

MINUTES

Cheatham County Board of Education

June 1, 2009

Call to order:

The Cheatham County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, June 1, 2009, in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building. Chairperson Dianne Proffitt called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Moment of silence: led by Ms. Collins

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Ms. Collins

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:

Chairperson Proffitt asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, she entertained a motion. Collins made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Proffitt yielded the floor to Mr. Spiegl who read the statement he e-mailed to fellow Board Members the previous day: Dear Fellow Board Members: Effective immediately I am stepping down as Chairman of the Cheatham County Board of Education. The time demands and the position are such that I can not continue to serve effectively and meet those demands. I look forward to continuing to serve on the Board as vigorous representative of the fifth district and an experienced voice for the students in the entire system of Cheatham County. Thank you.

Proffitt thanked Mr. Spiegl for all the time he spent, with endeavors to the Board, and looked forward to working with him.

Public Forum:

The public forum offers the public an opportunity to address the Board about various issues. Proffitt specified that anyone wishing to address the Board must complete the Public Forum form prior to speaking. Parent Holly Rang addressed the Board regarding the Registered Sex Offenders policy. Drew Ault, former HMS band director, spoke about the fact that non-tenured teachers do not have to be given a reason for not being rehired. Barbara Cartwright addressed the bus route in the Thomasville Road/Gloria Drive area and ACT Preparation Class not being taught at CCCHS. HHS teacher Bill King expressed concern about what he considered a breach of the Board's Code of Ethics during the last Board meeting concerning the HHS canoe field trip.

Presentations and Awards:

The following were recognized and congratulated:

- A) Cheatham County 4th Grade Math contest winners were presented certificates:
 - First place – Jakob Gates, WCES - absent
 - Second place – Colt Ohde, WCES
 - Third place – Young-Rae Kim, PES

- B) Cheatham County 4th Grade Spelling bee winners were presented certificates:
 - First place – Jeralyn Johnson, ECES
 - Second place – Tristan Davenport, KSES - absent
 - Third place – Lindy Drolsum, PES

- C) Item deleted

- D) District Employee Advocacy Committee members were presented certificates:
 - ACE – Jenny Lockerman - absent
 - CMS – Brenda Craig - absent
 - ECE – Tammy McLeaf - absent
 - HHS – Rob Byrd
 - HMS – Sara Anderson - absent
 - KSE – Janice Pendergrass
 - PES – Beth Roysden - absent
 - PVE – Margaret Hampton - absent
 - SHS – Joseph Jones
 - SMS – Lisa Young
 - SMS – Carol Ann Adcock
 - WCE – Genese Wilson - absent

- E) SMS Principal Bell and teacher Jane Alexander explained Project Citizen School of Excellence, it is a grant program. Ten of the eighty-seven Tennessee teams were from SMS. Twelve teams were chosen for the next level, four (**) of those from SMS – and one of those will be chosen as the state winner to compete in Philly for the National winner.
 - 1) The Answer is Clear ** - Marcia Beasley, teacher
Jeff Moody, MacKenzie Mathews, Ryan Shivers, Brianna McNeese, Evie McNeese, Shelby Pendarvis, Michael Albright, and Auburn Lannom
 - 2) Recycle Baby Recycle ** - Carlton Odom, teacher
Waylon Stotts, Rachel Mann, Adam Jacoway, Leann Yuill, Brandon Arnold, Taylor Grimes, Nick Sharp, Jody Tuberville
 - 3) Pollution is Cruel, but Recycling is Cool! **-Jane Alexander, teacher
Tristen Denney, Dylan McGavic, Sarah Hunt, Linda Perkins, Alex Harmon, Lara Case, Sandy Angeles, Anthony Heggie
 - 4) Fit & Fun Has Begun ** - Katie Arnold, teacher
Lexi Cermak, Kirsten Edwards, Malia Krantz, Maebry McNeese, Matthew Owen, Naomi Parker, Lindsey Pfeffer, Evelyne Wingett

- 5) Playground Please – Claudette Fizer, teacher
Jacob Bell, Brett Collins, Matthew Ghergia, Landon Hogan, Randy Holladay, Robert Newton, Donovan Taylor, Colton Tingler, Justin Wood, Jack Yuill
- 6) A Healthy Variety – Claudette Fizer, teacher
Bella Badgett, Autumn Cole, Shelby Cook, Jacqueline Durr, Kaitlyn Gordon, Kara Hackett, McKenzie Hammond, Lindsey Howell, Taylor Shown, Kaylin Young
- 7) Think Inside the Block – Marcia Beasley, teacher
Alex Moran, Sable Gudino, Hayley Badgett, Erin Magee, Tyler Harris, Zack Kurilich, Emily Fox, Bethany Hughes, Erica Brown
- 8) SMS Goes Green – Katie Arnold, teacher
Sarah Ray, Danielle Bennefield, Brooklyn Hendrick, Jessie Highers, Joyce Williams, Macayla Otts, Kyle Lamotagne
- 9) Be Cool After School – Katie Arnold, teacher
Emily Vance, Brandon Waller, Brianna Rains, Eric Riddell, Austin Stansberry, Devin Nordquist
- 10) From Shame to Fame – Katie Arnold, teacher
Trace Cook, Aletia Berry, Cody Hooks, Faith Rutherford, Cameron Taylor, Sidney Day, Courtney Donald, Kane Fenters

