

June 8, 2017
6:00 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order by Bobby Bearden, Chair.

By motion from Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the following items on the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the meeting minutes from June 6, 2017, 8:00 a.m., May 22, 2017, 8:00 a.m., and May 11, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

Approve Fannin County Middle School Surplus Property bid to Brandon Flowers for all 4 lots in the amount of \$50.00.

Lot 1: 3 Incline Press Stations

Lot 2: 3 Squat Stations

Lot 3: 3 Bench Press Stations

Lot 4: 2 Weight Racks

Revise Board Policy IHE- Promotion and Retention- to lay on table for public view until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Local Board Training selections- Robert Ensley, Director of Instructional Services and Assessment, announced Board members have completed all trainings for the year.

Public Comment:

None.

After public comment, motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the financial report for the month ending April 30, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Henson stated the SPLOST check received in May for April was \$395,940.51.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the FY18 Budget Time Line. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the Spending Resolution for the month of July 2017 (see attached). All members voted yes; motion carried (see attachment).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to accept the resignation of Cynthia Panter effective June 30, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Jessica Borgerding as a paraprofessional. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the contract for upcoming Superintendent Michael Gwatney. The contract is for 12 months and will take effect July 1, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Mark Henson, Superintendent, asked Cynthia Panter, Executive Director, to present Shannon Miller, Principal of Blue Ridge Elementary, with her certificate for receiving the Title I Reward School award. Mr. Henson asked Sarah Rigdon, Principal of East Fannin Elementary, to inform the Board of their achievement at her school. Ms. Rigdon announced her school had received the Georgia Family Friendly Partnership Award. East Fannin was one of five schools in the state that received that award, and the school will be getting a visit from State Superintendent Richard Woods in the fall to present the award. Mr. Henson commended Erik Cioffi, Principal of Fannin County High School, on the decorum he brought to graduation. It was an excellent graduation with a lot of respect in the stands. The faculty and staff were excited for the kids walking across the field. Mr. Henson stated this was the tenth graduating class he has been a part of, and he is proud of each one. He is proud of the parents and stakeholders for keeping the event solemn in showing their pride for their children graduating.

Mr. Henson stated he has been a lucky man and graced with colleagues that have always helped him out. He has been surrounded by the best leadership team and great teachers who really care about kids. Mr. Henson was lucky to have a dad who understood how school systems run, and he gave him a lot of wisdom and knowledge. He is proud to have worked with the core team in the central office and said it has been a blessing and an honor and he appreciates the School Board. He has been at the Central office for 17 years and has never missed a Board meeting or a Called Board meeting. He appreciates the opportunity he has been given and wouldn't trade it for any amount of money. He said it's the greatest job he's ever had and for that he said "Thank You!"

During Superintendent's comments, Cynthia Panter, Executive Director, made the recommendation to accept Mark Henson's resignation effective June 30, 2017. Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the resignation of Mark Henson effective June 30, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Board Members' Comments:

Bobby Bearden thanked everybody and all the principals for attending the meeting. He told Ms. Panter her job could be replaced but she as a person could not. He told Mr. Henson nobody will be able to take his spot. He said everybody in this building loves their job and that shows in all the accomplishments, and Fannin County is the best system in Georgia. He said "God Speed to Mr. Henson, Ms. Panter, and Ms. Walton."

Lewis DeWeese stated Mr. Henson has blessed our kids and blessed the school system. Fannin County has something special. It's passion, grace, love, kid-caring, and it's endless. Mr. DeWeese prays Mr. Henson will prosper in whatever he decides to do after retirement and

believes he will because of who he is. He is looking forward to working with Dr. Gwatney. He thinks the spirit of Fannin County will not change; everyone will continue doing the best they can putting the kids first. Mr. DeWeese says it's an honor to be a part of it. He said he doesn't have enough words to thank Mr. Henson for all he has done, so he said "God Speed to Mr. Henson" and wishes him well. He also hopes the Lord takes a special liking to him.

Terry Bramlett congratulated Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Rigdon on their school's achievements. He congratulated Mr. Cioffi on another successful school year and graduation. Mr. Bramlett said it had been an honor to work with Mr. Henson, and he has supported him 100% since day one. He said his dedication to running the organization in a responsible and economical way was phenomenal. His approach has brought one of the lowest millage rates in the state, while at the same time increased the educational opportunities of the students of Fannin County. He increased student achievement to one of the highest levels in the state, as well, and that's not a typical equation. Mr. Bramlett has always been impressed with Mr. Henson's decision making. He is always thoughtful but decisive in action when tough calls had to be made. He always listened and consulted the Board and always informed the Board. Mr. Bramlett said it was fun to ponder the effects Mr. Henson has had on thousands of children in the Fannin County School System and for that he says thanks on behalf of the students, taxpayers, and the Board. It has been an honor to work him.

Chad Galloway congratulated Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Rigdon for their achievements at their schools. He congratulated Ms. Panter on her retirement but hates to see her leave. Mr. Galloway enjoyed Mr. Henson as a teacher when he was in school and he appreciates his service and time dedicated to the school system, and for that he says "Thank You."

Steve Stanley sent his thoughts to Karen Walton, Assistant Superintendent School Improvement & Curriculum (P-8), for the loss of her father during the week. During Steve's term on the Board, Mr. Henson has been superintendent, and he says it's going to be different without him. Mr. Stanley thanked all the principals for attending the meeting. He thanked Mr. Cioffi for the very nice graduation ceremony for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Stanley thanked Cynthia Panter for always being a help to him and answering his questions.

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.

Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

Mark Henson, Superintendent