

April 15, 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; Mike Cole; and Lewis DeWeese. All members were 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 Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve the agenda.

Approve the Board meeting minutes from March 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. and March 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Superintendent Michael Gwatney recognized the following individuals:

1. Fannin County School System's (FCSS) Athletic Director David Henson for being named Region 7-AA Athletic Director of the Year.
2. FCHS's state champion wrestling team and coaches.
3. Newly appointed Fannin County Middle School (FCMS) Principal Mark Young.

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

East Fannin Elementary School (EFES) Principal Matt Price presented school happenings.

Deputy Superintendent Sarah Rigdon shared an update on federal Coronavirus emergency relief funds: Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security Act (CARES/ESSER I), Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CARES II/ESSER II/CRRSA), and American Rescue Plan Act (CARES III/ARP/ESSER III).

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

The Board heard public comment from two individuals.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner provided a facilities update.

Assistant Superintendent Darren Danner provided a construction update.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the district's financial report for February 28, 2021. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Director of Finance Susan Wynn informed the Board that the SPLOST check received for February 2021 was \$603,930.41.

Director of Finance Susan Wynn shared a Fiscal Year 2022 budget update.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the purchase of 750 Chromebooks to be purchased from Vivacity Tech for \$190,425.00 using CARES funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the purchase of 59 ViewSonic Flat Panels from Gov Connection for \$202,230.00 using CARES funds. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the 2020-2021 Board External Review. All members voted yes; motion carried. **(See attached.)**

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the resignations of Jason Shadden, Yvette Scarce, and Vanessa Weaver effective May 26, 2021. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the resignations of Jessica Holzworth, Brenda Thomas, and Sarah Welch effective May 31, 2021. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cole, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Allison Lindstrom as a teacher effective SY 2021-2022, pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Katie Seabolt as a Parent Liaison, pending completion of paperwork and background check. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve Vanessa Weaver as Interim Assistant Principal. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Cheryl Hayes as a substitute for the Transportation Department, pending completion of paperwork, background check, and training. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Mike Cole, to approve the following administrators effective the 2021-2022 school year. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Heather Collis	Heather Finley	Scott Ramsey
Andrea Crump	David Henson	Sarah Rigdon
Alison Danner	April Hodges	Lucas Roof
Darren Danner	Connie Huff	Virginia "Gini" Tipton
Debby Decubellis	Shannon Miller	Martha Williams
Robert Ensley	Mathew Price	Mark Young

Motion by Chad Galloway, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve the following certified personnel effective the 2021-2022 school year. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Adams, Amy	Allen, Rebecca	Barnes, Cindi	Brogden, Christy
Adams, Emily	Anderson, Natasha	Barnstead, Scott	Brown, Kelly
Adams, Sarah	Arp, Tori	Boyce, Pam	Brown, Tiffany
Ades, Heather	Ayers, Jon	Brannon, Kimberly	Bryant, Hanna
Ades, Shawn	Babcock, Laura	Breeden, Joseph	Bryant, Scott

Burrell, Gretchen	Geren, Todd	Lord, Nicole	Richerson, Myriah
Callihan, Cassie	Gibbs, Anna	Martin, Natalie	Ritter, Pamela
Callihan, Samantha	Gibbs, John	Martin, Teresa	Roberson, Katy
Callihan, Tonya	Gilliam, Cindy	Mashburn, Chris	Robinson, Lora
Cantrell, Tara	Gilreath, Stacey	Mathews, Rhonda	Rogers, Tessa
Carder, Renee	Gobble, Althea	Mathis, Ginger	Roof, Miranda
Cass, Linda	Godfrey, Hannah	McDonald, Marcie	Rose, Christie
Castro, Kelly	Goode, Karen	Merold, Tina	Russell, Siegrid
Chambers, Adrian	Goswick, Samantha	Mills, Robert	Saxon, Jenna
Chastain, Colbie Rogers	Griffin, Greta	Miner, Carrie	Sexton, Ben
Chastain, Kaitlyn	Grubb, Michele	Mitchell, Amber	Sexton, Donna
Chastain, Ryan	Gutierrez, Christina	Moates, Elden - 49%	Shinpaugh, April
Cheatham, Chad	Hamby, Michelle	Morgan, Brandy	Simonton, Wesley
Cheatham, Katherine	Hamilton, Cayley Bryant	Morgan, Debra "Debbie"	Smith, Heather
Christian, Maranda	Harper, Dana	Morgan, Jodi	Smith, Stacey Lee
Cochran, Jennifer	Hart, Trevor	Newton, Brittany	Sowers, Hope
Colbert, Erin	Helton, Morgan	Newton, Sydney	Sparks, Ashley
Coleman, Jennifer	Henry, Vicki	Nicholson, Hannah	Stewart, Daniel
Collis, Alan	Herndon, Stacy	Nix, Ashley McClure	Stewart, Sara
Corbin, Mary	Hicks, Cynthia	Odom, Diana Bice	Stiles, Alesha
Culpepper, Kathy	Hinman, Christine	Olivarria, Lisset	Strausbaugh, Vanessa
Culpepper, Shannon	Hoeve, Laura	O'Neal Kayleigh	Stone, Dana Taylor
Daves, Jeffrey	Holtman, Christie	O'Neal, Noah	Stone, Travis
Davis, Hannah	Hood, Christina	Owenby, Lauren Travis	Stout, Carrie
Davis, Michelle	Housley, Amanda	Pace, Mary Jean	Strobel, Erica A.
Davis, Sarah	Howard, Sabrina	Padgett, David	Summers, Tami
Davis, Seth	Hubbard, Charlene	Padgett, Zachary	Tamberino, Ashley
Deal, Jordan	Hughes, Danette	Parker, Chris	Taylor, Khalisa B.
Dean, Halle	Hulsey, Kelly	Parris, Angela	Taylor, Lisa
Dean, Nathan	Hyatt, Paula	Pass, Blake	Thigpen, Christopher
DeDonato, Megan	Ingle, Tiffany	Pass, Suzanne	Thomas, Amanda
Dixon, Amanda	Jacobson, Ashley	Patterson, Angela	Thomas, Dewayne
Dockery, Valdora	Jantti, Joan	Patterson, Charles	Thomas, Tammy
Dotson, Shaunmarie	Jessen, Nancy	Patterson, Kathleen	Thompson, Julie
Dover, Keshia Cox	Johnson, Michael Lee	Patterson, Pamela	Tichler, Anthony
DuBois, Patricia	Jones, Angela	Payne, Callison	Todd, Brittany
Dyer, Brenda	Kendall, Jill	Payne, Lauren	Turner, Adam
Dyer, Jill	Key, Jill - 49%	Pickelsimer, Courtney	Viccaro, Holly
Eisenhart, Lora	King, Barbara	Putnam, Annette	Waggener, Brittany
Erwin, Rebecca	King, Candace	Queen, Megan	Walden, Sandra
Evans, Stephanie	King, Jeremy	Ragsdale, Trista	Walker, Jennifer
Farr, Chris	King, Melissa	Ramirez, Paul	Ware, Deanne Beth
Fellenbaum, Emily	Kuna, Jeff	Ramirez, Jessica	Watkins, Serena
Fleeman, Shannon	Ladd, Donna	Rhodes, Cynthia	Weaver, Jeffrey
Flowers, Terry B.	Lambert, Jill	Rice, Milicent	West, Krystal
Forney, David	Larson, Jennifer	Rich, Selena	Weinkle, Temple
Franklin, Katherine	Ledford, Taylor	Richardson, Kara	Whitener, Alex
Garland, Betty J.	Lindsey, Julia	Richerson, Bryan	Williams, Amy

