

Board Bullets

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

Thank you to those Principals and Administrators attending: Alissa Cheek, 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, Randy Phillips, Libby Thigpen, and Gary Wright.

- Mr. Randy Barnett called the meeting to order.
- Mr. John Higdon welcomed all in attendance.
- Mr. Randy Barnett asked all to observe a moment of silence.
- Mr. Paul Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dr. David Ackerman read the mission statement.
- The Agenda and Minutes were approved as presented.
- There was no public comment.
- Dr. Stephen Lane recognized Ms. Erica Hicks for her outstanding academic achievement while a student at Andrews High and presented her with a Certificate of Achievement in recognition of being awarded the SSPTC Scholarship for North Carolina.
- Ms. Linda Hurd appeared before the Board and delivered a comprehensive power point presentation on a proposed Cherokee County Amphitheater Project. The Board approved her request to proceed forward with the planning phase of the Amphitheater Project.
- Dr. Stephen Lane informed the Board of Cherokee County school systems graduation achievement and spoke of being invited to a recognition ceremony hosted by the State Superintendent honoring those systems that made it into the top 10 school systems in North Carolina for graduation. Dr. Lane then recognized those principals who's efforts and leadership were instrumental in this achievement.
- Dr. Lane proposed the approval of a school calendar waiver that would allow Cherokee County Schools to begin the school year earlier. The waiver was approved.
- Mr. Kenny Garland introduced a draft 2012/13 school year calendar for consideration and spoke at length of the effect beginning the school year on the 1st day of the month for staff as displayed on a draft 2011/2012 calendar would have on employees and their pay. New legislation does not allow us to prepay employees. Hence, starting teacher workdays on August 1, 2012 will allow us to pay employees for a full month.
- Mr. Garland delivered a very detailed SAT and ACT report to the Board.
- Ms. Jodi Alverson presented the District Improvement Plan to the Board for consideration and approval. The plan was approved.
- Mr. Bill Gaither presented the Mountain Youth School Local Options for consideration and approval. The options were approved as presented.
- Ms. Shelley Hollingsworth presented a Budget Resolution for the State Public School fund and an Amendment for the Federal Programs fund for consideration and approval. Both were approved.
- The Board approved the following policy: 3305 Fund Raising Activities. Two were heard for first reading: 3101 Concurrent Enrollment & Other Curriculum Expansions; 7241 Drug & Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators. Fourteen were heard for first reading and approved for inclusion in the Cherokee County Board of Education Policy Manual: 3520 Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities; 4307 Disciplinary Action for Exceptional Children/Students with Disabilities; 4115 Behavior Standards for Transfer Students; 4331 Assaults, Threats, and Harassment; 4333 Weapons, Bomb threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety; 4340 School-Level Investigations; 4400 Attendance; 4341 Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues; 4345 Student Discipline Records; 4351 Short-Term

Suspension; 4352 Removal of Student During the Day; 4353 Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion; 4362 Requests for Readmission of Students Suspended for 365 Days or Expelled; 4370 Student Discipline Hearing Procedures. Policy 4360 Appeals of Consequences No Greater Than Short-Term Suspension was deleted from the Cherokee County Board of Education Policy Manual.

