

April 21, 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 held at the Performing Arts Center. The Board approved to postpone the April 2022 meeting from April 14 to April 21 and to change the meeting location to the PAC at the March 10 meeting.

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

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

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from March 10, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Superintendent Michael Gwatney and Fannin High Principal Scott Ramsey recognized the Fannin County High School football, basketball and wrestling coaches and teams for their outstanding athletic performances in region, district, and state competitions. Student wrestler Tristan Siler was also recognized for his heroic actions. Tristan witnessed a car fire and came to the aid of the driver.

Deputy Superintendent Sarah Rigdon reviewed summaries of recent activities at all five Fannin SGTs.

East Fannin Elementary School Principal Matt Price presented school happenings.

The Board heard public comment from one individual.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner provided a facilities and construction update. Representatives from Bowen & Watson construction updated the Board and shared challenges that have occurred with supply-chain disruptions. The team stated they are hopeful that construction will be completed by mid-summer, July at the Toccoa property.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve recommendation to declare old Fannin High School track field equipment as surplus. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve district financial reports for the period ending February 28, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Director of Finance Susan Wynn informed the Board that the SPLOST check received for February 2022 was \$696,213.98.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve a one-year bid with United Community Bank for the Board of Education bank accounts. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the local implementation of HB190-amended FY22 salary supplemental pay for employees funded and employed as of March 16, 2022. Pre-K teachers and paras will be funded through the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL). Employees that were not designated in the Governor's bill will be paid through the General Fund. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Deputy Superintendent Sarah Rigdon presented a local Board training update. The cooperation of local governments in this process is much appreciated and has provided valuable insight. The Board's next training will be May 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the BOE. Training will include a legislative update from Georgia Department of Education Chief Communications Officer Matt Cardoza and a roundtable discussion of stakeholder feedback regarding facilities opportunities at the newly-purchased property adjoining Fannin High. This training is a required part of earning GSBA "Exemplary Board" status.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to go into 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 or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)) **and** to discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property; authorize ordering an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate; enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of, or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; or enter into an option to purchase, dispose of or lease real estate subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)) **and** to consider a matter involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's educational records; (20 USC § 1232g). All members voted yes; motion carried.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to resume the regular meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session for March 10, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway to approve the resignation of Ann Ingram effective April 6, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Chad Galloway to approve the resignations of Rhonda Daves, Debby Decubellis, Megan DeDenato, Shaunmarie Dotson, Cindy Hicks, Betsy Hyde, Melissa King, Elden Moates, Angela Patterson, Wesley Simonton, Daniel Stewart, and Brittany Waggener effective May 31, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden to approve Rhonda Anderson as school nutrition specialist effective June 1, 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Kaitlyn Dickey, Wade Hodges, Daniel Hodgkins, April Eavenson-Nicholson, and Melissa Reese as professional staff effective July 25, 2022, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Jennifer Cole as substitute teacher, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. Bobby Bearden, Terry Bramlett, Lewis DeWeese, and Chad Galloway voted yes; Mike Cole abstained; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Nicole Fish, Victoria Keaton, Jessica Middleton, Olivia Sisson Rhodes, Lana Riggle, Pam Thomas, Kyra White, and Stacy Williams as substitute teachers, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Roy Fallon and Katherine Gryzenia as substitute teachers effective August 1, 2022, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Kyra White as nutrition substitute, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the following administrators effective the 2022-2023 school year. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Heather Collis
Andrea Cook
Alison Danner
Darren Danner
Keshia Dover
Robert Ensley
Heather Finley

David Henson
April Hodges
Connie Huff
Shannon Miller
Mathew Price
Scott Ramsey
Sarah Rigdon

Lucas Roof
Matt Rosenberger
Virginia Tipton
Martha Williams
Shannon York
Mark Young

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the following professional staff effective the 2022-2023 school year. (The list is on pages 4-5 of these minutes.) All members voted yes; motion carried.

