

Board Bullets

Highlights of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday, April 21, 2011, 6:00 p.m., at Andrews High School.

Thank you to those Principals and Administrators attending: Alissa Cheek, Bill Gaither, Tom Graham, Virginia Haynes, Kim Gibson, Arnold Mathews, Delaine MacDonald, Barry McClure, Mike Penninger, Phil Pressley, Andy Pyle, Boyd Shields, Paul Wilson, Randy Mann, Jodi Alverson, Kenny Garland, Terelle Harr, Jeana Hardin, DavAnn Hubbard, Karen Kephart, Randy Phillips, Libby Thigpen, and Gary Wright.

- Mr. Randy Barnett called the meeting to order.
- Ms. Virginia Haynes, Principal of Andrews High School, welcomed all in attendance and gave the invocation.
- The Andrews High School Chorus sang the National Anthem.
- Mr. Paul Brown led the pledge of allegiance and Mr. Erik Brinke read the mission statement.
- The Agenda and Minutes were approved as presented.
- There was no public input.
- The Andrews High School, Student Government Association appeared before the Board and made a request of the Board for funding for school beautification. The Board awarded the SGA \$500.
- Dr. Lane recognized Beth Coffey, a student of Andrews High School, for her many outstanding accomplishments and for being awarded a North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship. She was presented with a certificate of accomplishment.
- Dr. Lane recognized Ms. Kim Cozart and the following members of the Andrews High School Chorus for their outstanding performances while attending the National Vocal and Musical Festival held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The Women's Ensemble included: Ashlea Brehm, Kody Brehm, Katelynn Clark, Tiffany Clontz, Beth Coffey, BethAnne Collins, Brittany Creasman, Lee Dyer, Stephanie Ferguson, Brittany Gibby, Elizabeth Gilbert, Stephanie Johnson, Regan Jordan, Lauren Kilpatrick, Heather Kirkland, Meagen Lee, Rebecca Morgan, Ciara Payne, Kyndra Payne, Emily Peacock, Angelica Rodriguez, Courtney Toole, Katie Whitaker. The Men's Ensemble included: Jeremy Abernathy, Justin Abernathy, Logan Bear, Brendan Collins, Jacob Gilbert, Robby Goodell, Brandon Grant, Collin Gray, Christian Humble, William Morgan, Erik Rubino, Caleb White. Dr. Lane presented the Andrews High School Chorus with a certificate of accomplishment. Dr. Lane went on to recognize the Andrews Middle School Choir for their many accomplishments to include competing at the District level at Western Carolina University on March 29, 2011. The students received an "Excellent" in their performance and a "Superior" (perfect score) for sight-singing. Dr. Lane presented the Chorus with a certificate of accomplishment. The Choir Members are:
Grade 7 Chorus: Jessica Blauvelt, Pilar Brehm, Shelby Brehm, Olivia Brown, Devin Bryson, Dillon Coffey, Melessa Cudemo, Cassidy Dalrymple, Blair Fowler, Electra Gibby, Aurora Gonzalez, Courtney Greene, Erika Griggs, James Hoke, Brittany Holloway, Lynette Holloway, Tyler Holloway, Samuel Hydass, Abigail Klima, Christie Lackey, Kayla Ledford, Erin Maennle, D.J. Martin, Allison McClure, Melissa McSherry, William Parker, Cheyenne Patterson, Jacob Payne, Amy Pierce, Tyler Rose, Ashlyn Rowland, Bethany Summerell, Meka Thigpen, Lydia Tillet, Shayla Truett, Andrew West, Lacy Whitaker, Adrianna Yonce.
Grade 8 Chorus: Carleigh Davis, Makayla Defore, Connor Earwood, Carrie Gray, Rachel Hogsted, Christie Knowles, Colton Luther, Jesse Rich, Kristen Roper, Josh Shields, Rebecca Stiles, Belle Taylor, Jacob Whitaker, Hannah White. Dr. Lane next recognized Elizabeth Maynard a student of Andrews High School for her accomplishment of being named to the All-State Band and read her lengthy bio and list of accomplishments. He then presented her with a certificate of accomplishment. Dr. Lane recognized Ms. Dedra Davis, Art teacher at Andrews Elementary and Andrews High School in Andrews, NC for receiving the Blanton Centennial Scholarship from The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for \$6,000.00.

