

Board Bullets

Highlights of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2011, 6:00 p.m., at Andrews Elementary School.

Thank you to those Principals and Administrators attending: Cindy Bean, Bill Gaither, Kim Gibson, Tom Graham, Virginia Haynes, John Higdon, Arnold Mathews, Delaine MacDonald, Barry McClure, Phil Pressley, Andy Pyle, Boyd Shields, Paul Wilson, Jodi Alverson, Jamie Barnett, Kenny Garland, Jeana Hardin, Shelley Hollingsworth, DavAnn Hubbard, Karen Kephart, Carol Sims, Libby Thigpen, and Gary Wright.

- Mr. Randy Barnett called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance, and observed a moment of silence.
- Mr. Winfield Clonts led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Wanda Arrowood read the mission statement.
- The Agenda and Minutes were approved as presented.
- There was no public comment.
- Dr. Stephen Lane and Ms. Cindi Herr recognized Jordan Collins a student of Andrews High School for being selected as the 1st winner of the NC STEP “No Spit All-Stars” and awarded him with a certificate of achievement.
- Ms. Jenni Irwin and Ms. Cindi Herr delivered a PRIDE Survey power point presentation to the Board outlining collective statistical data from 2007 thru 2011 as compared to the National averages. This data covered the use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs.
- Dr. Stephen Lane announced Mr. Barry McClure as Cherokee County Schools’ Principal of the Year.
- Mr. Kenny Garland provided a Highly Qualified Teacher report and enrollment comparison to the Board.
- Ms. Shelley Hollingsworth proposed budget amendments for the Capital Projects and Grants funds. The amendments were approved.
- The Board approved the following policies: 3470/4305 Alternative learning Programs/Schools; 3430 School Improvement Plan; 4260 Student Sex Offender; 4270/6145 concussion & Head Injury; 4300 Student Behavior Policy; 4310 Standards of Expected Student Behavior; 4315 Disruptive Behavior. One was heard for first reading: 3305 Fund Raising Activities.
- Dr. Stephen Lane delivered his Superintendent’s Report: I’d like to report an overnight field trip we’ve approved for Mr. Jason Forrister’s Murphy High Schools Global Studies group from March 22 through March 29th, 2012. In the past they’ve gone to Copenhagen and France and had wanted to go to Italy. But at the time last year Italy was on the restricted travel list so we felt it wasn’t safe to travel there. This year they have an excellent itinerary and plan and of course they have trip insurance in the event of an unforeseen emergency. Jason and his student will be visiting Florence, Siena, and Rome. I’d like to also report that Mrs. Brandy Raper, pre-k teacher and Mrs. Tara Watson, kindergarten teacher, both of Ranger Elementary Middle School have been awarded a mini-grant from the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project. Congratulations to them. I want to reinforce what Mr. Garland had said regarding the importance of multiple certifications of our teachers. That was a wonderful thing for our teachers to have those multiple certifications because when it came time for us to make assignments we had other areas they could be moved into that otherwise we wouldn’t have had. We do have a lot of teachers, however, who have only one area of certification and now is the time for all of our staff to take a look that we need and other areas that they are interested in. We are paying the licensure fee for that and we are encouraging them to take that praxis test and get that certification. Each year we’ve seen a further decline in our revenues, next year will be no different. This is a two year budget and next year’s budget has an additional \$160,000 already built into it that will take us that much lower in revenues and who knows the impact this funding reduction will have. So unless the legislature wakes up at some point around May and realizes what they’ve done and take action to

