

September 12, 2013  
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Sandra Mercier, Chair; Steve Stanley, Vice Chair; Bobby Bearden; Terry Bramlett; and Lewis DeWeese. All members present.

By motion from Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from August 8 and September 10, 2013.

Approve the following facility use requests:

Fannin County Recreation Department – Use of Blue Ridge Elementary School PE Facility on Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. from September 16 – 30, 2013; and

Fannin County Recreation Department – Use of Blue Ridge Elementary School PE Facility on Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. from October 7 – December 30, 2013;

Approve the following field trip request:

West Fannin Elementary School Second Grade – Oconaluftee Indian Village in Cherokee, NC, on October 2, 2013;

Fannin County High School Honors Science – Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA, on October 22, 2013; and

Fannin County High School FFA – National FFA Convention and Expo in Louisville, KY, on October 30 – November 2, 2013.

Approve the following fundraiser requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School – Sale of spirit wear – September 16, 2013 – May 23, 2014;

Blue Ridge Elementary School Fourth Grade – Sale of snacks – September 16, 2013 – May 23, 2014;

Blue Ridge Elementary School Media Center – Sale of book fair items – October 1 – 31, 2013;

Blue Ridge Elementary School – Sale of “Slice the Price” pizza discount cards – October 7 – 31, 2013;

Blue Ridge Elementary School PBIS – Collection of change for Good Choices – October 28 – November 1, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary School Media Center – Sale of books – September 13 – 19, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary School Fifth Grade – Sale of snacks – September 13, 2013 – May 2, 2014;

East Fannin Elementary School Third Grade – Sale of snacks – September 16, 2013 – May 23, 2014;

East Fannin Elementary School PBIS – Sale of baked goods – September 20, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary School Media Center – Sale of 2013 – 2014 yearbooks – October 1, 2013 – May 23, 2014;

East Fannin Elementary School PBIS – Sale of fall family mini photo shoot pictures – October 12, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary School AR Committee – Sale of Christmas ornaments – December 2 – 20, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School FFA – Sale of beef sticks – September 13 – October 18, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School GAA Class – Sale of Plaster of Paris pens – September 13, 2013 – May 1, 2014;

Fannin County Middle School TSA – Sale of sponsorships for news program in the mornings at middle school – September 13, 2013 – May 23, 2014;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – 10% of sales at Dairy Queen from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on every third Thursday to raise money for American Cancer Society – September 19, 2013 – May 15, 2014;

Fannin County Middle School Exploring Ag Classes – Sale of flower bulbs – October 7 – 28, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team - \$1.00 to wear a hat to raise money for American Cancer Society – October 11, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School FFA – Students work at the Mercier’s Orchards “Haunted Hayride” to allow students to raise money for FFA programs – October 12 – 28, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School TSA – Sale of candy canes – November 1, 2013 – February 1, 2014;

Fannin County Middle School PE Department – Miss FCMS Pageant – January 13 – March 7, 2014;

Fannin County High School Thespians – Dairy Queen event night to raise funds for the Dakota Leach Scholarship – One night to be scheduled in the date range of September 13 – 30, 2013;

Fannin County High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams – Sale of sweat shirt sponsor program – September 13 – October 28, 2013;

Fannin County High School Girls Basketball – Sale of old game uniforms from late-1990s and mid-2000s – September 13 – November 13, 2013;

Fannin County High School Girls Basketball – Sale of old basketball game tapes from 1990 – 2002 – September 13 – November 13, 2013;

Fannin County High School Girls Basketball – 10% of sales at Dairy Queen – September 13, 2013 – November 13, 2013;

Fannin County High School Girls Basketball – Sale of scented home interior candles – September 13 – November 13, 2013;

Fannin County High School Band – Dodge “Drive for the Kids” test drive program – Dates to be determined;

Fannin County High School FBLA – Sale of candy – September 16 – 27, 2013;

Fannin County High School Basic Ag Science Class/FFA – Sale of fall plants – September 16 – October 30, 2013;

Fannin County High School FBLA – Recycle of inkjet cartridges, cell phones, iPods/Mp3 players, laptops, digital cameras, and GPS devices – September 16, 2013 – May 31, 2014;

Fannin County High School Skills USA – Concessions at the “Powder Puff” football game – September 24, 2013;

Fannin County High School FBLA – Sale of School Spirit coffee, tea, and hot chocolate – September 30 – October 11, 2013;

Fannin County High School FFA – Sale of fruit – October 1 – November 1, 2013;

Fannin County High School Key Club – Sale of Jack Link’s beef sticks – October 1 – November 30, 2013;

Fannin County High School CTAE FBLA/FCCLA/FFA/HOSA/Skills USA. TSA – Kiwanis charity bingo night – October 8, 2013;

Fannin County High School Thespians – Mr. FCHS Pageant – November 16, 2013; and

Fannin County High School Cheerleaders - 10% of sales at Dairy Queen on every third Tuesday – September 17, 2013 – December 18, 2013.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, presented the Board with the following fundraiser requests for the Elementary School PTOs. This information was presented as information only. No vote was necessary.

