

February 11, 2021
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Chad Galloway, Chair; Terry Bramlett, Vice-Chair; Bobby Bearden; and Mike Cole. Lewis DeWeese was absent. A quorum was present. The meeting was held at the Fannin County High School (FCHS) Performing Arts Center (PAC) to allow for adequate social distancing due to concerns with COVID-19.

The meeting was called to order by Chad Galloway, Chair.

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

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from January 14, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. and January 21, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Superintendent Michael Gwatney presented Georgia House Resolution 86 by Speaker David Ralston of the 7th District and made special recognitions for the following **(See attached.)**:

1. FCHS Coach of the Year Chad Cheatham
2. FCHS coaching staff
3. FCHS senior football players
4. FCHS Football Team for winning the 7AA Region 2 Championship

Assistant Superintendent Sarah Rigdon reviewed information from recent School Governance Team (SGT) meetings.

Director of Applied & Integrated Instruction Lucas Roof shared a district health update.

Fannin County Middle School (FCMS) Principal Keith Nuckolls presented school happenings.

Director of Instructional Technology Heather Finley shared a technology update.

The Board heard public comment from one individual.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner and Fannin County School System (FCSS) Lead Maintenance Mike Spurling shared an energy update.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner provided a facilities update.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner provided a construction update.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to grant approval to advertise the CTAE HVAC renovation/modification for bid. This project will be paid for with Capital Outlay Planning System (COPS) reimbursement and SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to purchase ten 28” Orbital Scrubbers from Roman Chemical Corporation for \$85,000. These will be purchased with CARES Act funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

FCCHS Interim Principal Debby Decubellis informed the Board that the prom is planned for April 17, 2021, at INOLA from 7:00 –11:00 p.m.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the FCCHS graduation date for May 21, 2021. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve “Calendar Option 1” for School Year 2021-2022. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve school quarterly financial reports. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the district’s financial report for December 31, 2020. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Director of Finance Susan Wynn informed the Board that the SPLOST check received for December 2020 was \$715,081.45.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the FY 2022 Budget Calendar. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the purchase of a twenty-four passenger special needs bus for FCCHS for \$105,180.00; funding to purchase the bus will be from QBE account number 21-100-0-2081-2700-73200. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Fannin County regarding transportation and meals served through the Fannin County Recreation Department. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve salvaging technology hardware. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to declare technology equipment as surplus. Items listed will be offered via online auction at GovDeals.com. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Assistant Superintendent Robert Ensley provided a review of *Board Policy BH: Board Code of Ethics*.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve applying for Exemplary Board Status. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the resignation of Amanda Deal effective February 4, 2021. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Edward Roy Shade to the Transportation Department effective February 12, 2021, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and certification. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Sara “Ali” Reynolds and Kathryn Wynn as paraprofessionals effective February 16, 2021, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and certification. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Amanda Galloway as a paraprofessional effective February 16, 2021, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and certification. Terry Bramlett, Bobby Bearden, and Mike Cole voted yes; Chad Galloway abstained; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Jillian Breeden’s transfer from paraprofessional to secretary/SIS effective March 1, 2021, pending completion of paperwork and background check, and certification. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Martha Williams as an administrator pending completion of paperwork and background check, and certification. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent’s Comments:

Superintendent Gwatney thanked those watching/attending the meeting, and he commended those who presented at the meeting. Superintendent Gwatney congratulated everyone hired at the meeting; he congratulated the Board, Darren Danner, and Bowen & Watson for an outstanding groundbreaking ceremony for the Transportation Facility and Staff Development Center. He congratulated the football team and state championship wrestling team and recalled the successes of other fall 2020 sport teams. He thanked those in the Technology Department who make Rebel TV possible. He appreciated Elden Moates for his operation and care of the PAC.

Board Members’ Comments:

Terry Bramlett stated that it is an honor to serve and be a part of the Board and celebrate the successes of FCSS students. He thanked all FCSS staff members for the outstanding work being done.

Bobby Bearden thanked the football coaches and players. He congratulated the football and wrestling teams. He congratulated the REACH scholars. He thanked FCMS for their Veterans’ Day program. He appreciated Keith Nuckolls. He thanked those that presented at the meeting and those present and watching online.

Mike Cole stated that he is excited to be on the Board and part of FCSS. He feels Fannin County is blessed during the pandemic as our SPLOST collections have continued to be high. He wants to build additional facilities, but the district is confined at the moment. The FCSS is blessed with sports and academics. He recalled lessons learned from teachers Tommy Cole and Barbara Nichols. He appreciated all FCSS teachers and thanked FCSS leaders. He loves all those connected to the school system and wished everyone a blessed night.

Chad Galloway thanked those in attendance and watching online. He stated that it is a pleasure to serve on the Board. He congratulated the football and wrestling players and coaches. He thanked those who presented at the meeting, and he expressed appreciation for all of the directors and especially Superintendent Gwatney. He thanked Mike Spurling for the money the system is saving through the energy savings program.

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 special session by the Chair when deemed necessary. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Chad Galloway, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent

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