



Board Bullets

Highlights of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting Thursday, March 9, 2017

- Beginning at 6 pm, Ms. Wanda Arrowood called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.
- Mr. Jeff Tatham led the pledge of allegiance.
- Mr. Arnold Mathews read the mission statement.
- The agenda was accepted as presented.
- The Minutes from the February 9, 2017 board meeting were approved as presented.
- Ms. Arrowood called for public comment. There was none.
- Mr. Winfield Clonts delivered a report from the Financial Planning Subcommittee meeting held March 2, 2017. Mr. Clonts reported on several items discussed during the subcommittee meeting. Following this, he reported the items the subcommittee had consented to as necessary expenses. Those items are:
 - Providing funding for playground upgrades and improvements for AES.
 - Delivery of a county vehicle replacement schedule.
 - Replacement or repair of the MHS Vocational Building HVAC unit by Elliott Bros. HVAC.
 - Purchase of Yellow Safety Fencing Cap for MCEMS and AMS baseball fields from Burnette Athletics.
 - Repair of MCEMS and MHS boiler systems by Bolton, HVAC.
 - Generator repair for REMS by Appalachian Generator Svc.
 - Awarding of the mowing contract of the MHS athletic fields and the Oaks Academy to Parker Fencing Co.
 - Awarding the mowing contract for REMS to Reids Lawn Svc.
- Lastly, Mr. Clonts addressed the Facilities Needs Assessment provided by Mr. John Higdon that outlined facilities needs as identified by principals. Mr. Clonts stated that the document was a road map of what needs to be done with facilities not simply to make them good enough and that it would be brought before the County Commissioners for funding.
- Mr. Tim Coffey reported on the Academics Subcommittee's meeting with school principals from schools that did not meet growth. Mr. Coffey stressed that the schools in question were B or C graded schools. He outlined the directive given to the principals in that they were required to provide a plan with four components; those being: 1) Reasons for not making growth, 2) Strategies for achieving growth, 3) Rationale substantiating the strategies, and 4) Methods of measuring goals. Mr. Coffey went on to state that when asked what the Board could do to assist the schools in achieving growth the most common issue was with policy 4400 Attendance. Dr. Conley informed the Board that the policy in question was presently up for revision and input was being taken from principals. Lastly, Mr. Coffey stated that the subcommittee had a couple of concerns. One being with TCECs competency based curriculum, and another being that there appeared to be some personnel issues that could be affecting Murphy Middle School's potential growth; he stated there was defiance to changes being made in the school and that the issue would be addressed by the Superintendent.
- Ms. Stephanie Hass presented several budget amendments for consideration. Those amendments were:
 - 1) Amendment to the State Public School Fund
 - 2) Amendment to the Local Current Expense Fund
 - a. Use of ¼ Cent Sales tax in the amount of \$35,798 for use as follows:
 - i. Funding of two classroom teacher positions including salary and benefits
 - 3) Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund
 - a. Use of ½ Cent Sales tax in the amount of \$54,757 for use as follows:
 - i. MHS Vocational Bldg. HVAC unit
 1. Elliott Brothers: \$27,000

- ii. *MCEMS & AMS Baseball Field Yellow Safety Cap*
 - 1. *Burnette Athletics: \$2,943*
- iii. *MCEMS Boiler Repair*
 - 1. *Bolton HVAC: \$3,950*
- iv. *REMS Generator Repair*
 - 1. *Appalachian Generator Service: \$2,443*
- v. *AES Playground project: \$18,421*
 - 1. *AAA State of Play*

- The budget amendments and usages of sales tax were approved.
- Mr. Jeff Tatham delivered the Policy Subcommittee recommendations by announcing policies for second reading. Those policies presented are:

- 2116 Removal from Office
- 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use
- 3620-R-HS High School Athletic Policy
- 4040/7310 Staff-Student Relations
- 4100 Age Requirements for Initial Entry
- 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission
- 4125 Homeless Students
- 4150 School Assignment
- 4326 Student Drug Testing
- 7810 Evaluation of Licensed Employees

The policies were adopted as presented. Next, Mr. Tatham presented policies for first reading as prepared by the Policy Subcommittee:

- 1400 Governing Principle—School Initiatives
- 1800 Governing Principle—Stewardship of Resources
- 2010 Board and Superintendent Relations
- 2220 Official School Spokesperson
- 3320 School Trips
- 4120 Domicile or Residence Requirements
- 6524 Network Security
- **Policies to be Rescinded**
 - 3224/7323 Network Security
 - 3226/7324 Virus Protection
 - 3227/7325 Remote Access
- Dr. Jeana Conley delivered her Superintendent’s Report. She began by advising the Board of approval of overnight fieldtrips for students from MCEMS who will travel to Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown, VA on April 3, 2017; in addition to this trip, she informed the Board that students from Range and Martins Creek Middle School Chorus will travel to the NC All State Festival in Greensboro, NC on April 20, 2017, and in addition to this trip, student from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades of REMS will travel to Fall Creek Falls State Park in Spencer, TN on April 5, 2017. Following this, Dr. Conley reported “Good News” items as reported from school Principals:

Andrews Elementary

- Plans are underway for a school-wide Literacy Night to be held in late March.
- AES PTA sponsored a Father/Daughter dance and had over 200 participants.
- Our foster grandparents have been interviewed and will be featured in an upcoming article in the Asheville Citizen times.

Andrews High

- The English department had a very successful trip to Atlanta to see *Much Ado About Nothing*, a Shakespearean play, which students thoroughly enjoyed!
- The AHS Wrestling team has added 5 wrestlers to the win club. First time AHS has had this many wrestlers have wins in double digits in a LONG TIME.
- We have two students attending MedCaT this summer.
- AHS Business, Finance, and IT students, including students of Computer Programming and eCommerce, along with the extracurricular clubs STAC and the Tabletop Gaming Club, are developing two long-term

commercial products. They are the prototype of a working videogame, as well as a Kickstarter to launch and produce an advanced strategic board game. These students are self-organized and are working successfully as a team under peer management.

- Art students Gabrielle Hancock and Larry McCray both had artwork that placed at the State for The GFWC-NC Art Festival this past week held at Campbell University.
- AHS senior Maraeh Carringer traveled to Raleigh after applying and being accepted the competitive House Page program. She was sponsored by Representative Kevin Corbin and selected to attend because of how active she was in the 2016 election. While in Raleigh, Maraeh sat through legislative sessions and committee meetings, ran errands for Mr. Corbin, and learned about current political systems and issues in NC. She also discussed and researched current issues and presented her findings to other representatives and Page program participants. In her presentation she strongly advocated for a significant increase in NC teacher pay, allowing teachers to receive pay for advanced degrees, and letting districts have local control of the calendar. In Maraeh's words, "I took this opportunity because I wanted to represent my home town and advocate for our teachers!" Thanks for looking out for us, Maraeh!
- 38 students and 5 teachers are traveling to Washington DC from March 10-14. We will tour the museums, monuments and memorials, the Capitol, Mt Vernon and much more.
- The Exceptional Children's Department completed and published the First Edition of the school newsletter to be displayed throughout the school. The paper is called "The Cat's Meow and is student produced with a news feature, upcoming dates, reader of the week and comic/trivia feature.
- Sarah Tatham and Natalie Keown received Entrepreneurship grants from WRESA for \$300.00 each. The grant money will extend the student t shirt business for the Occupational Course of Study Students at AHS. Materials purchased with both grants include a T-shirt Press and material for custom shirts as well as a cutting machine and materials to produce custom decals.
- All of our senior OCS Student now have paying jobs.

Andrews Middle

- Our team came in second place in the Battle of the Books.
- Joy Wood, a 6th grader, is the County and Regional 6th Grade Soil and Water Conservation essay winner!
- We have 9-10 students in the 6th grade competing in the National History Day competition. It is a National Competition sponsored by the History Channel and the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Students can compete as individuals or groups in five categories. Students compete with students from other schools in our region. We are entering 2 websites, 2 documentaries, and 1-2 historical papers in the competition. The regionals will be held at WCU on March 18th.
- HERE ARE OUR FINAL WEBSITES.
- Junior GROUP-
 - Sojourner Truth: Standing Up for Gender and Race Equality by Dyanna Holloway and Joy Wood
 - 95454696.nhd.weebly.com
- Junior INDIVIDUAL-
 - Flying Through Barriers: Amelia Earhart Taking a Stand for Women's Rights by Coda Blair
 - 80258874.nhd.weebly.com

Hiwassee Dam E/M

- Mrs. Vento, middle school Math teacher, has transformed her traditional tables and chairs into flexible seating for her Math students. Using bed risers to lift the tables and trading stools for the chairs has allowed the students more seating choices. They may sit on the stool, lean on the stool, or stand at their desks. Not only does this allow for fidgeting, but it allows for freedom of movement when turning to another student to ask a question or to collaborate. The students have had a positive response. Mrs. Vento only spent \$300 of earnings from the Fall Carnival for this alternate seating.
- Mrs. Sanders' 2nd grade class has partnered with the HDHS National Honor Society and 21st Century Aftercare to host an educational opportunity for HDEMS students and a fundraiser for the Humane Society. Guest speakers have been invited to speak to classes about pet



needs and responsible pet ownership. Students of both HD schools will be donating supplies to the Humane Society, and parents are invited to a pet adoption on March 24.

- Our annual Dr. Seuss Literacy Night, sponsored by PTO, will be held on March 30, beginning at 6 pm. This is a night to which the students, parents, and many community members look forward.

Hiwassee Dam High

- We are in the single digits for absences this week for the first time in about three weeks.
- Prom Committee made \$175 from our Zaxby's night.
- We made \$50 so far on our basket.
- We have also applied for a matching fund through Modern Woodmen.
- National Honor Society will be assisting with Adopt a Critter Day on March 24th and the Community Egg Hunt April 2nd.
- Middle school and High School participating in super band in Cherokee. Concert at 7 Thursday.

Marble Elementary

- Girls On the Run spring session has started for the 9th season
- K-5 students have all been assigned to intervention and remediation groups which will begin next week.
- Students in grades 3-5 have been working with Christina Newhouse with the USDA and the Smoky Mountain High Tunnel Initiative to plant our school garden. They have cleaned all the garden beds and have planted a wide variety of vegetables that will be harvested in the spring. Wayne's Feedstore donated all the supplies for the garden.
- Sherry Goodlet has been working on Nutrition with our 4th graders.
- Shannon Coleman with the 4H Cooperative Extension is working with 3-5 graders on STEM activities 2 Fridays a month.
- We had an amazing Read Across America week last week. Students and faculty all had a great time.
- HOUSE groups are focusing schoolwide on Honesty the month of March. In April they will focus on Sportsmanship and they will focus on Perseverance in May.
- 4th grade has been working with Erika Hincke and Trudy Hemmlinger with the NC Arboretum on Project Squirrel. They have had a great time with this and have made good use of our outdoor classroom space.
- The Game Warden came to talk with our Lego League on problem/solution involving human/wildlife interaction.

Martins Creek E/M

- On February 26th, MCS held a very successful hoedown and talent show to raise funds for next year's student school supplies. This was a PTO-sponsored event that raised over \$2,000, surpassing the PTO's goal by \$500 (PTO's half of the money needed for the supplies). Ranger School helped by loaning MCS its "jail," which turned out to be one of the most popular activities for students, and by lending the service of Mr. Josh Griggs (Ranger EC Teacher) as the MC for the event. TCEC helped by providing 16 student volunteers who worked very hard serving food, running activities, and running the gates.
- MCS started its first ever Girls on the Run program on March 7th, run by school counselor Katelyn Truett. Martins Creek set a goal of raising \$1,700 for Jump Rope for Heart this year.
- Our students did an excellent job far exceeding the goal and came up with a total of \$2,179.10.
- Our top fundraiser was 1st Grader Natalie Garst, with a total of \$609.50 raised!
- The 3rd grade was recently recognized by the IXL program for completing more than 30,000 math problems online as part of their supplementary math activities!

Murphy Elementary

- 5th grade is doing great with chromebooks- using Google Classroom, forms, slides and mostly electronic work to complete assignments. Students have embraced the new technology.
- Jr. Beta Club will be Sleeping with the Sharks in Gatlinburg on the 30-31st of March
- March Food Drive has started off with great success.
- OM competed and took third place in Marion, NC
- Mrs. Worley's 3rd grade class is a fully funded Unicef Kid Power classroom. Each student is provided with a "step tracker" and is getting active and sending therapeutic food packets to severely malnourished children across the world and learning about different countries. <http://unicefkidpower.org/>

- Our first Literacy Night will be March 13 starting at 5:30. Parents and students will participate in various activities and earn raffle tickets to possibly win a kindle, fishing pole and more. We will also have guest readers visiting MES throughout the day.
- Mrs. Penland's Kindergarten class is now using stability balls as seating. Using this type of seating has helped improve students with focusing.

