

Cherokee County Board of Education

Meeting of
June 13, 2011

6:00 p.m. – Murphy Middle School

Minutes

Board Members Present: Mr. Randy Barnett, Board Chair, Ms. Wanda Arrowood, Vice Chair, Dr. David Ackerman, Mr. Erik Brinke, Mr. Paul Brown, Mr. Winfield Clonts, Ms. Debbie Hogan, and Chad Donnahoo, School Board Attorney.

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Invocation. Mr. Randy Barnett called the meeting to order and welcomed all those attending. Mr. Barry McClure, Principal of Murphy Middle School, welcomed all in attendance then introduced Jake West, student of Murphy Middle, who delivered the invocation.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Wanda Arrowood led the pledge of allegiance.
3. Mission Statement. Mr. Winfield Clonts read the mission statement.
4. Approval of Agenda. The Agenda was approved as presented.
5. Minutes. The minutes for the Board of Education meeting of May 12, 2011 were approved as presented.
6. Public Input. There was no public input.
7. Student Athletic Recognition: Dr. Stephen Lane recognized students who participated in State 1A athletic events. Those recognized were:

Murphy High School 2011 1A State Championship Boy's Track Results

Michael Hering	1600 Meter Run	[4:40.99—8 th]
Kyle Bernier	300 Hurdles	[40.58—5 th]
Adam Burgess	Discus	[128-10—7 th]

Murphy Girls Track

McKenzie Terry	Shot Put	[34'3"—5 th]
Chantel Garrett	Discus	[106'—4 th]
Courtney Brown	100 Meter Hurdles	[17.27"—8 th]
Courtney Brown		
Lauren Dockery		
Bianca Canizio		
Victoria Johnson	4 X 200 Relay	[1:52.59—8 th]

Andrews High School State Track Participants

Stephanie Johnson	High Jump	[5'4"—1 st]
Erin West	Triple Jump	[35' 5 3/4"—3 rd]

Rachel Moore	300 M Hurdles	[48.49—5 th]
Erica Hicks	Discus	[100' 2"—7 th]
Jordan Collins	Triple Jump	[43' 6 1/2"—6 th]
Stephanie Ferguson		
Breanna Rodriguez		
Jessica Crisp		
Rachel Moore	4 x 400 Relay	[6 th]

8. The Learning Center Programs Update Ms. Dana Balyard, Social Media Director for The Learning Center, invited members of the Board to visit their web site and review programs that they feel are working for them. She went on to state how proud they were of their nutritional program. Mr. Randy Barnett asked what was charged for a meal and asked for examples of their menus. Ms. Balyard and Ms. Mary Jo Dyer answered Mr. Barnett's question and invited him and the other members of the Board to visit their web site for more in depth menu information.

9. 2011-2012 School Calendar. Mr. Kenny Garland presented the proposed 185-day and 180-day 2011-2012 school calendars for consideration and explained state legislation behind the 185-day calendar. Dr. Stephen Lane expounded on the background of the legislation surrounding the calendar flexibility, and informed the Board that it had essentially been buried in the Senate committee. He went on to say that the "Save our Summers" group had been lobbying against the calendar flexibility legislation within the Senate and that they have found it easier to allow the bill to die in committee. Dr. Lane went on to inform the Board that we have three of the four years required by General Statute during which we have missed 8 or more days of school due to inclement weather that will qualify our school system for calendar flexibility on our own. Dr. Lane explained that some counties are trying to begin school on August 15th and that with the 5 additional days in the calendar will equate to an 87-day first semester and a 98-day second semester. The goal of this division, however imbalanced, is to try to end the High School semester at Christmas. This did not take into account the additional cost for bus drivers, which equals about a 3 percent increase; it did not take into account the additional lose of staff development and protected days. He stated that our programmed fuel costs are still \$2.71 yet we last spent \$3.36 per gallon. He lastly recommended to the Board that both versions of the calendar be approved bending legislation approval. Both calendars were approved and the Board designated the Superintendent to determine which calendar would be most sufficient for the Cherokee County School system.

Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) to approve both calendars and designate the Superintendent to determine which calendar would be most sufficient for the Cherokee County School system. Voting is unanimous.

10. Announcement of Tri-County Community College Trustee. Mr. Jan Lukens was appointed to the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees. Dr. David Ackerman added that the Trustees should be invited to appear before the Board to ensure dialogue is continued between the Trustees and the Board of Education and in so doing convey the Boards' concerns as well as receive theirs. Mr. Erik Brinke added that such presentation will be given in August and February if the proposed policy is adopted. Mr. Brinke recommended that the Board wait until the original Tri-County Community College agreement is located before proceeding.

Motion made (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to nominate Mr. Jan Lukens for the Tri-County Trustee. Voting is unanimous.

11. CTE Advisory Board 2010-2011 Year In Review. Ms. Pam Dickey, Chair of the CTE Advisory Board, presented the CTE Advisory Board 2010-2011 Year In Review.

12. CTE Student Presentation. Mr. Cameron Nix, student of Murphy High School, delivered a slide show presentation outlining the successes and lessons learned as a result of his CTE internship.

13. CTE Plan for 2011-2012 Ms. Jamie Barnett presented the CTE Plan for 2011-2012 school year for approval. Mr. Erik Brinke recognized Ms. Barnett and Ms. Dickey's diligences during the past year within the CTE program.

Motion made (Mr. Erik Brinke) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the CTE Plan for the 2011-2012 School Year as presented. Voting is unanimous.

14. Wellness Presentation. Ms. Cheree Wells gave a Wellness Presentation that outlined how well schools are working to integrate nutrition and physical activity into the curriculum.

15. Construction Update. Mr. Gary Wright delivered a construction update outlining the progress being made on the Andrews High School construction project, as well as other construction projects throughout the school district.

16. Child Nutrition Report. Ms. Karen Kephart delivered follow up information as requested during the May Board meeting and the child nutrition committee working session held during June, regarding price increase for paid lunches per new Federal guidelines for the 2011/2012 school year.

Mr. Winfield Clonts stated that the recommendation from the nutrition committee working session was to increase the meal cost by 10-cents. Dr. David Ackerman added that it would be important for the nutrition committee to continue to meet and try to further the development of child nutrition strategies for quality of food improvement. He went on to compliment Ms. Kephart and the child nutrition employees of Cherokee County Schools. Mr. Erik Brinke and Mr. Winfield Clonts concurred with Dr. Ackerman's view of continued nutrition committee meetings.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) to increase the lunch price 10-cents for paid lunches. Voting is unanimous.

17. Budget Amendments. Ms. Terelle Harr requested approval of a budget amendment for the Capital Projects Fund. The budget amendment was approved. Additionally, Ms. Harr gave the yearly Insurance Coverage's review and recommended that the Board stay with the North Carolina School Boards Insurance Trust for A&E and Board Liability coverage, and also for the vehicle policy.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) to approve the amendment to the Capital Project Fund as presented. Voting is unanimous.

18. Title I & II Plan. Ms. Chanda Bias presented the Title I & II Plan for consideration.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) to approve the Title I Plan as presented. Voting is unanimous.

19. Policy Subcommittee. Ms. Debbie Hogan, Policy Subcommittee Chair, presented one policy to the Board for second reading: 4311 Dress Code. Additionally, Ms. Hogan presented two policies for first reading: 3470/4305 Alternative Learning Program for Schools and 8510 School Finance Officer.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) to approve the policy for 2nd reading as presented. Voting is unanimous.