Jill Roland Abercrombie
Amy Elizabeth Adams
Sarah Elizabeth Adams
Emily Ann Adams
Heather Renee Ades
Shawn C. Ades
Natasha Rochelle Anderson
Tori Lord Arp
Laura Michelle Babcock
Benjamin Alan Barber
Cindi C. Barnes
Thomas Scott Barnstead
Alicia Faith Baugh
Stephanie Boisjolie
Pamela Sue Boyce
Kimberly Hope Brannon
Joseph D. Breeden
Christian Smith Brogden
Tiffany Leigh Ann Brown
Kelly M. Brown
Scott F. Bryant
Hanna Mary Bryant
Tonya C. Callihan
Samantha Jo Callihan
Tara Smith Cantrell
Renee Tipton Carder
Kelsey Curtis Carver
Linda T. Cass
Kelly Hall Castro
Adrian Elizabeth Chambers
Lynda Kaitlyn Chastain
Ryan Thomas Chastain
Katherine Keen Cheatham
Chad Matthew Cheatham
Maranda Ensley Christian
Jennifer Leigh Cochran
Erin Horne Colbert
Jennifer Lowes Coleman
Alan Frank Collis
Mary Kristin Corbin
Kathy Culpepper
Nancy Custer
Jeffrey M. Daves
Daniel "Seth" Davis
Michelle Anderson Davis
Sarah C. Davis

Jordan Danielle Deal
Nathaniel Thomas Dean
Thomas Daven Dilbeck
Amanda Lents Dixon
Valdora Hammond Dockery
Patricia Lynne Dubois
Jill Strickland Dyer
Brenda Dyer
Shandra Joy English
Rebecca Elaine Erwin
Stephanie Diane Evans
Christopher Farr
Emily Logan Fellenbaum
Terry Flowers
Barbara Foley
David L. Forney
Sheila Louise Fowler
Katherine Rich Franklin
Betty Jean Garland
Todd L Geren
Anne Elizabeth Gibbs
John David Gibbs
Cynthia S. Gilliam
Lena S. Gilreath
Kristin Marie Gladding
Shirlene Althea Gobble
Hannah Webb Godfrey
Payton Gooch
Karen Cassel Goode
Gretchen Burrell Gordon
Samantha Bond Goswick
Greta Lynn Griffin
Michele Stanley Grubb
Christina Marie Rea Gutierrez
Lisa M. Hamby
Cayley Marie Hamilton
Dana Harper
Trevor A. Hart
Morgan Helton
Stacy Nicole Herndon
Christine Carper Hinman
Laura Hancock Hoeve
Jeffrey Holloway
Christie Lee Holtman
Christina Denise Hood
Jennifer Hooper

Judith Amanda Housley
Sabrina Ann Howard
Charlene Dee Hubbard
Danette Chancey Hughes
Kelly Hulsey
Paula June Hyatt
Tiffany Stanley Ingle
Ashley Brooke Stanley Jacobson
Joan Maria Jantti
Nancy Lynne Jessen
Michael Lee Johnson
Myra J. Johnson
Amber Paulette Jones
Angela McDaris Jones
Jill S. Kendall
Jill Elaine Key (49%)
Barbara Hansen King
Candace King
Jeremy Keith King
Jeffrey D. Kuna
Donna P. Ladd
Halle Gabrielle Ladd
Jillian Taylor Lambert
Jennifer L. Larson
Taylor Renae Ledford
Jennifer King Lester
Julia Lindsey
Allison Faith Lindstrom
Nicole Ann Lord
Sarah Major
Kayla Majors
Kathyrne Irene Mancuso
Teresa Stover Martin
Natalie Martin
Christopher Merle Mashburn
Rhonda B. Mathews
Amanda McBride
Tina Darlene Merold
Robert Jude Mills
Alejandra E. Mills
Carrie Elizabeth Minear
Amber Bryson Mitchell
Jodi Lynne Morgan
Brandy Leigh Morgan
Rebecca Nadeau
Brittany Nicole Newton

Sydney Leann Newton
Hannah Faith Nicholson
Ashley Leann McClure Nix
Diana Renae Bice Odom
Kayleigh Harkins O'Neal
Noah Ryne O'Neal
Mary Jean Pace
Zachary H. Padgett
Christopher R. Parker
Angela Gregory Parris
Blake Z. Pass
Suzianne Pass
Charles Robert Patterson
Kathleen Ann Patterson
Pamela Patterson
Callison Rae Payne
Lauren Dickey Payne
Courtney Callihan Pickelsimer
Annette Putnam
Megan Alexandria Queen
Trista Gillespie Ragsdale
Paul Edward Ramirez
Jessica Ann Ramirez
Caprice Mizell Ramsey
Jacob Wheeler Reece
Milicent G. Rice
John Wayne Rich
Selena L. Rich
Kara Gibson Richardson
Myriah Marie Richerson
Bryan R. Richerson
Pamela Karen Ritter
Mary Katherine Roberson
Lora L. Robinson
Colbie Leighton Rogers
Tessa Shea Rogers
Miranda Shook Roof
Christie P. Rose
Siegrid Simone Russell
Sheena Gaddis Rymer
Jennifer Kristy Sanchez
Jenna Lea Saxon
Benjamin Norris Sexton
Susan Lee Shifflette
Trudy Gwendolyn Smith
Heather Elaine Smith
Stacey Lee Smith

