

July 11, 2019
6:00 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order by Lewis DeWeese, Chair.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the consent agenda.

Approve agenda and Board meeting minutes from June 13, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.
All members voted yes to approve the items on the consent agenda; motion carried.

Director of Instructional Services & Policy Sarah Welch and East Fannin Elementary School Principal Matt Price presented on Literacy Partnerships in Fannin County. Assistant Superintendent, Personnel and Administration, Robert Ensley reviewed dates for Fannin County Schools' registration and open house.

Deputy Superintendent Betsy Hyde reviewed School Governance Team meetings. **(See attached.)**

Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations, Darren Danner shared a construction update.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Career Technology and Agriculture Education Five-Year Perkins IV Local Plan and One-Year Funding for Fiscal Year 2020. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the district financial report for May 31, 2019. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received for May 2019 was \$510,422.07.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve a spending resolution for August 2019. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Assistant Superintendent Robert Ensley reviewed local Board training selections.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Heather Ades, Shawn Ades, and Jordan Deal as teachers effective school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Kristy Adams as a 49% teacher effective school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and TRS approval. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Marcie Harper from a 45% to a 49% teacher effective school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Sage Kafsky and Carly Bernhardt as paraprofessionals effective school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Brandi Holloway as a technology specialist for school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway to approve Amanda “Mandy” Henderson as secretary/school information specialist (SIS) for school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Dana Imlar and Brandon Tipton for the Transportation Department for school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Kim Kribbs as a substitute teacher for school year 2019-20, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Joyce “Marie” Allmon, Tara Dillard, and Brandy Owenby as Nutrition Department substitutes, pending completion of paperwork and criminal background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent’s Comments:

Superintendent Dr. Michael Gwatney thanked all who visited and/or participated in some way tonight, whether in person or online. He recognized Mrs. Susan Wynn for her hard work and dedication to the school district and appreciated how she has entered, observed, and analyzed processes. Superintendent Gwatney stated that he respects the ideas she brings to the table and that we all benefit from her expertise and experience — faculty, staff, students, and taxpayers.

Superintendent Gwatney recognized and thanked former Board of Education Member Mike Queen for sharing some of his experiences as a Board member. He thanked Fannin County Sheriff Dane Kirby and area law enforcement, as well as others in public safety, for reviewing our plans and conducting drills at schools during the summer.

Superintendent Gwatney thanked Sarah Welch and Matt Price for their presentation on Fannin County’s Literacy Partnerships and commended them for the work they are doing for Fannin County’s children. He thanked Principal Erik Cioffi for his CTAE presentation. Dr. Gwatney also congratulated the Fannin County Technology Students of America and the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America students for their successes at recent national competitions.

Superintendent Gwatney commended custodians and maintenance personnel who are working hard to prepare for a new school year; he also thanked our data personnel who are diligently preparing for the new school year.

Board Members' Comments:

Chad Galloway appreciated everyone for being at the meeting and agrees with the things stated by the superintendent. He thanked Sarah Welch and Matt Price for their work with the literacy program and is excited that there will be a Pre-K program in each of the elementary schools in the upcoming school year. He thanked Sheriff Dane Kirby for his support of the school system. Mr. Galloway expressed his appreciation for the assistance he has received from the Technology Department.

Mr. Terry Bramlett stated that it is amazing to attend the Board meetings and hear the reports of progress. The potential for our students is remarkable. He stated that he was excited for our students to be doing so well in our Regional Education Service Agency (RESA), our state, and now we are top in the nation. We have the tools needed to compete and have an excellent administrative team.

Mr. Bobby Bearden appreciated all in attendance. He thanked Mike Queen for sharing his experiences as a former Board member, and he is proud to offer children better accommodations through SPLOST. He thanked Sarah Welch and appreciated her enthusiasm provided in her presentation. Mr. Bearden thanked Sheriff Kirby and Denver Foster for working to keep our students safe. He stated that all of the evening's presentations were well done.

Mr. Mike Cole stated that he is excited about the competitive spirit among students and is proud to see them traveling across the country. He is proud of the school system as a whole and had a recent opportunity to visit private schools in Pennsylvania. He stated that he wishes others could sit at a Fannin County High School Graduation Ceremony and witness the diversity that is in our school system. He thanked Mike Queen for all the work he did for the school system and appreciates that so far he has not a meeting last until 11:00 p.m. He is grateful to the superintendent who continuously works for our students and who is dedicated 365 days a year to the school system.

Lewis DeWeese thanked the Board and Dr. Gwatney and agreed with all that had been said by other board members. He recognized Mr. Mike Queen for his past efforts and stated that Mr. Queen deserves an honor for laying a foundation of "kids first" in the school system.

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.

Lewis DeWeese, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent