

January 11, 2024
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; Lewis DeWeese, and Chad Galloway. Absent was Bobby Bearden. A quorum was present.

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

Terry Bramlett, Chair, relinquished the Chair to Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller for reorganization of the Board.

Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller, as acting Chair, called for nominations for Board Chair for the 2024 calendar year. Lewis DeWeese nominated Mike Cole. Hearing no other nominations, the floor was closed for nominations.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to elect Mike Cole as Chair of the Board of Education for the 2024 calendar year. Terry Bramlett, Lewis DeWeese, and Chad Galloway voted yes; Mike Cole abstained; motion carried.

Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller transferred the meeting to Mike Cole, the newly elected 2024 Chair of the Board of Education.

Mike Cole opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice-Chair. Terry Bramlett nominated Bobby Bearden as Vice-Chair. Hearing no other nominations, the floor was closed for nominations.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to elect Bobby Bearden as Vice-Chair for the 2024 calendar year. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to set the regular monthly Board of Education meetings for the 2024 calendar year on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are to be held at the office of the Fannin County Board of Education Staff Development Center, which is located at 6145 Old Hwy 76, Blue Ridge, Georgia. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from December 14, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller recognized the Fannin County School Resource Officers in honor of National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Lucas Roof shared an update with the Board regarding the recent activities of each School Governance Team (SGT).

Fannin County High School Principal Dr. Scott Ramsey presented school happenings.

Fannin County School Social Worker Tara Cantrell reviewed the annual Homeless Protocol with the Board.

There was no public comment.

Chief Operations Officer Darren Danner provided a facilities update.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Budget Amendment FY 2024 SPLOST. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve district financial reports for the period ending November 30, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Director of Finance Susan Wynn informed the Board that the SPLOST check received for November 2023 was \$926,517.71 and the catch up amount of \$1,655.65.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Amended FY24 Salary Supplemental Pay. Governor Kemp's Amended FY 2024 budget recommendation includes \$316,114 in funding for our district for \$1,000 salary supplements to support retention of educators and support staff. It also includes \$8,612.00 funding for Pre-K teachers and assistant teachers through lottery funded pre-k grants distributed by the Department of Early Care and Learning. We will be using the General Fund to augment and make whole the difference of what is not provided by the State which we anticipate to be approximately \$160,000. The salary supplement payment will be made between January 18, 2024 and January 23, 2024. Request approval to pay a \$1,000 salary supplement to ALL benefits-eligible personnel who are current employees of the FCSS as of the payment date. Previously retired (49%) employees will receive 49% of the salary supplement. Substitutes and contractors are not eligible for this salary supplement. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve 2024-2025 Fannin County School Calendar. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Technology Items as Surplus. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Board Policy DIB: Financial Reports. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to rescind prior approval from 12-14-2023 for Whitley Grizzle. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the resignations of Georgina Barnett effective January 5, 2024; Tim Wooten effective January 9, 2024; Amanda Nicole Fish effective January 12, 2024; Carolyn Thomas effective January 16, 2024 and Robert Ensley effective January 31, 2024. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Kelsey Mayfield as professional staff effective January 12, 2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training requirements. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Kyra White effective January 16, 2024; William Mull effective January 29, 2024; Robert "Bobby" K. Welter III effective February 1, 2024 as Classified Staff pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training requirements. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Evan Clay, Mike Serkedakis, and Christa King as Substitute Teachers effective January 16, 2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training requirements. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Minerva Mayer as substitute school nutrition effective January 16, 2024, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training requirements. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Superintendent Shannon Dillard-Miller congratulated Mike Cole on his new role as Chair and Bobby Bearden for being appointed as Vice Chair for the 2024 school year. She thanked the Elementary Schools for their White Christmas performances; she also thanked the teachers for their hard work in classrooms. She told Dr. Scott Ramsey that his presentation was perfect and that she appreciated his hard work and dedication. Also thanked were the School Resource Officers. Ms. Shanon Dillard-Miller stated that you all are "family." Ms. Dillard-Miller congratulated Robert Ensley on his retirement from Fannin County School System after 45 years. His career began as a student and progressed to numerous roles as an educator and leader. She also welcomed the new Interim Director of Transportation, Chris Drury.

Board Members' Comments:

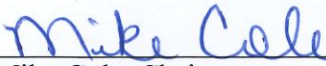
Chad Galloway congratulated Mike Cole on his new Board position as Chair. He told Mr. Bramlett he was a wonderful leader and appreciated his friendship. He thanked the School Resource Officers and Dr. Scott Ramsey for his presentation. He told Tara Cantrell he appreciated all she does for the kids and congratulated Robert Ensley on his retirement. Mr. Galloway thanked everyone who attended the meeting and said, "God Bless each of you."

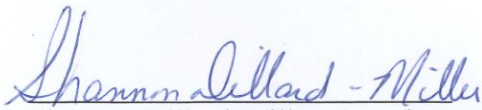
Lewis DeWeese said he wanted to reaffirm everything Ms. Dillard-Miller said, and "Kids First!"

Terry Bramlett thanked everyone for attending the meeting in person and online. He thanked all of his colleagues for their support. He told Dr. Scott Ramsey he appreciated all the effort he puts into helping facilitate Veterans Day at the schools with the programs. Mr. Bramlett concluded by congratulating Robert Ensley on a well-deserved retirement and thanked him for his service.

Mike Cole thanked Tara Cantrell and her staff for all their hard work with kids and families. He told her he had seen her work, and he was very proud of her. He also thanked Dr. Scott Ramsey for personally helping each student and said his work hasn't gone unnoticed. He congratulated Robert Ensley on his retirement and wished him the very best of prosperity and health. He told Terry Bramlett it had been an honor to work alongside of you. Mr. Cole said, "I have big shoes to fill, but I will do my best." In closing, Mr. Cole asked everyone to remember Bobby Bearden in prayer.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Chad Galloway, 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.


Mike Cole, Chairman


Shannon Dillard-Miller, Superintendent

smn