winner
 - ACE – Susan Milburn
 - ECE – Paula Shelton, System-wide elementary winner

KSE - Karen Hines - absent
PES – Mindy Carson - absent
PVE – Pam Reynolds - absent
WCE – Terri Gates – absent

B) The County-wide 5th – 8th grade Spelling contest winners were congratulated and received certificates:

1st Place – Eli Brown, SMS
2nd Place – Sam Davis, SMS
3rd Place – Savannah Conley, HMS - absent
4th Place – Marissa Williams, HMS
5th Place – Jonathan Farley, CMS
6th Place – Bethany Hughes, SMS – absent

Reports:

A) Adult Education Supervisor Jo Jones gave a brief report and introduced Pat Fitzhugh, Adult Ed Computer Lab instructor. Fitzhugh gave a thumbnail sketch of the program offerings and presented certificates to five adult students who completed the Micro Excel basics classes and are beginning the Micro Excel advanced class.

B) SHS students Jacob King, Rebecca Lampley, Logan Johnson, and Dillon Jones reported on the Student Council Leadership Conference they attended in Chattanooga from March 27th – 29th. They thanked the Board for allowing them to attend.

C) SHS vocational instructor Toni Hawley and a student told of the school's trip to the FFA Sate Convention in Gatlinburg – March 29th – April 1st. Ms. Hawley boasted the school received four FFA State Degrees. Hawley thanked the Board for allowing the Club to attend the convention.

D) CHS vocational students and instructors Dan Weakley and Julie Halkiades gave a presentation on their trip to the State FFA Convention in Gatlinburg – March 29th – April 1st. Weakley thanked the Board for allowing the students to attend.

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. Hearing none, he entertained a motion. Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

A) Minutes: March 2, 2009

B) Approval for tenure: None

C) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials:

1) SMS Principal Bell granted permission to dispose of the following items:
4 monitors, 4 CPUs, 1 scanner, 2 printers, 1 paper shredder, 2 overhead projectors, 100 library books

D) School fees: None

E) Field trips: None

F) School/Principal request:

1) CHS Principal Leavitt granted permission for the following students to attend American Legion Boys' State and Volunteer Girls' State May 24 – 30, 2009.

Boys' State: Hunter Hammock, Clay Cannon, Brady White –
Justin Davidson (alternate)

Girls' State: Sarah Maxey, Haley Stoever

2) SHS Principal Ray granted permission for the following students to attend American Legion Boys' State and Volunteer Girls' State May 24 – 30, 2009.

Boys' State: Logan Johnson, Shane McGee

Girls' State: Kayla Zumbrunnen, Rachel Bush

G) Early Graduation Request: None

H) Committees/Appointments: None

Budget and Finance:

A) Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Collins to approve pages 1, 3, and 4 of the budget amendments for Maintenance of Plant. That motion passed with Horton voting no.

Old business:

There was no motion to bring the following item from the table: Revise on second reading Board Policy 3.400, Student Transportation Management. The revision passed on first reading January 29, 2009. The revision was tabled March 2, 2009 on a motion by Collins, second by Proffitt, and passed unanimously. The policy revision will remain on the table.

New Business:

A) Horton made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to revise on first reading Board policy 6.502, Foreign Exchange Students, as recommended by TSBA to align with State law. This policy will be presented for second reading on May 4, 2009. Page two, second paragraph shall read:

The sponsoring individual/organization shall provide evidence to the school that the student will receive adequate financial support for the duration of his stay. Schools shall not hold fund-raising events to pay expenses incurred by exchange students.

B) Horton made a motion, seconded by Proffitt to approve the textbook adoptions for Science, chosen by teachers as required by law. This will be the selection for purchase during the next six years. Some discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

C) Collins made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and carried unanimously for ratification of the Director of Schools evaluation that was correctly carried out with Board Member participation. Horton expressed concern that only a below average score must be justified with a comment.

D) Horton made a motion, seconded by Collins to seek funding for one special education 12-passenger bus with two lifts for \$61,170.00. Proffitt questioned why the bus was being ordered at this time. The motion passed unanimously.

E) Chairman Spiegl stated the decision of the Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority for case 2008-2009#112 has been appealed. Lavender made a motion, seconded by Collins to grant a hearing before the Board. Spiegl advised that policy states the Board has three options: 1) affirm the decision of SDHA; or 2) modify the decision to a lesser penalty; or 3) grant a hearing before the Board. Much discussion followed. The motion failed

Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Horton to uphold the decision of the SDHA for case 2008-2009#112. That motion failed. Discussion followed.

Proffitt made a motion, seconded by Williamson to discuss this case at a 6:00 p.m. work session on Thursday, April 9th, followed by a called Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. for action on SDHA case #2009-2009#112 and accepting bleacher bids at SMS. That motion passed unanimously.

Brief comments from Board Members:

Horton invited anyone wishing to contact a Board Member to do so through their Board e-mail addresses.

Announcements and recognitions:

Chairman Spiegl congratulated SMS teacher Lynne Batey on her retirement following sixteen years of service in Cheatham County.

Spiegl said the following meetings are scheduled for the Board in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building:

- April 9th at 6:00 p.m. - work session
- April 9th at 7:00 p.m. – Called board meeting
- April 23rd at 6:00 p.m. – work session
- April 30th at 6:00 p.m. work session

Adjourn:

Chairman Spiegl adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by
Carol F. Cannon

Chris Spiegl, Board Chairman

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools