

February 14, 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 Lewis DeWeese, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from January 10, 2013, and February 12, 2013.

Approve the following facility use requests:

Ridge Community Church – Use of Blue Ridge Elementary School PE Facility on Wednesdays from February 20 – May 29, 2013, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Approve the following field trip requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary Kindergarten – Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, GA, on March 14, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary Kindergarten – Zoo Atlanta in Atlanta, GA, on April 22, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary Kindergarten – Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga, TN, on March 8, 2013;

West Fannin Elementary Fourth Grade – Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA, on May 7, 2013;

NorthStar K-5 Students – Amicalola State Park in Dawsonville, GA, on May 16, 2013;

NorthStar 7-12 Students – Jekyll Island, Jekyll Island, GA, on March 6 – 9, 2013;

NorthStar 6-8 Students – Amicalola State Park in Dawsonville, GA, on February 28, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Eighth Grade Career Classes – Georgia Public Broadcasting in Atlanta, GA, on February 28, 2013;

Fannin County High School FFA – State of Georgia Capitol in Atlanta, GA, on February 18 – 19, 2013;

Fannin County High School Teaching Pathway Students – Reinhardt College in Waleska, GA, on February 26, 2013;

Fannin County High School Family and Consumer Science Students – University of Georgia Family and Consumer Sciences College and Microbiology Lab in Athens, GA, on February 26, 2013;

Fannin County High School Healthcare Science Students – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA, on February 26, 2013;

Fannin County High School CTAE Students – North Georgia Technical College in Clarkesville, GA, on March 5, 2013;

Fannin County High School Family and Consumer Science Students – Body Exhibit in Atlanta, GA and Dekalb Farmers Market in Decatur, GA, on March 7, 2013;

Fannin County High School FFA – Greenhand Jamboree/Success Conference in Covington, GA, on March 8 – 9, 2013; and

NorthStar 9-12 Students – Amicalola State Park Campground in Dawsonville, GA, on March 19 – 21, 2013.

Approve the following fundraiser requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School – Time for Reading fundraiser – February 15 – May 24, 2013;

Blue Ridge Elementary School Cool Kids Grow Garden Club – Sale of painted rocks, seed cards, and seedlings – March 13 – April 30, 2013;

East Fannin Elementary School Third Grade – Sale of Pizza Hut voucher sheets for one free cheesy bread each month (for 10 months) with the purchase of a regular large pizza – February 15 – May 1, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – Sale of 100 chances for a 4-night stay at a condo in Panama City, FL – February 15 – April 18, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – Sale of luminaries and torches in honor of or in memory of area cancer survivors/patients/victims – February 15 – April 23, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – Sale of single wrapped roses for parents for purchase for FCMS pageant contestants – March 1, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – Sale of paper decals which can be personalized by students/staff – March 1 – 28, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School FFA – Sale of beef jerky – March 1 – 29, 2013;

Fannin County Middle School Relay for Life Team – Hat Day – March 15, 2013;

Fannin County High School Strength and Conditioning Program – Sale of Fannin Rebel Strength and Conditioning T-Shirts – February 4 – April 5, 2013;

Fannin County High School HOSA – Sale of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts – February 15 – 21, 2013;

Fannin County High School Baseball – Sale of raffle tickets for a chance to win a day at the spa and a weed eater – March 1 – 20, 2013;

Fannin County High School Track – Sale of Flower Power bulbs – March 1 – 19, 2013;

Fannin County High School Weight Training Classes – Collection of donations – March 1 – April 17, 2013;

Fannin County High School Band – 5K to Broadway – March 9, 2013;
and

Fannin County High School Track – Sale of Utah’s best cookie dough – March 15 – 30, 2013.

Public comment:

Billy Deal asked the Board to consider revising his granddaughter’s bus route so she would not be on the bus so long each day. Mr. Deal stated she was the first student picked up in the morning and the last student dropped off in the afternoon. Mr. Deal stated it had been explained to him this was done for safety so students could be dropped off without having to cross the road. Mr. Deal stated if that was the case, then his granddaughter should only be either the first in the morning or the last in the afternoon, but not both.

After public comment, a motion was made by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the financial report for the month ending December 31, 2012. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Henson stated the SPLOST check received in January for the month of November was \$331,247.38.

Susan Jackson, Director of Finance, shared with the Board an overview of the FY14 budget timeline and what information had been gathered to date for this process.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the FY14 budget calendar (see attached). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the new Five-Year Local Facilities Plan as recommended by the Facilities Survey Team and the Superintendent. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Buddy Benefield Construction Company, Inc. as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Blue Ridge Elementary re-roofing project at a rate of 9 percent. This project is to be paid out of SPLOST funds. James W. Buckley & Associates will be the architect firm used for this project. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Buddy Benefield Construction Company, Inc. as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Fannin County High School project to convert the old field house to classrooms at a rate of 9 percent. This project is to be paid out of SPLOST funds. James W. Buckley & Associates will be the architect firm used for this project. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Buddy Benefield Construction Company, Inc. as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Fannin County School System new maintenance facility project at a rate of 9 percent. This project is to be paid out of SPLOST funds. James W. Buckley & Associates will be the architect firm used for this project. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Mundy's Heating & Air, Inc. as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Fannin County Middle School HVAC modification project at a rate of 9 percent. This project is to be paid out of SPLOST funds. James W. Buckley & Associates will be the architect firm used for this project. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to secure quotes for four (4) Bard HVAC units at East Fannin Elementary School to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to secure bids for system generator bids to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the bid of \$38,461.93 from Automated Creations to upgrade security cameras at Fannin County High School. This project is to be paid out of SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Karen Walton, Director of Curriculum and School Improvement, reviewed the current Board Code of Ethics Policy BH and the Board Member Conflict of Interest Policy BHA with the Board. Mrs. Walton stated the purpose of this review was to ensure the Board is in compliance with the mandate issued by the Georgia Department of Education regarding local board training.

Karen Walton, Director of Curriculum and School Improvement, stated at each regular monthly board meeting an agenda item would be added to discuss AdvanceED SACS/CASI agenda items. Mrs. Walton stated this would remain a monthly agenda item until the system goes through the accreditation process in May of 2014.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to table revised policy GBRIG – Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (see attached) until public comment could be received and to be approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Frank T. Burk as a substitute bus driver. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Denise S. Hyatt and Christopher Welch as substitute teachers. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson stated the Georgia School Board Association (GSBA) Ninth District Legislative visit to the State Capitol has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2013.

Mr. Henson asked the Board for dates and times to hold a strategic planning session. All members were in agreement to set aside March 12, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to do this.

Mr. Henson warned members of a possible decrease in the upcoming Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) scores. Mr. Henson stated this decrease was because of a higher cut score on test rigor and also implementation of the new Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS).

Mr. Henson complemented the system and the community on how it handled all of the unusual situations that occurred over the past two weeks.

Mr. Henson stated he appreciated the Fannin County Commissioners, Sheriff, and the City of Blue Ridge for supplying needed School Resource Officers.

Board Members' Comments:

Bobby Bearden thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Mr. Bearden also thanked the Fannin County Board of Commissioners and the City of Blue Ridge for their offer of a resource officer. Mr. Bearden stated he was glad to be here.

Terry Bramlett stated he thanked everyone involved in the recent trying situations.

Lewis DeWeese stated he was in agreement of prior comments.

Steve Stanley stated he was also in total agreement of prior comments.

Sandra Mercier stated kudos and accolades to the whole team from teachers to the Superintendent for a job well done. Mrs. Mercier also thanked Susan Jackson, Director of Finance, for her presentation on the budget process. Mrs. Mercier stated it was a lot of useful information which may have somewhat surprised the Board, but it was information they needed to know. Mrs. Mercier thanked the Lincoln Memorial University Specialist/Ed.S. degree program participants for attending the meeting.

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

Sandra Mercier, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent

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