Reports: None

Hearing of Delegations: None

Consent agenda:

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

A) Minutes approved: May 4, 2009

B) Granted tenure to the following:

Sandra Catron, Even Start
Melissa DuRard, WCE
Michele Dozier, ECE
Tonya Morris, ECE
Susan Riggan, PVE
Tiffany Heath, PVE
Tracy Gillingham, PVE
Erica Dixon, PVE
Marietta Litton, KSE
Heather Lockert, KSE
Mary Combs, KSE
Amanda Mitchell, PES
Shannon Estes, PES

Julieta McPherson, CMS
Jerry Davenport, SMS
Kim Carter, SMS
Marcia Beasley, SMS
Stan Harrington, SMS
Crystal Juechter, SMS
Linda Owen, SMS
Amanda Tupper, SMS
Aaron Turnington, SMS
Carolyn Stuart, HMS
Julie Pyrdum, HMS
Joseph Zajdel, HMS
Ryan Mark Hinkle, CHS
Douglas Lee Hungate, SHS
Tia Hurt, SHS
Joseph Edward Jones, SHS
Michael Lynn Shaw, SHS
Peter L. Prestwich, HHS
Robb Byrd, HHS
Melissa Martinez, HHS
Ed Bodnar
Tenure reinstated:
Jill Pape, PES
Victor Shelton, SHS

A) Disposal of surplus equipment/materials:

1) CHS Principal Leavitt granted permission to dispose of the following items:
1 broken plastic chair, 1 printer, 4 computers, 5 monitors with keyboard and mouse

D) School fees: None

E) Field trips:

1) SHS Principal Ray granted permission for the Dance Team to attend a dance camp in Destin, Florida. Nineteen students, one coach, 1 school employee, and four parents will depart July 11, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. and return July 18, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

2) HHS Principal Simpkins granted permission for the wrestling team to compete in the St. Charles, Missouri Invitational Tournament on Friday, January 15, 2010. Twenty wrestlers and two coaches will depart by Grayline on January 15th at 6:00 a.m. and return on January 17th at approximately 7:00 p.m. This will be the school's fourth year to attend this tournament.

3) HHS Principal Simpkins granted permission for an educational field trip to Costa Rica June 16, 2009 – June 24, 2009. Two students and one teacher will make the trip.

4) SMS Principal Bell granted permission for an educational field trip to St. Louis, Missouri. The June 3 – 5, 2009 trip is for thirty-one students, three parents, and five educators traveling by Greyhound Bus.

F) School/Principal request:

1) HMS Principal Schliwa granted permission for the Wee Little Indians Daycare for the South Cluster faculty and staff members - open June 1st – August 8th for summer and in-service dates and August 10, 2009 – May 28, 2010 for next school year

G) Early Graduation Request: None

H) Committees/Appointments: None

Budget and Finance:

A) Collins made a motion, seconded by Williamson, and passed unanimously to approve the budget amendments that are within major categories.

B) Williamson made a motion, seconded by Horton, and carried unanimously to approve the budget amendments between major categories and forward to the County Commission for approval

Old business:

A) Horton made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, and carried unanimously on second reading to revise Board Policy 5.106, Application and Employment. Seifert clarified that the fee amount is not taken from the employee's check in a lump sum.

The first paragraph shall read as follows:

An individual desiring a position with the Board shall make application to the director of schools on forms approved by the Board. In a continuing effort to further ensure the safety and welfare of students and staff, the district shall require a record of criminal history and child protective services record checks and fingerprinting of all new employees. Fingerprinting must be done within five business days of hire date. Failure to meet this deadline can result in immediate termination of employment.

The following shall be added as the fifth paragraph:

All new employees, certified and classified, must submit to and provide results of a drug test approved by the Board. Any cost or fees for the drug screen will be paid by the employees.

B) Collins made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and passed unanimously to revise on second reading Board Policy 5.1051, Job Sharing, by deleting the current item twelve, which reads:

While every attempt will be made to keep class assignments equitable, it should be noted that on occasion a shared position might receive larger numbers of students with behavior problems and/or learning difficulties. There are two adults available to deal with these types of problems in a shared position, rather than only one.

New business:

A) Horton made a motion, seconded by Williamson to revise on first reading Board Policy 3.400, Student Transportation Management. This policy will be presented for second reading on July 6th. Discussion followed. That motion carried unanimously.

Delete the Transportation Committee section.

Page 2, first paragraph under Bus Drivers shall read:

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

Add the following to the end of the policy:

MULTIPLE ROUTES, FIELD TRIPS, AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION

Drivers and bus aides shall be assigned by seniority. Seniority is based on the most recent date of hire for transporting students.

Every driver shall be given the opportunity to drive field trips. Drivers shall be assigned by seniority within 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 and field trips. 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.

B) For discussion, Horton made a motion to revise on first reading Board Policy 1.808, Registered Sex Offenders. For discussion, Lavender seconded the motion. Much discussion followed. Horton made a motion, seconded by Collins, and carried unanimously to table Board Policy 1.808, Registered Sex Offenders, for discussion at the next work session. Proffitt stated the current Registered Sex Offenders policy remains in place.

C) Collins made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and passed unanimously to approve the combined Federal Projects for 2010 and all amendments and addenda pertaining to the project year.

D) Special courses to be offered during the 2009-2010 school year have been approved by the high school curriculum council. Following Board approval, the courses must be sent to the State for approval. Board Members asked that each special course be considered separately.

Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and carried unanimously to approve College Algebra for CHS.

Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve ACT Preparation for HHS. Discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by Spiegl to approve Bible History for HHS. Chairperson Proffitt stated the class would be taught using the State of Tennessee curriculum. Discussion followed. Following a voice vote, Proffitt asked for a roll call vote. Voting no were Horton, Collins, Lavender, and Proffitt. Voting yes were Williamson and Spiegl. Chairperson Proffitt declared the motion failed.

Collins made a motion, seconded by Spiegl, to approve Business Calculus for HHS. Some discussion followed. That motion carried unanimously.

Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Lavender to approve College Survival for HHS. Discussion and questions followed. HHS Principal Simpkins, Vice Principal Wilson, and Counselor Martinez stated College Survival and Seniors Only Seminar are each nine week classes offered to college-bound seniors for teaching about resumes, college visits, writing papers, living independently, preparing for first time college attendance, etc. That motion passed unanimously.

Collins made a motion, seconded by Horton to approve Forensic Science for HHS. When questioned by Board Members, it was confirmed the class is also taught at SHS, but not CHS. That motion carried unanimously.

Horton made a motion, seconded by Collins, and passed unanimously to approve Seniors Only Seminar for HHS.

Spiegl made a motion, seconded by Lavender, which carried unanimously to approve Trigonometry for HHS.

Collins made a motion, seconded by Lavender, and passed unanimously to approve Developmental College Algebra for SHS.

E) Williamson made a motion, seconded by Collins to amend Director Seifert's contract by deleting lines 23 - 28 on page 2 and lines 1 – 5 on page 3. Chairperson Proffitt declared the motion passed, with Horton voting no. Horton questioned if a new contract would be drawn. Seifert said it would be cheaper to take the changes and the Board Chair and she would just sign off on it. When questioned by Spiegl, Director Seifert confirmed this was the same request she made in November. Williamson advised this verbiage is different, this removes it from the contract, but in November we were voting to remove the merit increase for one year only.

The following will be deleted from the contract:

Additionally, the Board may award a merit increase to the Director's salary using the following formula, providing the overall assessment score is above average and no individual assessment category is below average during the Board's annual performance evaluation:

Formula: 3% times overall assessment score divided by maximum possible assessment score. Overall assessment score is the averaged score from the entire Board for all assessment categories. (see paragraph 8 and Exhibit B).

If an adjustment in salary is made during the term of this contract, all other provisions of this contract shall remain as stated herein.

F) Horton made a motion, seconded by Collins, and carried unanimously to amend Director Seifert's contract on page 10, under (g) Resignation of Director, line 29 from nine (9) months to thirty (30) days, delete the last sentence of the paragraph beginning line 3, page 10; under (f) The Board Without Cause, line 26 from twenty-four (24) months to twelve (12) months.

The first sentence under Resignation by the Director shall read:

The Director may, by giving a minimum of thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Board, unilaterally terminate this contract.

Delete the last sentence under Resignation by the Director as follows:

If the Director resigns and has not provided a minimum of nine (9) months notice, upon termination the Director shall pay \$10,000 to the Board, such monies to assist in deferring the expenses to search for a new Director.

The third paragraph under The Board Without Cause shall read:

In the event of termination of this contract without cause, no non-cash benefit may be provided to the Director except for health benefits, which, may be continued until the date this contract would otherwise have expired, or a period of twelve (12) months, whichever is less.

Brief comments from Board Members:

Horton apologized for his outburst the last day of school over discovering his child had a library book five months past due and could not write a check for it. He noted everything the Board does is for the student and the parents and we need to follow through on that. Horton also stated that according to TSBA, negotiations may be held in private.

Lavender stated she appreciated the public forum speakers for their constructive criticism.

Announcements and Recognitions:

Chairperson Proffitt announced a work session for Thursday, June 4th, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the director's contract. She said if any Board Member wished other items on the agenda, please e-mail Ms. Seifert.

Director Seifert announced the following work sessions scheduled for 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Educational Annex Building:

June 11th – budget

June 16th - budget

June 18th

June 25th – review agenda

Proffitt recognized Jack Norris, SHS faculty, who was in attendance and is retiring following thirty-six years of service.

Adjourn:

Chairperson Proffitt adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Submitted by
Carol F. Cannon

Dianne B. Proffitt, Board Chairperson

Lynn E. Seifert, Director of Schools