Blue Ridge Elementary School PTO

Fall festival  
School store  
Monthly snack sales  
Valentine animal sales  
Valentine lollipops  
Santa pictures  
Grandparent’s day pictures  
Dairy Queen night  
Hat day  
T-shirt sales  
Penny war  
Box tops for Education

East Fannin Elementary School PTO

Chocolate sale  
Fall festival  
Santa pictures  
Valentine’s Day sale  
Easter sale  
T-shirt sale  
Penny war

West Fannin Elementary School PTO

School-wide snack days

Fall carnival

Santa shop

Santa pictures

Papa's Pizza

West Fannin t-shirts

Domino's pizza program

School store

Book fair

Provided members of the Gideons International permission to distribute New Testament Bibles to fifth grade students in October and to high school seniors when they receive their caps and gowns for graduation in May 2014. Acceptance of the Bibles by students would be totally voluntary.

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fannin County Department of Public Health to provide a facility, if needed, should a possible health emergency occur.

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fannin County Department of Public Health to provide scoliosis screenings of public school children in the at-risk population, ages 10 – 15 years.

Public comment:

Wesley Seabolt, parent of a middle school softball player, discussed the cut policy.

Angel Graham, parent of a middle school softball player, discussed the cut policy.

After public comment, a motion was made by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Sandra Mercier, to approve the financial report for the month ending July 31, 2013. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in August 2013 for the month of June was \$333,837.18.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) Quality Board recognition application. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the demolition of the existing dugouts and fencing/backstop from dugout to dugout and build new dugouts, backstop wall, backstop netting, and modify existing fencing at the Fannin County High School baseball fields from Championship Fields at a cost of \$62,849.00 to be paid out of SPLOST funds. Mr. Henson stated the dugout club would raise as much as possible of the \$29,196 to complete the

backstop replacement. Mr. Henson also stated it would cost an additional \$5,000 for crane expenses if the project was done in phases. Terry Bramlett requested the dugout club give the Board a monthly report on fundraising activities to offset these costs. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the 2015 State Capital Outlay application (see attached). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the school district's pursuit of a Construction Permit through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for a Low-Power FM (LPFM) radio license. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Karen Walton, Director of Curriculum and School Improvement, gave Board members an update on the AdvanceEd Standards for Quality School Systems tentative timeline.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to accept the resignations of Alicia Baugh effective August 22, 2013; Jerry Rice effective September 12, 2013; and Robert L. McDaniel, Jr. effective August 17, 2013.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the termination of Robin Patterson and Vicki Jo Seabolt effective September 30, 2013.

Motion by Lewis DeWesse, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Teresa Brown as a School Nutrition Specialist. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Amber Mitchell as a Intervention Paraprofessional. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the Fannin County Extension Coordinator's request to recommend Kimberly Cheves as the Fannin County Extension Office's 4-H teacher in the schools. This approval to work in the schools through the Extension Office is pending verification of a criminal background check and completion of requisite paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve John Hembree, Susan Jeans, Deborah Thomas, and Mark Watson as bus drivers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Berta Aldridge and Patti Sosebee as substitute teachers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Alejandra Mills as a substitute teacher pending verification of a criminal background check and completion of requisite paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Charles Lee and Sharon Prince as substitute bus drivers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson presented Candy Sisson, School Nutrition Director, a Certificate of Accomplishments for schools being recognized for achieving high student participation in the school lunch and/or school breakfast program.

Blue Ridge Elementary School served 78% of students breakfast each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

East Fannin Elementary School served 85% of students breakfast each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

East Fannin Elementary School served 90% of students lunch each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

West Fannin Elementary School served 79% of students breakfast each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

West Fannin Elementary School served 88% of students lunch each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

Fannin County Middle School served 51% of students breakfast each day during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

Mr. Henson shared with Board members the results of the 2012 Sales Ratio Study appeal. Mr. Henson stated the ratio was changed from 33.80 percent to 35.00 after the appeal.

Mr. Henson gave Board members a flyer with dates Georgia Mountain Health would be in the schools administering flu shots, in case they were interested in participating.

Mr. Henson thanked the Board for the school system they have enabled. Mr. Henson stated our high school is helping another system in best practices.

Mr. Henson stated Mrs. Walton checked with Pioneer RESA and the first local Board training would be offered on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Board Members' Comments:

Bobby Bearden stated it was an honor and privilege to be on the Board. Mr. Bearden stated he had watched the softball team play earlier in the day, and he was impressed. Mr. Bearden stated he appreciated everyone who had attended the meeting. Mr. Bearden stated he attended a Blue Ridge City Council meeting, and he thanked the Council for supplying Resource

Officer White to Blue Ridge Elementary School. Mr. Bearden stated Fannin County Schools were blessed to have a school resource officer and nurse in each school.

Terry Bramlett thanked everyone for being at the meeting. Mr. Bramlett commended Ms. Sisson on operating an excellent school nutrition program.

Lewis DeWeese reaffirmed what Mr. Bramlett had to say.

Steve Stanley stated it was a pleasure to be on the Board. Mr. Stanley stated hats off to the Dug Out Club for the fundraising efforts for the baseball field backstop replacement.

Mrs. Mercier welcomed Mr. Seabolt and Ms. Graham and stated she respected their public comments. Mrs. Mercier thanked Noah Benefield and all other visitors for their attendance. Mrs. Mercier commended Scott Barnstead and Dr. Michael Gwatney for their efforts in applying for a Low-Power FM (LPFM) radio license.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to adjourn subject to being called into special session by the Chair when deemed necessary. All members voted yes; motion carried.

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Sandra Mercier, Chairperson

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Mark Henson, Superintendent

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