

July 13, 2023
5:30 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Terry Bramlett, Chair; Mike Cole, Vice-Chair; Bobby Bearden, Lewis DeWeese, and Chad Galloway.

The meeting was called to order by Terry Bramlett, Chairman.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from June 8, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.; and June 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller recognized Technology Student Association middle school member, James Burrell, for his first-place national victory in Foundations of Information Technology.

Fannin County 4H Agent Kate Phillips presented an update to the Board highlighting accomplishments and goals of the 4H program.

Director of Student Services Dr. Connie Huff shared an update on early learning in Fannin and the upcoming Back-to-School Bash that will be held July 22 at the Fannin High gymnasium.

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Lucas Roof informed the Board of open house dates and times.

Chief Operations Officer: Senior Executive Darren Danner and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Lucas Roof updated the Board on proposed Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) projects. The greenhouse RFP for the Agriculture center is out to bid. The mass alert system for the entire school will begin soon in response to new state legislation regarding safety. Other proposed ESPLOST projects include: health and wellness center, multi-use facility, engineering lab, healthcare labs, audio/video technology classroom/lab, culinary lab, and softball and baseball fields. The stadium drain project is also nearing completion and is projected to conclude prior to the first day of school.

Fannin County Board Attorney Lynn Doss shared information regarding a resolution for the next ESPLOST (ESPLOST VI) referendum. It is proposed to have a \$53 million cap and be on the November 7, 2023 ballot. The referendum also allows for the issuance of up to \$20 million in bonds if needed by the Board.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese seconded by Chad Galloway to approve the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) Referendum VI. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden to approve the annual Board planning calendar for 2023-2024. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Lucas Roof shared an update regarding the members of each School Governance Team (SGT). He also updated the Board about a survey that was conducted in June to determine employee interest in a sick leave bank. Many survey responders were interested and this topic will now be sent to each school's SGT for further discussion. Board members had questions regarding salary/wages as gifts, expectation for repayment, number of days allowable, committee oversight, and administration of the sick leave bank. Dr. Roof explained that any policy change would require Board approval and that there are many considerations to explore before Board action.

There was no public comment.

Chief Operations Officer: Senior Executive Darren Danner shared a facilities and construction update with the Board.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Bobby Bearden to approve to rescind propane bid previously approved at the June 8, 2023. Propane is exempt from bid in our procurement policies. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese to approve FCHS cafeteria Luxury Vinyl Tile flooring project and bid from Big Jim's Flooring in the amount of \$42,095.30 to be paid with SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve district financial reports for the period ending May 31, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Director of Finance Susan Wynn presented the SPLOST update. \$842,138.09 was collected for May, 2023.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Mike Cole to approve a spending resolution covering August, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway to approve the FY 2024 tentative budgets for advertisement. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese to approve the 2023 millage adoption timeline. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole to approve District Code of Conduct update. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway to approve bids of surplus items from old bus garage items as surplus for a total of \$2,940.72. Terry Bramlett, Bobby Bearden, Lewis DeWeese, and Chad Galloway voted yes; Mike Cole abstained; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the resignation of Sarah Major effective June 12, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the resignation of Kaleigh Cauble effective June 29, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the resignation of William "Sam" Banks effective June 30, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the resignation of Jennifer Coleman effective July 6, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the resignation of Ben Barber effective July 10, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Scott Mathis as Administrator effective August 1, 2023, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Jennifer Danner as Professional Staff effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Julia Monteith as Professional Staff effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Cynthia Pless as Professional Staff effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Katie Clay as Paraprofessional effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Kelly Garrett as Paraprofessional effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Spencer Johnson-Dockery as Paraprofessional effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve April Jones as Paraprofessional effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Susan Jones as Paraprofessional effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Amy Thumm as Nutrition effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Brenda Chancey, Whitley Grizzle, Danielle Hurd, Kristin Kay, Betsy Pope, and Jenna Young as Substitute Teachers effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Rhonda Zimmerman as Substitute Nutrition effective SY 2023-2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Superintendent Dillard-Miller reflected on celebrating Independence Day and looking forward to the beginning of a new school year with Faculty/Staff returning on July 24 and students August 3. She reminded all of the Back-to-School Bash event on July 22.

New District Leaders were welcomed: Curriculum and Instruction Heather Collis and Technology and Cyber Security Scott Mathis.

Ms. Dillard-Miller concluded with prayers for a wonderful start to a new year.

Board Member's Comments:

Chad Galloway thanked all in attendance including student James Burrell. He congratulated new District leaders and extended good wishes.

Mr. Galloway concluded with thanking the community for their prayers and their sympathy during his mother's illness and death.

Lewis DeWeese Kids First! Mr. DeWeese stated that it was an honor to have a nationally-recognized student in our District!

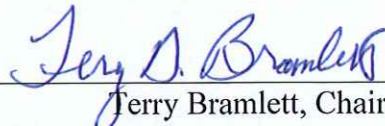
Bobby Bearden thanked all in attendance and the night's presenters. He congratulated the new District leaders. Mr. Bearden also thanked Lynn Doss for her presentation and our community for their past, present, and future support of ESPLOST.

Mike Cole thanked all in attendance and congratulated all that are beginning new roles in the District. He stated that it is an exciting time to be part of a great nation.

Terry Bramlett reiterated his agreement with other Board member comments. He stated that he was excited to see the wonderful things that would come this year with everyone's dedication, willingness, and support. He congratulated Ms. Dillard-Miller in the performance of her duties and excellent communication skills.

Mr. Bramlett concluded by stating that the love of the kids of Fannin county has allowed our District to have one of the highest graduation rates and has allowed students to attain remarkable successes even at the national level.

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



Terry Bramlett, Chairman



Shannon Dillard-Miller, Superintendent

mfw