- Dr. Stephen Lane delivered his Superintendent’s Report: Recently, we were at our regional athletic meeting on in Asheville and at that time Murphy High was recognized for being ejection free during all 2010/11 athletic competitions. Congratulations to MHS! We also want to recognize the Marching Bulldogs, for their outstanding performance at the Enka, Land of the Sky Marching Band Festival. The Band Placed 2nd in their Class, with caption awards of 1st place Drum Major (Matthew Thorley), 2nd in Music, 2nd in Drum Line and 3rd in Color Guard. The new band director has just done a terrific job. I’d like to mention now that Tri-county Early College, on September 19th, hosted a group of teachers from Mattamuskeet early College in Okracoke came to observe TCEC's 1:1 iPad Initiative at work. They visited classrooms, spoke with teachers and students, and questioned the Chief Information Officer, Jeana Hardin. Their plan was to determine if the investment was a good one for their school and to put together a video from this visit to convince their Board to fund these for their school. They were very pleased with the visit and learned a great deal. We appreciate Ms. Cheek and her staff and students helping them along their way. We know that STEM is a very important subject area and is being pushed hard very hard within the science, technology engineering and mathematics courses. So along those lines I’d like to recognize an innovative idea of Mr. Ethan Dickey and his HDHS A.P. Chemistry Class. They shared a science lesson with HDEMS 1st and 2nd grade classes on September 21st. The seniors and juniors in A.P. Chemistry will be performing a crystal growing experiment for the classes of, Mrs. April Harper (1st) and Mrs. Debbie Sanders (2nd). By performing this experiment, the A.P. students hope the 1st and 2nd graders will become excited about science and be motivated to continue learning about science throughout their educational years into adulthood. So kudos to Mr. Dickey and the Principals and staff for setting that up. Martins Creek School recently received \$1300 from Lowe’s. Thanks to their parents who are employees of Lowe’s for helping obtain that grant. Likewise, Peachtree schools received over \$800 from Snap-On Tools and we appreciate their generosity for taking the time to contribute and participate in our school activities. Hiwassee Dam Elementary received over \$700 for the American Heart Association which is more than double last year’s total. The Brain Based research, as you know, is what’s being done in three of our elementary schools and Ms. Lana Parker and Ms. Jenna West at Marble Elementary have initiated a youth development program called Girls on the Run, which is an international girls' youth organization. It is an excellent program and it fits perfectly with our integration of neuro-cognitive teaching and learning at Marble Elementary. Girls on the Run is a 501(c)3 positive youth development program which combines an interactive curriculum and running to inspire self-respect and healthy lifestyles in pre-teen girls. Our core curriculum addresses many aspects of girls’ development - their physical, emotional, mental and social well-being. Lessons provide girls with the tools to make positive decisions and to avoid risky adolescent behaviors. In addition we have 2 overnight field trips we’ve approved, both from TCEC, one is a college tour of WCU, Montreat, UNCA, and Mars Hill and this will take place October 14th and 15th. Then on May 14th through the 19th they will be traveling to Pennsylvania and New York, visiting Gettysburg and visiting Amish country and Hershey, Pennsylvania and a tour of New York City.

- 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>
Valerie Mashburn	Speech Teacher/MES	Retirement/10-31-11
Mickey Maennle	EC Assistant/ AES	Resignation/ 11-07-11
Sherri Golden	AIG/Art (Moving to Part Time)/HDES	Resignation/ 9-30-11
Trudy Moss	Child Nutrition Employee/Peachtree	Resignation/9-30-11

- The Board approved the Leave of Absence request of: Phyllis Fuller, Math Teacher/AMS, Medical Leave 10-12-11 – 11-14-11.

- The Board approved the following hiring recommendations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Gerri Heier	School Health Educator	District	10-10-11

Roarke Arrowood	Tobacco Club Facilitator	District	10-10-11
Hillary Chastain	Interim EC Assistant	AHS	10-10-11
Laura Moses	Title I Reading Assistant	AES	10-10-11
Jacqueline Lee	Part-Time Interim Teacher	HDES	10-10-11-- 06-08-12
Scott Jones	Interim Teacher	AMS	10-12-11-- 11-14-11

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Deborah Brown	21 st Century Program	10/10/11

- The Board approved the following substitute teacher applications:

Eric Duong	Jillian York	Libby Solesbee
Jacqueline Burt	Shawna Garrett	Doris Smith

- The Board approved the following volunteers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>School</u>
Tim Wood	Basketball	Andrews Middle
Robert Dillard	Wrestling	Hiwassee Dam High/HDR Middle
Samuel Dillard	Wrestling	Hiwassee Dam High/HDR Middle
Sawyer Dillard	Wrestling	Hiwassee Dam High/HDR Middle
Frankie Roberson	Basketball	Murphy High
Rex Cable	Wrestling	Andrews High

- The Board approved extending the Superintendent's contract until June 30, 2015.
- The next meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Marble Elementary, November 3, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
- There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.