

Board Bullets

Highlights of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting held on Monday, June 10, 2013 6:00 p.m., at Central Office

Thank you to those Principals, Administrators, and Central Office Staff attending: Cindy Bean, Tom Graham, John Higdon, DavAnn Hubbard, Arnold Mathews, Delaine Macdonald, Andy Pyle, Paul Wilson, Jamie Barnett, Ann Boring, Kenny Garland, Kim Gibson, Jeana Hardin, Shelley Hollingsworth, Karen Kephart, Gary Wright, Jennifer White, and SRO Brent Hardin.

- Mr. Erik Brinke called the June School Board meeting to order and welcomed all present to Central Office.
- Dr. Stephen Lane welcomed all to Central Office and asked for a moment of silence.
- Mr. Randy Barnett led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Winfield Clonts read the mission statement.
- The Agenda was approved as presented.
- The Minutes were approved.
- There was no public input.
- Ms. Renee Deweese delivered a TCEC Service Learning Program update to the Board. She outlined the program's methods and stated that participating students had logged more than 3000 service learning hours during the 2012/2013 school year. The Board then recognized Dustin Breazeal who spoke of how his involvement in the program had rendered assistance to 8th grade students in preparing them for college and careers beyond school.
- Ms. Ronda Phillips presented the AIG Renewal Plan for consideration stating that the last update and renewal was in 2012. She explained how DPI had provided standards for their plan and then went on to explain in detail how the proposed 2013/2016 AIG plan was developed. Dr. Lane added information about the funding challenges facing the program. There was much about incentivizing the plan. The plan was approved.
- Mr. David Badger, Chair of the CTE Advisory Board, appeared before the Board and delivered a comprehensive CTE Advisory Board update. The Board next recognized Ms. Jamie Barnett who presented a CTE Executive Summary which covered the proposed PRC 17 budget for 2013/2017, CCR Work Key results as reported in February 2013, and the CTE 2012/2013 year long testing results. Lastly, Ms. Barnett presented the CTE 2013/2014 funding plan for approval. The CTE 2012/2013 Application was approved.
- Dr. Stephen Lane presented the Title I and Title II Application to the Board for consideration. During his presentation he advised the Board of various aspects of both Federal programs as well as budget reductions. The Title I and Title II Applications were approved.
- Ms. Shelley Hollingsworth presented five budget amendment requests to the Board for consideration. The amendments were for the State Public School Fund 1; Local Fund 2; Federal Fund 3; Capital Outlay Fund 4; and Grants, Donations, and Reimbursements Fund 8. The amendments were approved. Next, Ms. Hollingsworth presented an Interim Budget Resolution for consideration and approval. The Interim Budget Resolution was approved. Ms. Hollingsworth then presented the School Year 2012/2013 Audit Confirmation for consideration and approval. The Audit Confirmation was approved. Lastly, Ms. Hollingsworth presented the Insurance Participation Agreement for School Year 2013/2014 for consideration and approval. The Insurance Participation Agreement was approved.
- Ms. Debbie Hogan presented several policies for first and second reading. The following policies were heard for second reading and were approved:
 - 1760/7280 Prohibition Against Retaliation
 - 6420 Contracts With the Board
 - 7120 Employee Health Certificate
 - 7510 Leave of Absence
- The following policies were heard for first reading:
 - 1310/4002 Parental Involvement
 - 1740/4010 Student and Grievance Procedure

- 1750/7220 Grievance Procedure for Employees
- 1760/7280 Prohibition Against Retaliation
- 3000 Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program
- 3450 Academic Policy for Honor Students/Class Rankings
- There was much discussion about policy 3450 Academic Policy for Honor Students/Class Rankings. Mr. Barnett asked what the proposed changes would fix with the existing policy and how such changes would make the policy better. After much discussion of the policy, Ms. Hogan indicated that the board policy sub-committee would continue to review this policy and readdress at the next board meeting.
- Dr. Lane delivered his Superintendent's report to the Board: I'd like to report one overnight field trip that has been approved for next year-- Andrews High School Band will be traveling to perform and compete in the Chick Fil-A Bowl Game on December 28th through the 31st 2013 in Atlanta, GA. This will be the largest venue ever performed by the AHS Band and will be televised. Kudos to the Bus Garage as they were 1 point from tying for 1st place and 2 points from being 1st place out of 33 counties in the western district in their annual inspection which puts them in the top 6 in the State and 2nd out of Western North Carolina. Congratulations to all the folks at the garage that made this happen because that is a really tough inspection of busses. The MYS was completely converted to LED and as a result between May 2012 and May 2013 they achieved a 57.15%. This result has caught the eye of many districts in the State who have requested to visit MYS. We're pleased to report that \$3,015,036.00 is what was approved for our students in total scholarships. That's a significant amount of money for our students and we appreciate the hard work of the students that went into earning those scholarships. The House Budget has approved a School Voucher program in House Bill 944 that includes the Opportunity Scholarship Act which will move public dollars into private schools allowing private school students to apply for the amount equivalent to the ADM distribution. We think that moving public money into private schools inappropriately removes funding from public schools and could be legally challenged. Regarding the school performance grades—there has been an argument based on the growth not being calculated in the Senate version by just looking strictly at proficiency. So the House has proposed an increase of one letter grade increase to the proficiency grade for those schools that meet or exceed the expected growth, and an increase of one letter grade to elementary and middle schools that maintain performance composites of 80% proficient for three consecutive years. The small schools calculation that is proposed by the House, should it go through, would be wonderful. As you know right now the only way we can qualify for small schools is on an adjusted property tax basis. And because the State had frozen State funding in the 2006-2007 year for two years that has kept the calculation at a point where we wouldn't qualify until the 2014-2015 year. But if this bill goes through, any county that has less than 3,900 students will qualify for small schools, which means we would automatically qualify based on our student population this year. We're hoping for a lot of communication from Cherokee County to the legislators asking them to support this. We know also that Representative Roger West has worked really hard to make this possible, so we need to support his efforts as much as possible by contacting the other legislators and letting them know that this is really important to Cherokee County Schools and all the other smalls school systems. I'm also sure the County Commissioners would be really pleased to hear that news because they have dedicated \$855,000 towards the \$1,520,000 that we would normally have received to try to keep us operational. The Senate made a decision that starting in the upcoming year that will affect all new personnel hired. They have proposed that if you have a doctorate or a master's degree you would not be paid based on your degree if you are newly hired, instead be paid at the bachelors level. So these graduate schools that are turning out masters and doctorate degrees would be significantly impacted as would be the individuals involved in the programs. The House has looked at that and modified it a little bit by saying that if your position requires you to have one of those degrees to be licensed then you would continue to be paid for a masters or a doctorate depending on what the position required for licensure. But other than that, starting in the 2014/2015 school year, you would not get paid based on these two degrees. All those currently receiving supplemental pay would be grandfathered.
- Mr. Brinke asked that everyone get involved and take an active role in conveying their thoughts and concerns to members of the legislature. He also encouraged everyone to communicate with the County Commissioners.
- Ms. Debbie Hogan read the motion to adjourn to break and closed session. The motion was approved.
- When the Board returned to open session, the following actions were taken:
- The Board approved the following retirements and resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Request/Effective Date</u>
Gary Cornwell	Counselor/MHS	Retirement/August 1, 2013
Shelley Hollingsworth	Finance Officer/District	Resignation/June 30, 2013
David Opperman	Teacher/MMS-MHS	Resignation/June 3, 2013
Pam James	Child Nutrition	Resignation/October 31, 2013
Cassie Hyde	Teacher/AES	Resignation/June 4, 2013

- The Board approved the following Leave of Absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Leave Type & Inclusive Dates</u>
Carol Jones	Teacher/AMS	August 19, 2013-June 13, 2014

- The Board approved the following hiring recommendations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Amy Coffey	Part-Time Physical Therapist/District	August 19, 2013
Trent Abling	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Charles Bayne	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Shelby Fowler	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Steven Palese	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
William Shook	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Dexter Stiles	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Luke Thigpen	Bus Driver/District	July 1, 2013
Pam Kilpatrick	Custodian-Bus Driver HD	July 15, 2013
Gary James	Custodian-Bus Driver MES	June 11, 2013
Harry Aponte	Custodian-Bus Driver MHS	July 15, 2013
Derrick Palmer	School Resource Officer-District	August 12, 2013
Debbie Jacobs	EC Teacher/District	August 19, 2013

- The Board approved the following substitute teacher: Debra England; Revonda Simonds; Deborah Brown; Christine Jacobs; Cassie Hyde
- Dr. Lane announced the following personnel transfers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kim Gibson	Principal/Peachtree	Dir K-8-Student Svcs/District	July 1, 2013
Gabrielle Martin	Teacher/AMS	Teacher/Ranger	August 19, 2013
Kattia Higdon	Teacher/AHS	Teacher/AHS-TCEC	August 19, 2013
Elyse (Durham) Watras	Media/HD Schools	Media/MHS	August 19, 2013
Connie McClure	EC Teacher/AHS	EC Teacher/HDEMS	August 19, 2013
Pam Myers	CTE-Media/MCS	CTE/MMS-MHS	August 19, 2013
Teresa Wood	Counselor/MBL-MCS	Counselor/MHS	August 19, 2013
Cicely Mason	Teacher/MHS	Teacher/MES/MBL	August 19, 2013
Betsy Garrett	Teacher-AIG/AES-AMS-AHS	Title I Reading/AES	August 19, 2013
Janet Harkins	Teacher/MES/MBL	Teacher/HDEMS-Peachtree	August 19, 2013
Lisa Dickey	Teacher Assistant/MES	Teacher Assistant/Ranger	August 19, 2013
Teresa Hayes	CTE/Ranger	CTE/Ranger-MCS	August 19, 2013
Ethan Dickey	Teacher/MHS	Teacher /HDHS	August 19, 2013
Diane Kimbrell	Counselor/HDEMS-MES	Counselor/MES	August 19, 2013
Cynthia Wade	Custodian/MHS	Custodian/HD Schools	June 15, 2013

- The next regular meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Central Office on Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
- There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.