

December 08, 2011
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Bobby Bearden, Chairperson; Lewis DeWeese, Vice-Chairperson; Terry Bramlett; Sandra Mercier; and Steve Stanley. All members were present.

Moved, seconded, and carried to amend the agenda to include the approval of Fannin County Board of Education policies “JB-Student Attendance” and “GAK(1)-Criminal Background Checks” as a consent agenda item.

By motion of Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Sandra Mercier, a unanimous affirmative vote was given to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

Approve the consent agenda.

Approve the board minutes from November 10 and December 7, 2011.

Approve the following facility use requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School Staff and Faculty – use of Blue Ridge Elementary School gymnasium from December 9, 2011 through May 31, 2011, from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;

Fannin County Tea Party Patriots – use of Fannin County Middle School cafeteria, first Thursday of each month from December 2011 through February 2012; and

Fannin County USA Wrestling – use of Fannin County High School old gymnasium, every Tuesday and Thursday from December 13, 2011, through March 01, 2012.

Approve the following field trip requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School First Grade – Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, GA, on February 15, 2012;

Blue Ridge Elementary School Fifth Grade – Atlanta Zoo, Turner Field, Capitol Building, and WSB-TV in Atlanta, GA, on May 16 – 17, 2012;

West Fannin Elementary School Fifth Grade – Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center in Blairsville, GA, on May 9, 2012;

Fannin County High School Skills USA – Rock Eagle 4H Center in Eatonton, GA, on January 6 – 8, 2012; and

Fannin County High School Chorus – Lee University in Cleveland, TN, on February 10 – 11, 2012.

Approve the following fundraiser requests:

Blue Ridge Elementary School – Postcard mailings, January 9 – 20, 2012;

Fannin County Middle School Soccer Team – Sale of tickets for a \$500.00 cash raffle, December 13, 2011 – January 13, 2012; and

Fannin County Middle School TSA – Sale of Ozark Lollipops, January 10 – February 28, 2012.

Approve the following Board Policies:

Revised policy “JB - Student Attendance”; and

Revised policy “GAK (1) - Criminal Background Check.”

Public Comment:

None

After public comment, the Board moved, seconded, and carried to approve the financial report for the month ending October 31, 2011. Mark Henson, Superintendent, stated the SPLOST check received in November for the month of September was \$331,068.13.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Schedule 4 of the Local Option Sales Tax Projects (SPLOST Expenditures) for year ending June 30, 2011.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the VALIC 457(b) Plan Amendment.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the purchase of fifty-five (55) Dell netbook computers. The cost for each computer is \$675.00, for a total of \$37,125.00. The funding for this purchase will come from the VI-B RLIS funds.

Moved, seconded, and carried to appoint Lynn Doss as the local school board attorney for the 2012 calendar year.

The Board discussed the summary of their annual Self-Assessment Results for December 01, 2010, through November 30, 2011. A review of the assessment results indicated an overall satisfactory rating on all eight standards. Two areas suggested as needing improvement included meeting in a retreat environment to review GSBA standards

and reviewing the evaluation processes for all personnel in the district. These two areas will be part of the focus of the upcoming strategic planning session.

Moved, seconded, and carried to go in to executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)).

Moved, seconded, and carried to resume regular session.

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson, announced while in executive session the Board completed the superintendent's evaluation. Mr. Bearden stated that Mr. Henson received the highest possible marks in all of the performance standards categories and exceeded expectations on all standards. Mr. Henson stated that during the five years that he has held the superintendent position, he could not ask for a better job or to work for a better board.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the resignation of Brandi Allen effective December 20, 2011.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Jenna Saxon and Samantha Tarver as teachers for the 2011-2012 school year and Blake Turner as a paraprofessional for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Amy Fields and April Shields as substitute school nutrition workers.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Henson provided members a copy of the Fannin County School System's White Christmas Program Schedule for December 2011. During this event, schools collect food for families in need. Mr. Henson commended the elementary schools for making Christmas a little bit easier for families.

Mr. Henson stated his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as superintendent. He said that he loves what he does, and he is fortunate for the people with whom he works.

Mr. Henson wishes everyone a Merry Christmas. During the holidays, Mr. Henson's wish is for everyone to have a peaceful, restful time, and that we do not have another snowy-white Christmas.

Mr. Henson stated the chorus performed at the recent Fannin County Chamber of Commerce luncheon. He commended the Chamber for their support of the school system and the hard work they do to bring visitors to Fannin County.

Karen Walton, Director of Curriculum and School Improvement, stated the vision and mission statement of the school system would be reviewed at the upcoming strategic planning session.

Mr. Henson asked board members to choose a date for the upcoming strategic planning session. Mr. Henson suggested that it be a half day meeting following a work session.

Board Members' Comments:

Lewis DeWeese stated he wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and may God bless everyone.

Bobby Bearden stated he also wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mr. Bearden stated that his heart goes out to those who have lost loved ones. Mr. Bearden stated recent examples of loss in other Georgia counties with the 15 year old that was run over by a school bus, as well as the 7 year old who was killed. Mr. Bearden stated that Benny Long, Director of Transportation, is doing a great job with safety. Mr. Bearden commented that the Youth Basketball recognition on Friday was a great thing, and he hoped everyone could come out and support the youth.

Sandra Mercier congratulated everyone on a job well done with the Fannin County School System making AYP. Mrs. Mercier also stated that it was good that Fannin County School System had no debt.

Terry Bramlett stated that zero debt was music to an economist's ears. Mr. Bramlett stated that interest is a simple concept that works either for you or against you. Mr. Bramlett stated not having to bond and having the extra \$1.5M dollars to use on projects was phenomenal. Mr. Bramlett wishes that everyone have a Merry Christmas.

Steve Stanley agreed with Mr. Bramlett's statement.

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

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent