

October 8, 2009
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Terry Bramlett, Chairperson; Bobby Bearden, Vice-Chairperson; Lewis DeWeese; Junior Farmer; and Emily Dunn. All members present.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the agenda.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes from all previous meetings.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the financial report for the month ending August 31, 2009. Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in September for the month of July was \$372,464.58.

Public Comment:

None.

Moved, seconded, and carried to give 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 2010. Acceptance of the Bibles by students would be totally voluntary.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the purchase of two 23 passenger special needs school busses from Nalley Bus Group (International) for the purchase price of \$92,610 each.

Moved, seconded, and carried to exempt Student Information System application and equipment from the Bids and Quotations Policy, Descriptor Code: DJED. Mr. Henson stated the revised policy would lie on the table for thirty days and be brought back before the board in November for approval.

Annual School Council Reports were presented to board members for their review.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following facility use requests:

Fannin County Recreation Department Youth Basketball Program – use of Blue Ridge Elementary Gym – November 9, 2009 until the new recreation center opens; from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Fannin County Recreation Department Youth Basketball Program – use of East Fannin Elementary Gym – November 9, 2009 until the new recreation center opens; from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Fannin County Recreation Department Youth Basketball Program – use of West Fannin Elementary Gym – November 9, 2009 until the new recreation center opens; from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Alpha Delta Kappa Honorary Teacher's Organization – use of Fannin County High School – on first Tuesday of each month from November 2009 through January 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following field trip requests:

ALPHA students from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary to Washington, D.C. from April 19 – 23, 2010 (Spring Break)

Fannin County Middle School Chorus to Washington D.C. from August 18 – 22, 2010

Fannin County High School FFA - National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN from October 21 – 24, 2009

Fannin County High School Art History Class & National Art Honor Society Students – The Parthenon in Nashville, TN on November 19, 2009

Fannin County High School FBLA – FBLA Leadership Conference in Athens, GA from December 4 – 5, 2009

The following fund raiser requests were presented for information purposes only since students will not be involved:

ALPHA parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Halloween Pictures on October 31, 2009

ALPHA parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell tickets for a Honeymooners Weekend – free weekend at a local cabin from January 1 - 22, 2010

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following fund raiser requests:

ALPHA students & parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Christmas Baskets from November 1 – 30, 2009

ALPHA students & parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Barbecue Dinners on November 14, 2009

ALPHA students & parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Santa Pictures on December 5, 2009

ALPHA students & parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Scratch & Help Cards, dates to be announced

ALPHA students & parents from Blue Ridge Elementary, East Fannin Elementary, and West Fannin Elementary – Sell Premiere Jewelry, dates to be announced

Fannin County Middle School Football Team – Sell Championship Game T-Shirts from October 11 – 17, 2009

Fannin County Middle School – Collection of change for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Red Ribbon Week from October 19 – 23, 2009

Fannin County High School MOID Students – Sell Homemade Greeting Cards from October 9, 2009 - April 30, 2010

Fannin County High School FBLA – Sell Christmas Photo Ornaments from November 1 – December 18, 2009

Fannin County High School Key Club – Sell Candy Bars & Suckers from November 2 – December 18, 2009

Moved, seconded, and carried to accept the resignation of Angela Couch effective October 16, 2009.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Gary Bailey and Kiley Brown as bus drivers.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following substitute teachers:

Jennifer Cearley
Teresa Martin
Angela Usry

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following substitute school nutrition workers:

Rhonda Anderson	Victoria W. Goddard	Jesse Riehl
Janet Burfield	Linnesa Hansen	Roberta Russell
Angela Couch	Wanda Millsaps	William Seber
Julia Dales	Susan Rhodes	Diane Wheeler

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following substitute custodians:

Darrell Davis	Travis Mattson
Allan Geldean	George M. Rogers
James “Ike” Grindstaff	

Mr. Henson stated he would like for the board to amend the agenda so Karen Walton, Director of School Improvement & Instructional Services, could give the board an update on Focus Walks. Moved, seconded, and carried to amend the agenda for this purpose.

Karen Walton, Director of School Improvement & Instructional Services, explained the purpose of Focus Walks throughout the schools and gave board members a check list of items administrators and academic coaches are looking for when they conduct these walks.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson gave board members a copy of the Veterans' Day Program Schedule for each school. Mr. Henson stated he was proud of the work every school put into these programs yearly, and he hoped everyone could attend the ceremonies.

Mr. Henson congratulated Fannin County High School for receiving one of the State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Awards. Mr. Henson stated these awards honor schools that have shown the highest achievement and greatest gains on state tests, broken down by subject and grade. Fannin County High School posted a score of 65.2% exceeds on the physical science End of Course Tests (EOCT).

Mr. Henson congratulated Blue Ridge Elementary School for receiving one of the State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Awards. Mr. Henson stated these awards honor schools that have shown the highest achievement and greatest gains on state tests, broken down by subject and grade. Blue Ridge Elementary School improved from 55.1% meets/exceeds in 2008 to 87.5% meets/exceeds in 2009. This is an improvement of 32.43 percentage points.

Mr. Henson stated he wanted to thank the citizens of Fannin County for granting the school system another five years of SPLOST.

Board Members' Comments:

Emily Dunn thanked the citizens of Fannin County for their support with passing SPLOST III. Ms. Dunn stated she thought focus walks helped everyone to learn as the system changes philosophies.

Bobby Bearden stated he appreciated Cynthia Maude for attending the meeting. Mr. Bearden also thanked the Boy Scouts and their mothers for attending. Mr. Bearden stated Lois Smith's presentation at the work session on Tuesday made his heart swell. Mr. Bearden stated everyone should always thank a person in uniform for serving.

Junior Farmer stated it always impressed him to see a soldier in uniform. Mr. Farmer stated he thought the Veteran Day programs held in the schools were an important learning opportunity for students. Mr. Farmer stated he appreciated the teachers, staff, and fellow board members for all of the hard work they do for the students.

Lewis DeWeese stated he was proud to be a part of a system that puts kids first. Mr. DeWeese thanked all employees who on a daily basis work with the children of Fannin County and have such a large impact in their lives.

Terry Bramlett stated he was also impressed with the presentation Lois Smith gave at the work session. Mr. Bramlett said it was an incredible honor for him and the students to be chosen to perform at the dedication ceremony. Mr. Bramlett thanked Karen Walton for her presentation. He further stated he was impressed with the team work initiative Mrs. Walton was using in conducting the Focus Walks. Mr. Bramlett thanked the Boy Scouts for their attendance and stated that they hold a special place in his heart. Mr. Bramlett thanked the Boy Scouts for their participation each year in the Veteran's Day programs conducted at the schools. Mr. Bramlett also thanked the scout leaders for their service and help in building the program.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned subject to being called into special session by the chairman when deemed necessary.

Terry Bramlett, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent

slj