

November 10, 2022
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, Chair.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from October 13, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Fannin County High School Principal Dr. Scott Ramsey introduced the high school welding class, volleyball team, and cross-country teams for special recognition of their successes.

Deputy Superintendent Betsy Hyde reviewed summaries of recent activities of the five Fannin School Governance Teams.

Mountain Education Charter High School Superintendent Dr. Wayne Lovell provided the Board with an update on the MECHS charter and vision/mission.

Executive Director/Incoming Superintendent Shannon Miller provided the Board with an update on the district leadership duties. She also introduced the new Director of Student Services Gini Tipton who provided an overview of her department.

West Fannin Elementary Principal Alison Danner presented school happenings to the Board.

The Board heard public comment from three individuals.

Chief Operations Officer Darren Danner shared an update on facilities with the Board.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve pursuing a Construction Manager at Risk for projects associated with the Neal property including drainage from the stadium, development of athletic fields, and the development of a Health, Wellness & CTAE facility. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve school quarterly financial reports for the period ending September 30, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve district financial reports for the period ending September 30, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Chief Operations Officer Darren Danner (in place of Director of Finance Susan Wynn) informed the Board that the SPLOST check received for September 2022 was \$846,840.94.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve a District Charter Amendment that extends the charter by one year from 2024 to 2025 to align with a revised COGNIA accreditation date. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the surplus of a maintenance vehicle. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve a bus use request from the Mountain Education Charter High School. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the resignation of Taryn Wellham effective November 11, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the resignation of Todd Geren effective December 16, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Wendy Hood as Bus Driver effective November 14, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve David Ware as Maintenance effective December 1, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Taylor Cobb Couch as nutrition substitute effective November 11, 2022, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Katherine Betts, Brian Cerosky, Macy Greene, Rebecca Spence, and Audrey Taylor as Substitute Teachers effective November 11, 2022, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent Gwatney shared an internal transfer with the Board for informational purposes, Jodi Morgan as Academic Coach for Fannin Middle.

Superintendent's Comments:

Superintendent Gwatney thanked all veterans for their military service. He also thanked the administrators, staff, and students at each school for honoring area veterans at the school Veterans Day events. He congratulated the nutrition department for a successful Thanksgiving meal for students and parents, especially with recent supply issues. Dr. Gwatney thanked the night's presenters and those that spoke during public comment. He concluded by stating that Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the blessings that we have in Fannin County.

Board Members' Comments:

Mike Cole expressed his pride in the students that attended the night's meeting. He thanked Dr. Lovell for his presentation and stated his support of MEC's charter. Mr. Cole congratulated Gini Tipton for her promotion and presentation. He concluded by stating his gratitude for veterans, his years of service, and the opportunity to be in the U.S.A.-God Bless America!

Chad Galloway thanked all present at the night's meeting in person and online. He thanked all veterans for their service. Mr. Galloway congratulated Ms. Danner on an enjoyable presentation. He stated his gratitude for the students that were recognized at the meeting and those with whom he met at Fannin Middle. He concluded by thanking everyone, and God bless.

Lewis DeWeese stated that he was proud of the events that involve parents and children as those events help students flourish. He responded to comments and concerns over possible Title IX changes and assured families that students will be safeguarded. Mr. DeWeese reminded all teachers of his appreciation for them and the special place that he believes is set aside for them in Heaven. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart.

Bobby Bearden thanked the night's presenters and the students that were present. He also thanked Dr. Lovell for his update and gave his support for MEC. Mr. Bearden thanked all for praying for him during his total knee replacement; he is highly blessed.

Terry Bramlett thanked Dr. Lovell for his participation with the night's meeting. He congratulated the students and the advisors who were present. Mr. Bramlett thanked the nutrition department for providing a wonderful meal for students and parents, even with supply chain issues. He reflected on the observed respect and appreciation that students and staff showed to veterans during their Veterans Day programs and he is proud to be a part of that team. Mr. Bramlett congratulated Ms. Miller on her hard work with realigning district leadership duties, he and thanked Ms. Hyde for stepping up to fill the leadership need within the human resources department.

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

Terry Bramlett, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent