



Board Bullets

Highlights of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting held Thursday, January 11, 2018 (Central Office)

Thank you to those Principals, Administrators, and Central Office Staff attending.

- Beginning at 6 pm, Mr. Paul Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.
- Mr. Tim West led the pledge of allegiance.
- Ms. Wanda Arrowood read the mission statement.
- The agenda was accepted as presented.
- The Minutes from the December 14, 2017 regular board meeting were approved as presented.
- Mr. Brown called for public comment. Pastor Rob Rollins appeared before the Board and made a statement of appreciation and support of the Board, Administrators, and Teachers. He expressed knowledge of the difficulties associated with decision making as a board member; he also expressed appreciation of teachers who work so hard with limited resources and who have a very difficult job. In conclusion he stressed that all board members should focus on making the best decisions possible for the advancement of education for our students.
- Mr. Winfield Clonts and Mr. John Higdon presented the Financial Planning Subcommittee report. Having only one item to report, Messrs. Clonts and Higdon informed the Board of an emergent HVAC repair made on one of the outside HVAC units at HDS. Mr. Higdon stated the cost of the repair was \$9,523 and that Dalton HVAC had performed the service.
- Dr. Jeana Conley presented budget amendments for the following Funds:
 - State Public School Fund
 - Federal Programs Fund
 - Capital Projects Fund
 - Use of ½ Sales Tax Request for \$9,523.
- The budget amendments and usage of ½ cent sales tax are approved.
- Mr. Jeff Tatham delivered the Policy Subcommittee recommendations by announcing the following policy for second reading, and one for deletion:
 - 4600 Student Fees
 - 6125 Administering Medicines to Students
 - 6340 Transportation Services/Vehicle Contracts
 - 6420 Contracts with the board
 - 6430 Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials, and Supplies
 - Deletion of policy 6440 Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials & Supplies

The policies presented for second reading are approved; the policy presented for deletion is deleted.
- Next, Mr. Tatham presented the following policies for first reading:
 - 6442 Vendor Lists
 - 6450 Purchase of Services
 - 7240 Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace
 - 7410 Teacher Contracts

- 7510 Leave
- Dr. Conley delivered her superintendent's report. During the report, Dr. Conley reported good news items as provided by Principals and staff:
 - Staff Wellness
 - In order to promote health and fitness among the employees of Cherokee County Schools, each year Heather Watson holds a Biggest Loser competition. At present there are 63 staff members participating in the competition. It is an individual competition with each person paying a \$10 entry fee and there will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner.
 - AES
 - AES teachers Hailey Raxter, Ann Williams, Debbie Hawkins, Cassie Hyde, and Kristen Higdon all received Learning Links Grants totaling \$4,000. Dedra Davis also received a grant from AC Moore to purchase art supplies for a print making unit at AES.
 - AES raised \$562.80 for Toys for Tots Campaign.
 - AES students received Christmas help through Andrews Second Baptist and Shop with a Cop. Christmas backpacks were also provided through the Truett Baptist Association.
 - Our second grade students sang Christmas Carols at the senior center. It was a treat for our students and the seniors!
 - Our chorus joined with AHS chorus for a Christmas concert at Andrews First Baptist Church. Our chorus was also featured at the "Christmas on Main" event in November.
 - AHS
 - Ms. Kilpatrick's intern, Anna Crisp, was nominated for Western Carolina University's Outstanding Prospective Teacher award, and Ms. Kilpatrick was nominated for Western Carolina University's Outstanding Cooperating Teacher award. They found out the results at an awards ceremony at WCU on December 15, where Ms. Crisp was awarded the Outstanding Prospective Teacher Award and Ms. Kilpatrick was awarded the Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award.
 - Five of our students who competed in regional HOSA competition placed and will go to the State HOSA competition in March. The students are Karlie Curtis, Jordan Pendergrass, Karra Postell, Amy Allen, and Sierra Hatcher.
 - The EC department (Tatham and Keown) received \$1600 grant to purchase alternate seating and book sets with audio for book study units.
 - Foods I and Foods II classes are choosing a menu for an upcoming dessert theatre at the Cultural Arts Center. After a menu has been chosen, students will then design the menu and make the desserts.
 - Hannah McCaw, senior, was accepted to join Young Harris' Honors Band and will join students from the tri-state area to perform January 14th after a two day clinic. Ms. McCaw was also accepted to Western Carolina University's Honors Band and will perform with other high school students from across the state after a three day clinic on January 27th.
 - We hosted a very successful basketball tournament over the Christmas Holidays.
 - We received a \$5950.00 grant from the Leon C. and Grace E. Luther Charitable Fund of the Community Foundation of WNC. The grant will be used to help purchase Chromebooks for disadvantaged students, NC Wildlife course materials, Media Center furniture and flat screen televisions and chromecasts for classrooms.
 - AMS
 - John Worden was the recipient of the Lowes Toolbox for Education Grant for \$5000. Alaina Ledford received the Learning Links Grant as well as the Target Field Trip Grants.
 - Over 50 students received "Christmas" provided by several community organizations throughout the county.
 - AMS raised \$400 for our Toys for Tots campaign and had overfilled our collection boxes