Jennifer Hope Sowers
Ashley Jean Sparks
Alesha Daves Stiles
Dana Taylor Stone
Kristen Stone
Travis Alan Stone
Carrie Graham Stout
Erica Jean Strobel
Ashley Hamm Tamberino
Lisa L. Taylor
Christopher L. Thigpen
Amanda Brook Thomas
Julie B. Thompson
Ginger Mathis Thompson
Anthony Scott Tichler
Brittany Todd
David Tupper
Adam M. Turner
Angela Nave Usry
Holly Campbell Viccaro
Lacey B. Walden
Sandra J. Walden
Mary Jennifer Walker
Deanna Beth Ware
Serena Alissia Watkins
Curtis Weldy
Krystal Louise West
Alexandra Danielle Whitener
Amy R. Williams
Jennifer Ruth Workman
Brittany Young
Amy Young
Christina Zell

Superintendent's Comments:

Superintendent Gwatney thanked all in attendance and those viewing the meeting online. He thanked Keith Nuckolls for the invocation, the coaches, administrators, athletic director, and Tristan Siler for their contributions to tonight's meeting. He thanked the Board for making the supplemental pay whole for Fannin. He also congratulated Dr. Connie Huff as she will be the new Director of Instructional Services and Curriculum.

Superintendent Gwatney invited all in attendance to a special called Board meeting on Friday, April 22, 2022, at the PAC at 11:00 a.m. It will be a historic event where both the Board of Education and the Fannin County Board of Commissioners will simultaneously hold meetings with State Representative and Speaker of the House David Ralston in attendance.

Superintendent Gwatney thanked Elden Moates for 47 years of service with Fannin Schools. Mr. Moates has been at Fannin County High School since it opened, and it will be difficult to imagine Fannin County High School without him. He is an incredible person and teacher, and Dr. Gwatney wished him all the best!

Board Members' Comments:

Chad Galloway thanked everyone for participating in person or online. He thanked Ms. York and the student athletes and congratulated them on their successes. Mr. Galloway congratulated Dr. Huff on her new position. He also spoke to Mr. Moates and thanked him for the things that he had taught him as a student. He also recognized Mr. Moates' service to Fannin schools. Mr. Galloway also thanked Mr. Danner and the representatives of Bowen & Watson for their update and insight.

Bobby Bearden congratulated Dr. Huff. He also recognized Ms. York and the student athletes for their outstanding performance this year. Mr. Bearden was reminded how thankful he is that we live in a community that helps one another. He spoke to Tristan Siler and acknowledge his bravery and praised him for doing the right thing. Mr. Bearden concluded by saying that his heart is 110% in this system. We all act as a family. Kids First!

Lewis DeWeese stated that we are in the kid business and celebrating the success of our students is a wonderful part of that. He stated that Mr. Moates has the heart of our kids and that supporting our kids is what it is all about.

Mike Cole thanked Mr. Price for the East Fannin update. He reflected on the legacy of Elden and Wanda Moates. Their names are still spoken at his house and their influence carries on. He stated that all in our system are heroes and that no one gets paid enough. However, he is grateful the Governor recognized and supported the Bill to supplement pay. Mr. Cole stated he is thankful for the teachers and for all that they do for our students. He loves this place!

Terry Bramlett stated that he is proud of our student athletes; we have wonderful school spirit. He congratulated Dr. Huff. Mr. Bramlett thanked EFES Principal Matt Price for the update. He also extended his thanks to the construction representatives from Bowen & Watson for their insight on the delays that we are experiencing.

Mr. Bramlett thanked Mr. Moates for his effectiveness, leadership, and dedication to our system. He recognized the PAC as a testament to the excellence of Mr. Moates' efforts.

Mr. Bramlett stated that he has an enormous amount of respect for the gentlemen that serve on the Board. In conclusion, Mr. Bramlett thanked all for their prayers and shared that he has received positive test results indicating that he is cancer-free!

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

Terry Bramlett, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent

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