Murphy High

- Trent Ledford was accepted to NC Governor's School
- Emily Reid was Female School Winner for MHS in the Wendy's Heisman Award Program.
- Colin Williams was Male School Winner for MHS in the Wendy's Heisman Award Program and he was selected as a State Finalist.
- Ms. Gibson's Biology classes and AP Biology class are having a guest speaker this Friday, March 10th. Her name is Jessica Raper, and she is an Alumni of Murphy High. Her job title is a Translational Neuroscientist. She has been conducting research at Yerkes National Primate Research Center (YNPRC) in Atlanta, Georgia. She is coming to speak to my students on some of her research projects she has been working with. These include: incorporating techniques from the neurobiology of stress, endocrinology, neuroanatomy, and developmental neuroscience to examine how early brain perturbation impacts behavioral and neuroendocrine development.
- MHS English Department is going to pilot a 2017 summer reading program that not only offers high interest reading selections to Honors and AP students, but will also offer high interest reading selections to students who are scoring below their proficiency level. This summer reading program will ensure that students are working toward reading on current grade level so proficiency can be attained in cross curricular courses during Fall Semester 2017. The Media Center will be opened at scheduled times during the summer break for students to take part of a voluntary "Book Club" discussion on their reading. Incentives of extra credit will be offered in the 2017-2018 English courses for the students who participate and complete the 2017 summer pilot program along with offering special rewards such as but not limited to gift cards and other prizes

Murphy Middle

- BOB team won in a very close competition. They will participate in regionals Tuesday, March 14th.
- 8th grade teachers taught a thematic unit on the Civil War, and Brian Van Buskirk shared his American Civil War artifacts while discussing military customs, procedures and life in general for a Civil War soldier
- 8th graders have been participating in the twelve week Stock Market Game™ in Mrs. Julie Hughes' classroom and on Friday, February 17th, Representative Kevin Corbin of District 120 visited her 3rd period class to view the progress they have made in their portfolios. He plans to come visit again before the game concludes and has requested that the students email him updates on their progress.
- Danish Performance team visited during PE class. They played games, taught movements and gymnastics.
- Grade level teachers have been using multiple data sources to track proficiency and mark growth in student comprehension.
- 3 school records were broken at the first track meet of the year. Dallas Rayburn and Sarah Pullium set new discuss records while Leah Moses set a new 100 meter record.
- 7th grade students in Mrs. Myers Keyboarding and Word Processing class recently completed testing with a 99% passing rate.

Peachtree Elementary

- Spring Carnival/Family Literacy Night on March 3rd was a huge success. Lots in attendance and the students enjoyed receiving leveled readers for free. Our Title 1 teacher met with each parent and provided literacy information. We raised approximately \$5,000 for PES thanks to our PTA, teachers, and the Modern Woodmen grant attained by Betty Beaver. A big shout out to TCEC students for helping out.
- We celebrated Read Across America week with Dr. Seuss themed days and guest readers.
- PES received a Wal-Mart community grant for \$2500. It will be used to purchase 55 in TVs with mounts and Chromecast for 5 classrooms to replace failing SmartBoards.
- PES is collecting used InkJet, LaserJet, and toner cartridges for recycling. We are being supported by a few local businesses.
- PES is collecting used books, puzzles, games, movies anything to promote family time for their upcoming Recycled Book Fair that will be help sometime after testing.
- We are planning a school wide science night along with the 21st CCLC program in April.

- PES welcomed 17 new inductees to the Junior Beta Club Program on February 21st.
- Jr. Beta raised over \$100 for Relay for Life in February.
- Kegan Storms won first place in the regional Soil & Water Conservation poster contest.