- with toys.
- The middle school wrestling team won their first match ever on January 9th versus Cherokee Middle School.
- AMS will be hosting an AIG Workshop on January 16th for PES, AES and MCES where our AIG students will be presenting Makey-Makey, Spheros and Drone activities.
- We welcome Morgan Figliola to our awesome AMS staff as an EC teacher.
- We will be holding our second Student-Led Conferences on January 16-17.
- **HDEMS**
 - On Dec. 13, HDHS seniors hosted a Job Fair/Career Day for our elementary students. They presented highly-engaging, interactive sessions about various careers in which they had interned. The elementary students enjoyed learning about the job expectations of many different careers from these older students whom they respect.
 - On Dec. 14, the elementary, middle, and high school Bands, along with the high school Chorus, performed a Christmas concert at the school. It was an evening of Christmas carols, medleys, and fun.
 - The Screaming Eagle Band traveled to Ranger School on Dec. 21 to combine with their 5th grade Band students for a Christmas performance.
 - Our Pre-K through 5th grade students presented a wonderful Christmas Program with traditional and modern-day carols for local senior citizens on Dec. 19 and for parents on Dec. 22. Santa even made an appearance and brought great joy to all our students and families.
 - In the spirit of Christmas, many local churches, organizations, and families stepped forward to help ensure every student had a joy-filled holiday, complete with presents, food, and the knowledge that their community cares about them.
- **HDHS**
 - Started an indoor track team for the first time. At yesterday's meet Micah Anderson finished 1st in the long jump and several other students finished in the top ten of their events.
 - Blood Drive scheduled for 1/18.
 - Mrs. Angel Long finished up her internship with Mrs. Wendy Britt, and was very successful and was recognized by WCU.
 - We had a successful band and choral Christmas Concert.
 - On Dec. 13, seniors hosted a Job Fair/Career Day for our elementary students. This was the presentation of their Senior Projects. Students were judge on the presentation by various staff members. It was very informative.
- **MCEMS**
 - 4th grader Ellie Martinez (1st place), Sophia Huskins, Samuel Lewis, Hailey Hope, and Fern Crayton (4-way tie for 2nd) will go on to represent MCS in the Cherokee County Soil and Water Conservation poster contest.
 - Rodney Sellers, Amy Morin, Rebekah Simonds, Twyla Starnes, and Hillary Chastain (aka the Mindbenders) recently won a week-long talent and trivia contest put on by the company Smart Team Building. During the competition, 32 creative school improvement ideas were generated by all the teams involved, and scores of random acts of kindness were perpetrated on unsuspecting school stakeholders.
 - Starting 1-10-18, a pair of 6th graders, Molly Ledford and Brooklyn Reyes are teaching a sign language class to 4th, 5th, and 6th graders after school.
 - 113 students made the honor roll for Q2. These students' names will be entered in a drawing for prizes, and students making the honor roll all 4 quarters will earn a free trip to Wonder Works in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.
- **MES**
 - Mrs. Sara Hickey earned enough funds through Donors Choose to purchase 2 alternative

- seating options for her classroom
- Third grade was awarded an \$800 grant from Learning Links to take their students to the Intellus Science Museum.
- MES teachers and assistants participated in a two day Writers Workshop. This was hosted by WRESA and author Lisa Cleaveland. Our school is currently working on a pacing guide based on the new standards for next year.
- MES is partnering with Active Routes to School to implement a morning “walk and talk”
- MHS
 - Riley Lachance was selected to the NCSCA 1A All-State team. Only 11 players in NC are selected for this honor. He was also selected for Asheville Citizens All-Western 1st Team. He is the first to receive these two awards in our schools history in soccer.
 - Congrats to Murphy Basketball teams on their championship appearance in the 24th Battle of The States.
 - Murphy Girls won the tournament by defeating Hokes Bluff Alabama in the championship game.
 - Ashlyn Gentry won the local and district VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship and now she goes on to the state level.
- MMS
 - We are proud of the Murphy Middle School First Lego League Robotics Team! We finished 3rd overall out of 48 teams and received a 1st place trophy in gracious professionalism at the regional qualifier! The next step is the state championship in January! Not too shabby for a team of rookies! Congrats to the coaches, Mr. David Decker and Mrs. Debbie White, and to the team on their success!
 - MMS received a \$4,000 grant from Learning Links. The money has been used to purchase Little Bits coding kits, STEAM kits, BB-8 Spheros, and Droid Inventor kits. The MMS faculty participated in professional development last week to learn how to use these resources in their classrooms. Photos and videos of the fun can be found on the MMS Facebook and Instagram pages.
 - We also received another \$4,000 Lowes Toolbox for Education grant this month for additional Little Bits coding kits and additional STEM/STEAM resources.
 - 28 students were on the MMS Angel Tree and all received Christmas gifts.
 - Hayden Rogers spoke to 8th grade students about the US Government and his job in Washington D.C.
 - We raised \$743 for Toys for Tots.
 - Morehead Mobile Labs: Destiny Bus will be visiting MMS on 12/13 to meet with 8th graders and conduct a lab on water quality.
 - MMS Career Day was a huge success. We hosted numerous people from the community and the students were exposed to all kinds of interesting careers.
 - MMS 21st Century is in full swing and now has a waiting list. They have been working on several interesting art projects---knitting, wood burning, water color, and origami.
 - Mrs. Payne’s Life Skills class received an \$800 Learning Links Grant to provide cooking lessons and a healthy choices class for the 2nd semester. Peer helpers will be used to assist Mrs. Payne’s students in their weekly lessons of planning the meals, buying the groceries, and cooking a healthy meal.
 - Mrs. Payne’s students will receive owl pellets to dissect, caterpillars to feed for a butterfly habitat, and other supplies for class projects from a DonorsChoose.org project funded by J. Crew.
 - 8th grade read the novel “Wonder” in their ELA classes and saw the movie. This opportunity allowed the 8th grade team and students to discuss bullying and preventing this act.

- Mrs. Breeze Raxter received funding for “Reaching SMART goals for Math” through a Donors Choose project. The materials and resources will be used to continue the students’ efforts on making reaching their SMART goals. This is part of a schoolwide effort to have students take ownership of their learning.
- Mrs. Payne’s class also received a grant for vocational supplies to be used for life skills training. MMS Beta students will be helping to assemble the life skills folders.
- PES
 - Thanks to the \$15,000 People in Need Grant and assistance with ChromeBooks for grades 3 - 5, PES will be 1:1! iPads will be purchased for kindergarten and first grade. Chromebooks will be available for second through fifth grades.
 - The PES PTA has volunteered to purchase iPad cases for kindergarten and first grade.
 - AIG students will participate in a Makey-Makey workshop on January 16th AMS.
 - 4th and 5th grade girls will participate in the MIT Women’s Initiative Visit on January 26th.
 - PES is happy to host 2 MHS students (Keagan Moss and Taylor Fulgham) who are interning to learn more about the field of education.
- REMS
 - 28 students throughout the school achieved Perfect Attendance for the 2nd nine weeks. The students were reward with a trip to the Theater.
 - The Junior Beta Club inducted 11 new 4th grade members to the charter group that began this year at REMS.
 - Mrs. Ennis's 4th Grade classes received a grant that will help fund a field trip to the Biltmore in Asheville, NC and also received several sets of books for classroom use from anonymous and generous donations from several sources on Donor's Choose. The students are enjoying these books and are very grateful for the individuals who helped put these resources into their classroom.
 - Kindergarten has hosted an education student from ECU and will be hosting a student teacher from Appalachian State.
 - Kindergarten and the 7th grade science classes (and some 8th graders) teamed up to learn about harmful bacteria and the importance of good hygiene.
 - AmeriCorps Environmental Educator Ericka Hincke is teaching the students to create bird friendly environments to ensure quality bird watching and identifying as well as teaching about the life cycle of birds.
 - Ranger School Elementary/Middle School Chorus performed their Annual program entitled “White Christmas”. The program was a big success. It was under the direction of Mrs. Carol Moss.
 - Ranger Mite Boys won the Christmas Tournament and at this time they are undefeated. They are coached by Mitchell Golden and Craig Rummler.
 - As part of a Civil War unit in 8th grade social studies, students were able to enrich their understanding of the war as Mr. Vanbuskirk and guest speakers presented to the students. Not only did they share information of the era, they brought many relics and artifacts from the war that students were able to see.
 - 5th Grade Students - Bo Meyers, Alexis Totherow, Chloe Grizzle, Trinity Bruce, Sydney Rascol. Lexis King will have their Art displayed at the Carl Sandberg Home National Historic Site from April 1st - May 31st. The theme is entitled: Nothing Happens Unless First a Dream.
 - Our Science Olympiad Club under the direction of Sherry Brookins and Gabrielle Gagnon are working on their projects for the upcoming tournament at Western Carolina.
 - Martians Creek, Hiawassee Dam, and Ranger had a scientist from Morehouse come and do some hands on experiments with them entitled , "So Fresh So Clean" - this was hosted and