- Ms. Alissa Cheek, Principal Tri-County Early College, gave a power point presentation covering the Affinity Networks Biotechnology and Agriscience, Energy and Sustainability potential anchor and network schools. Her presentation covered reasons TCEC was chosen for the program and the program’s vision. The Board unanimously resolved to support the initiative as presented by Ms. Cheek.
- Mr. Gary Wright gave an update on construction efforts ongoing at Andrews High School as well as recycling efforts.
- Ms. Terelle Harr provided the Board with a summary of budget resolution and amendments for the State Public School Fund, Capital Project Fund, and Grant Funds for consideration. The amendments were approved.
- Ms. Debbie Hogan, Policy Subcommittee Chair, presented three policies to the Board for second reading which were approved: 2121 Board Member Conflict of Interest, 4400 Attendance Policy, 5027-7275 Weapons and Explosives Prohibited. Additionally, Ms. Hogan presented three policies for first reading: 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel Draft, 7810 Evaluation of Licensed Employees Draft, 7820 Personnel Files Draft.
- Dr. Lane announced the High School graduation dates: Tri-County Early College: June 4, 2011 at 6:00 pm (Saturday); Andrews High School: June 9, 2011 at 8:00 pm (Thursday); Mountain Youth School: June 9, 2011 at 5:30 pm (Thursday); Hiwassee Dam High School: June 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm (Friday); and Murphy High School: June 11, 2011 at 10:00 am (Saturday). He announced that the Ranger E/M School’s Envirothon Team, coached by PTA vice president Larry Gramm, placed 7th out of 16 schools at the Area 1 Envirothon Competition (science) in Waynesville, NC, and that they will now travel on to the next level of competition at Burlington, NC on April 29, 2011; also, the Andrews High School seniors will be traveling to Atlanta, GA on May 30, 2011. He informed the Board that Murphy Middle School has the first Panalogic Computer Lab in CCS and it is up and fully operational. He expressed appreciation to Mark Thigpen, Randy Starnes, Randy Bryant, and Jeana Hardin for making this new lab possible. He went on to say that this is a huge cost savings in equipment and energy to MMS, and that all are really excited to have this new lab available to students and staff. Dr. Lane next informed the Board of the Child Find Grant, and explained that this grant is \$10,000 and is to be used to purchase needed equipment to identify vision and hearing deficiencies of the preschool population. The Child Find Grant appeared out of nowhere and there was only a matter of a few days to pull everything together in time to meet the deadline. He gave a special thanks to our preschool group, Judy Zeigler, Kathy Dudek, and Valerie Mashburn, and to our physical therapist, Doug Drew, who identified and matched the types of equipment and assessments from the grant with what we needed for our preschool population. Lastly, Dr. Lane spoke of the \$1.2 million loss the schools will experience should the one cent sales tax not be continued and that according to polls, 73% of North Carolinians’ support leaving the sales tax in place and that 53% support raising the tax to two cents. Dr. Lane questioned who the General Assembly is really representing by not extending the one cent sale tax, when 73% of North Carolinians support continuing the tax to avoid deep cuts in personnel and program services. He then encouraged all present to contact as many state representatives as possible to express their concerns about the cuts and support for continuing the one cent sales tax. Dr. Lane announced that the contact information for all State representatives is located on the Cherokee County Schools web page.
- Ms. Debbie Hogan read the motion to adjourn to closed session. When the Board returned to open session, the following action(s) were taken:
- The Board approved the resignation and retirement requests of the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Request/Effective Date</u>
Alice Lewis	TA, Murphy Elementary	Retirement; June 14, 2011
Laura James	PT Cafeteria employee, AES	Retirement; June 14, 2011
- The Board approved the Maternity Leave of Absence for Kellie Burton, Pre-K Teacher/MES, 09/14/11 thru 12/30/11.
- The Board approved the following substitute teachers:

Jodi Robertson	David Rogers	Robert Kelly
Melina Taylor	Deanna Bryant	Stacie Morgan
Sheila McGrath	Margaret Wells	Aubrey Byers
Veda Kay May	Bridgette May	Marlene Meeks
Jamie Deren	Andrew Burton	Douglas McCarthy

Victoria Kelly
Ashley Smith

Jackie Trammel
Amanda Long

Hillary Chastain

- The Board approved renewal of the following school administrators Contracts:
Virginia Haynes Principal, Andrews High School
Arnold Mathews Principal, Martins Creek E/M School
Boyd Shields Principal, Murphy High School
Jodi Alverson Assistant Superintendent, Central Office
- The next meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Murphy Middle School, on May 12, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
- There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.