Ranger Elementary Middle

- Ranger hosted the Middle School Battle of the Books Competition. Ranger Team finished in 3rd place. The Ranger Students were Candace Leovao, Sarah Ledford, Pamela Shepard, Ethan Ennis, Rylee Guess, Savannah Deren, Emily Parker.
 - Ranger PTA hosting - BBQ, Bluegrass & Gospel Singing night for Friday, March 9th.
 - Active Shooter Drill held at Ranger School on Friday, March 9th.
 - Professional Development - EVAAS Training for teachers in Grades 3-8. Training directed by Leslie Ledford.
 - Middle School Science Olympiad will be going to Cherokee on March 18th.
 - Ranger Faculty & PTA will be hosting Math & Literacy Night for Monday, March 27th.
 - 21st Century will be hosting “Energy Night” for students and parents on March 30th.
 - Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten registration will be on Friday, March 31st.
 - Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade will be traveling to Smoky Mountain Center to see “Charlotte’s Web”.
 - Professional Development by Anne Boring entitled “Specially Designed Instruction” will be offered on March 14th
 - Gabby Gagnon - MS Math Teacher was awarded an iPad through a STEM Grant.
 - Mrs. Sherry Brookins and Mrs. Gabby Gagnon are setting up a green room to get ready for our very own Middle School YouTube team, The Ranger Howl. They will start broadcasting Ranger's weekly news live.
 - We are also starting our own student lead entrepreneurship T-shirt business. Our heat press and supplies have arrived and we are in the process of setting this up. Our goal is for our STEM / STAC-E Clubs to be self-sufficient from the funds earned.
 - We will be taking 2 teams to Cherokee on March 18th to compete in our 3rd Science Olympiad Tournament.
 - We will be traveling to Cherokee on March 30th to the STAC-E Conference where we have teams competing in Robotics, Hobbies & Special Interest, and Entrepreneurship. Our students will also attend workshops during the day.
 - Unicef Kid Power Bands for 5th grade. Grant was awarded to Mrs. Shannon Holliday and the 5th grade students.
- Dr. Conley concluded her report by requesting the Board approve naming the Maintenance Shed in honor of Dave Gentles. The Board unanimously resolved that the Maintenance Facility presently occupied, and all such facilities regardless of location henceforth into perpetuity, be named “The Dave Gentles Maintenance Facility.”
 - Mr. Paul Brown 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 Resignation and Retirements**
- | <i>Name</i> | <i>Position & Assignment,</i> | <i>Type of Request</i> | <i>Effective Date</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Alvin Thompson | Transportation Cost Clerk | Retirement | 04/01/2017 |
| Sara Barnett | EC Teacher Assistant, MCEMS | Retirement | 07/01/2017 |
| Toni Martin | School Nutrition, Marble | Resignation | 03/18/2017 |
- **The Board approved the following hiring recommendations**
- | <i>Name</i> | <i>Additional Duty Assignment</i> | <i>Effective Date</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Christine Crayton | Teacher, TCEC | 03/01/2017 |
| Zachary Morgan | Teacher (Interim), AMS | 03/10/2017 |
- **The Board approved the following substitute teachers:** Jessica Dockery, Evelyn Hopkins, and Beth Watson
 - **The Board approved the following School Nutrition Substitutes:** Taishaly Jurado
 - **The Board approved the following Bus Drivers**
 - Chad McMillian
 - Katrina Dee Woss
 - George Kerber
 - Jordan Johnson
 - Sara Tatham

- Chester Dancer
- Scott Warman
- **21st CCLC Substitute/Tutor**
 - Cheryl Barry
 - Vickie Rogers
 - Louis Holliday

- **The Superintendent announced the following personnel transfers:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Effective</i>
Theresa Peacock	Teacher, TCEC	Teacher, MMS	02/20/2017
Jenny Dalton	EC TA, AMS	EC Teacher, REMS (Interim)	03/06/2017
Daniel DuChaine	NOC Tech., District	Bus Garage, Transportation Cost Clerk	03/10/2017
Laurel Smith	REMS	HDEMS	03/06/2017
Kathy Lovingood	Secretary, MMS	Data Mgr., HDH/EMS	03/13/2017
Paula Graham	Data Mgr., HDH/EMS	Secretary, MMS	03/13/2017

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

<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Application Renewal Date</i>
Justin Chastain	AHS	Baseball	03/09/2018
Scott Cooper	AHS/AMS	Shooting	03/09/2018
Carleigh Davis	AHS	Softball	03/09/2018
Matthew Jones	AHS/AMS	Shooting	03/09/2018
Catherine Martin	AHS	Track	03/09/2018
Jeffrey Mashburn	AHS	Baseball	03/09/2018
Talaka Lloyd	AMS	Track	03/09/2018
Tim Chastain	HDS	Softball	03/09/2018
Chester Dancer	HDS	Softball	03/09/2018
Ronald Davis	HDS	Baseball	03/09/2018
Jerry Kilpatrick	HDS	Baseball	03/09/2018
Randall Nehr	MCEMS	Softball	03/09/2018
Jesse Beaver	MHS	Wrestling	03/09/2018
Malachi Beaver	MHS	Wrestling	03/09/2018
Phil Bowman	MHS	Softball	03/09/2018
Bill Goebel	MHS	Softball	03/09/2018
Larry Ledford	MHS	Softball	03/09/2018
Thomas Strickland, Jr.	MHS/REMS	Multiple Sports	03/09/2018
Larry Rumfelt	MMS	Multiple Sports	03/09/2018

- Ms. Arrowood announced the next regular Board of Education meeting will be held Thursday, April 6, 2017 beginning at 6 pm at Central Office.
- It was announced the Financial Planning Subcommittee & Policy Subcommittee would meet on March 30, 2017 at Central Office with the Financial Planning meeting to begin at 4 pm and the Policy meeting following immediately after.
- There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.