held Ranger Middle School Science Room - Mrs. Brookins Lab.

- Our Entrepreneurship Club, Wolfie Wolf Tees has been busy making spirit wear for the students, grade level field trip shirts for the elementary school, and holiday shirts for the holidays.
- Ranger will host MIT students in January, these students are all girls who attend MIT Woman's Initiative Visit they will be giving preference and encouragement to our AIG girls and those who are interested in engineering fields.- they will doing a hands on workshop with girls from grades 4th-8th.

- TCEC

- TCEC held its second Exhibition Event on December 19th. This quarter's project was entitled Superhero Solutions and focused on Disaster Relief. Students were tasked with developing a product that would help with a disaster before, during, or after it occurred. Some amazing, marketable ideas came from the students. Over 200 community members were in attendance. One group was recognized by The Cherokee Scout for installing smoke detectors which were donated by The Red Cross in local homes, one of which caught fire soon after the installation. The fire chief commended the group for saving the resident's home.
- TCEC Chorus entertained downtown Murphy on December 21st with some old-fashioned caroling. Students sang for The Murphy Police Department, the Courthouse, Downtown Pizza, Cowan and Cowan, the Sheriff's Department, and the MMC Nursing Home. This followed a wonderful concert on December 19th at Murphy First Baptist Church by the TCEC/MHS/MMS Combined Choirs and the MMS/MHS Bands on December 19.

- Mr. Arnold Mathews read the motion to adjourn to break and closed session. The motion is approved.
- A motion was made to return to open session. The motion is approved.
- When the Board returned to open session, the following actions were taken:

- **The Board approved the following Retirement & Resignations:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type of Request</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
Linda Gentles	Retirement	04-01-2018
Kayla Sprinkles	Resignation	12-12-2017
Angie West	Resignation	12-15-2017

- **The Board approved the following leave of absence:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position/School</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates</i>
Hannah English	Teacher, HDHS	01-16-2018—03-19-2018
Robin Hughes	Custodian, MMS	01-03-2018—02-01-2018
Monica Wayman	Teacher, HDEMS	01-22-2018—04-24-2018

- **The Board approved the following hiring recommendations:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position & Assignment</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
Scott Sankey	School Nutrition (PT), MHS	01-16-2018

- **The Board approved the following Substitute Teachers:**

- Pauline Jones
- Caleb Tallman

- **The Board approved the following Helping Hands School Volunteers**

<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Reason for Volunteering</i>	<i>Application Renewal Date</i>
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Matthew Maennle	AHS	Basketball, Football	01-14-2019
James Raper	HDHS	Basketball	01-14-2019
Sandy Parker	MHS/MMS	Special Event Assistant	01-14-2019

- Mr. Brown announced the next regular Board of Education meeting will be held Thursday, February 8, 2018 beginning at 6 pm at Central Office. The next Financial Planning Subcommittee and Policy Subcommittee meetings will be held Thursday, February 1, 2018 beginning at 4 and 5 pm at Central Office.
- Having dispensed with the foregoing business and there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.