fix it, we are on track to have a greater reduction for next year. You may have recently heard that Judge Manning has stated that every at risk 4-year old is eligible for, what was More-At-4 but now is known as North Carolina Pre-K Program. The Governor issued an executive order to effect the Judge's decision. The legislature leadership appealed and asked that Judge Manning suppress the motion, he refused to do so. So now it is moving back to the legislature to take action. This may cause the legislature to have to re-open the budget to take a look at the issue sooner than they had wanted to. This, however, is still playing out at the highest levels of government. We will continue to keep abreast of this and report it as developments are made available. I think anything that we can do to have funds going towards students, and the earlier that we can start their education, the better chance they will have to be successful. The legislature will go back into session on September 12th with a very limited agenda. So unless they modify it, the bulk of their legislative budget action will not occur until the short session comes into play next May. Finally, I want to make one more positive announcement by giving kudos to Mr. Thomas Nelson who was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame. Mr. Boyd Shields accompanied him to the ceremony at his former college, Emory and Henry (E&H). Thomas attended E&H from 1993 through 1996 and had a very impressive football record. He played Defensive Back, Defensive End, Defensive Tackle, Fullback, and Linebacker. He was an all conference and all state; he was ranked third in the ODAC for interceptions in a career, with 16. He is still ranked third in the ODAC for most interceptions in a season, with 9. He twice made First-Team All-ODAC and he was twice named All-State College Division. He was named Second-Team Hewlett Packard All-America. And he was also named to the Burger King, Kodak, and Dan Hansen's *Football Gazette* All-America Teams. He played on 3 ODAC Championship teams and fondly remembers a home-game winning streak that lasted from 1992-1996. It is quite an honor to work with Thomas Nelson on a daily basis; he is a fantastic teacher and just one heck of a guy. I think that anyone who's ever met him will tell you that.

- 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 retirement requests of:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Request/Effective Date</u>
Susie Swanson	TA/Andrews Elementary School	Resignation 08/23/2011
Bobby Stalcup	Custodian/Andrews Elementary School	Retirement 10/01/2011

- The Board approved the Maternity Leave request of: Tracy Kephart; Teacher/Murphy Middle School; Maternity Leave effective: 08/22/2011

- The Board approved the following hiring recommendations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Justin Dockery	Bus Driver		08/24/2011
Brian Myers	Bus Driver		08/24/2011
Stephanie Elliott	Interim Teacher	Andrews Elementary	09/26/2011
Phillip Watson	Interim Teacher	Murphy Middle	08/18/2011

- The Board approved the following as-needed duty assignments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Vivian Davis	21 st Century Site Director	Ranger	September 12, 2011
Kimberly Worley	21 st Century Site Director	Martins Creek	September 12, 2011
Eddie Davis	21 st Century Site Director	Marble	September 12, 2011
Janet Starks	21 st Century Staff		September 12, 2011
Leanne Cook	21 st Century Staff		September 12, 2011
Shenaaz Adam	21 st Century Staff		September 12, 2011

- The Board approved the following contract renewal: Michelle Adams; MES

- The Board approved the following substitute teacher applications:

Dr. Floyd Beil	Kimberly Green	Timothy Thompson	Danielle Hedden
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- Dr. Lane informed the Board of the following transfers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jessica Adams	Peachtree Elementary	Murphy Elementary	08/22/2011
Nathan Davenport	Murphy High	Murphy Middle	08/30/2011

Mandy Postell	P/T Child Nutrition AES	F/T Child Nutrition AES	08/18/2011
Chasity Davis	P/T Child Nutrition HD	Interim F/T Child Nutrition HD	08/18/2011
Debra Qualls	P/T Child Nutrition MHS	F/T Child Nutrition MHS	08/18/2011
Linda Kilpatrick	Child Nutrition MHS	Interim Asst. Manger Child Nutrition MHS	08/18/2011
Deena Kephart	Child Nutrition MMS	Interim Asst. Manager Child Nutrition MMS	08/18/2011
Mandy Postell	P/T Child Nutrition AHS	F/T AES	08/18/2011
Regina Younce	Interim Manager AES	Manager AES	08/18/2011
Chasity Davis	P/T Child Nutrition HD	F/T Child Nutrition HD	08/18/2011
Debra Qualls	P/T Child Nutrition MHS	F/T Child Nutrition MHS	08/18/2011
Linda Kilpatrick	Interim Child Nutrition MHS	Assistant Manager MHS	08/18/2011
Deena Kephart	Interim Child Nutrition MMS	Assistant Manager MMS	08/18/2011

- The next meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Andrews Middle October 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
- There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 pm.