Workman, Jennifer

Young, Amy

Young, Caprice

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Heather Boyle at 100% as certified personnel. Bobby Bearden, Terry Bramlett, Mike Cole, and Chad Galloway voted yes; Lewis DeWeese abstained; motion carried.

### **Superintendent's Comments:**

**Superintendent Gwatney** thanked Fannin County Emergency Management Agency, Fannin County Health Department, and North Georgia Technical College for assisting with COVID-19 vaccinations. He commended the wrestling team and their coaches for their accomplishments. He appreciated Keith Nuckolls's assistance in the FCMS administrative transition and thanked those who presented during the meeting. Superintendent Gwatney reflected on the past year and the accomplishments made by the FCSS. He commended teachers, leaders, staff, and Board members for their efforts during this difficult year. He encouraged anyone with concerns to speak with their principals, administrators, him, and/or Board members. He stated that he is thankful for the blessings and prayers this school district has received and the people who are taking care of our kids. He is thankful to be in Fannin County.

Superintendent Gwatney recognized Elden Moates for 46 years of service (and counting).

### **Board Members' Comments:**

**Mike Cole** stated that he is glad to be part of the FCSS family. He is thankful for the School Resource Officers. He recognized that the whole school system has been productive this year; he thanked David Henson and Coach Chuck Patterson for promoting many successes. He congratulated Mark Young. He believes FCSS employees really love kids and go above and beyond to support them. He stated the \$98,300 that has been spent on sanitation and cleaning supplies this year shows that efforts are being made to take care of students and staff, and he is thankful the FCSS has the financial means to be able to provide these things. He appreciated John Mason for his service and stance. He is happy to be affiliated with FCSS. He thanked and appreciated Superintendent Michael Gwatney for the job he does.

**Bobby Bearden** said "ditto" to Mr. Cole's comments. He thanked those attending and commended the wrestling team and coaches for their successes. He appreciated those who presented at the meeting and is excited about the construction projects. He thanked all school personnel for doing a great job, and he stated his opinion that the FCSS is at the present time the best school system in the state of Georgia.

**Lewis DeWeese** stated "kids first, family, and love." He stated, "John Mason brought respect to our meeting, which is to be respected and admired for standing up and taking a stand this day." He said he is very proud of our school system and thanked those who keep kids first and continue to improve. He thanked everyone in the school system.

**Terry Bramlett** agreed with all previous comments. He stated that challenges create opportunities; FCSS has risen to the occasion, and he is proud of the dedication from teachers, staff, and employees who have made it possible for children to attend school. There are risks beyond COVID and challenges to online learning. He offered "hats off to the entire system for their dedication and making it possible." He takes great joy in being part of a team whose sole purpose is to develop policy that supports teachers and empowers students to grow and learn.

**Chad Galloway** thanked those in attendance and said it is a pleasure to serve on the Board. FCSS has a culture of what you see and what is going on in the system. Everyone working together and helping each other to get through is impressive, and he is proud to be part of this culture.

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.

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Chad Galloway, Chairperson

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Michael Gwatney, Superintendent

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