20. Superintendent's Report. There were five great graduations this past week, every school's efforts were fantastic and it was a blessing to see all the proud families. I would like to recognize some the achievements of some of our students who participated in the Cherokee County Art Show: 1st place in Photography-Makayla Minor; 1st place in Mixed Media- Kyle Wiggins (he also sold his work); 1st place in Digital Arts- Haley Rollins; 2nd place in Photography- Lauren Hamby; 2nd place in Painting- Carly Parsons; 3rd place in Paining- Matthew Herr; 3rd place in Drawing- Isaac Smith. Murphy High school has provided a nice summery of their graduates: they graduated 116 seniors this year. Of these seniors, 19 are NC Scholars, 15 are Honors Graduates, 16 are Superior Honors Graduates, 12 are NC Merit Graduates, and 32 are Career and Technical Honors Graduates. Their Teacher Cadet program hosted a reception for the Cherokee County teachers and administrators who have helped and supported the program in the past year. Six teacher cadets were awarded certificates for their service to the Cherokee County chapter of the Autism Society of North Carolina. Amy Butterworth is participating in the Youth Leadership Tour of Washington, D. C., with the Rural Electrification Association. Their graduation project has shifted its focus to a true community service orientation, with every senior this year making an impact on school and community. Amaranth Brunner completed an internship with the N. C. General Assembly. Murphy High School's advocacy global citizenship has produced the following alumni's successes: Caroline Schutte is completing a one-year study abroad in France; Carolina Carter, student at UNC-Chapel Hill is participating in a new archaeological dig of a Roman site in Israel; Caleb Mathews, student at UNC-Chapel Hill, is working this summer in Turkey; Jordan Fletcher, student at UNC-Chapel Hill, spent a semester studying in China; Kelly Noel Waldorf, student at Duke University, is studying this summer in Puebla, Mexico. Courtney Toole, student of Andrews High School, has been moved off the waiting list and awarded a Teaching Fellows Scholarship. Based on the State budget, this may be the last year for our Teaching Fellows Scholarship Program, so we are delighted to see Courtney Toole awarded this scholarship. The CTE committee did a great job and I appreciate all the time and effort in reporting. Murphy High School had 8-students who earned their CAN, 4-students who earned licensure as pharmacy technicians—the pharmacy tech program is in its first year in Cherokee County and several schools have students involved in that program. This is just one of the many creative ideas that are taking place in our schools and we look forward to seeing more great things from CTE. The community involvement is what makes these opportunities so special so thank you so much for your involvement. As for the budget, the Governor did veto the budget. As soon as the House Speaker and President Pro Tempore schedule a vote, we will be able to get a decision on the veto, either up or down, and once we have that we will proceed forward. It is a little difficult, in fact very difficult, trying to plan a budget year without an actual budget. We have 34 individuals who retired, resigned or are otherwise no longer employed by Cherokee County Schools as of June 30. So we will be beginning next year 34 employees shorter than we began with in the fall. As a result of the losses, we are now looking at certifications of all personnel presently employed by Cherokee County Schools and making moves to fill gaps created by these losses. We do have a million dollars that will be cut back based on the budget; fortunately, we do have Edujobs money that will serve as a onetime offset. This pending budget is a 2-year budget that our legislature has crafted and it will hit us much harder during the second year than the first. There is much higher discretionary reduction which simply means that they have passed the buck on making a decision in Raleigh to the local Boards of Education. That is the one piece of local control that I saw emerge from Raleigh at this time. It's a tough situation but our people are really working hard and we hope to make notifications as we get these gaps taken care of. Ideally, if we had a budget, we could have done it before the employees last day. Mr. Garland is working very hard to put together a lot of different scenarios and we are going to be in communication with our Principals as we make these upcoming moves. We appreciate your

patience and understanding. Never stop trying to communicate with your representatives and let them know the things that are happening and how their decisions are affecting us.

21. Adjourn to Closed Session:

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) for the Board of Education to move into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 for the following purposes: Under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-321; and, under subsection (a)(3) to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege. Voting is unanimous.

22. Return to Open Session/Closed Session Decisions. After returning to open session, the Board took the following actions based on closed session discussion:

Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) to approve the following Resignations and Retirements:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Request/Effective Date</u>	
Sharon Dockery	Child Nutrition, MHS	Resignation	05/18/11
Brandi Watkins	Attendance Counselor, District	Resignation	07/30/11
Leslie Harris	School Nurse, Andrews High, AMS	Resignation	06/15/11
Donna Bryant	SADD but TRU, Club Sponsor	Resignation	06/10/11
Kyle Maples	Dir of Bands, Murphy Middle & High School	Resignation	06/15/11
June Hensley	School Nurse, Ranger/HD Schools	Resignation	06/30/11
Carolyn Hyde	Hiwassee Dam High School	Retirement	07/01/11
Patty Barton	Teacher, Andrews Elementary School	Retirement	08/01/11
Janet Hough	Teacher, Martins Creek School	Retirement	06/15/11
Pam Warlick	Teacher, Andrews Elementary School	Retirement	07/01/11
Kathy Gentry	Teacher Assistant, MES	Retirement	08/01/11
Terri Gribble	Title I, Marble School	Retirement	09/20/11

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the following Leaves of Absence:

Hannah Johnson-Berry	Teacher, AES	Maternity Leave, 08/23/11-01/02/12
Melissa Godfrey	Teacher, Marble ES	Maternity Leave, 08/18/11-01/02/12
Charles Earle	Maintenance	Long-Term Medical Leave, 06/01/11

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the following 21st Century Summer Institute Staffing from June 20, 2011 to June 24, 2011 as presented:

Amanda Barton-Patterson	Julie Curtis	Kristin Gaither	Sherry Golden
Melinda Gramm	Scott Jones	Glenda Picklesimer	Lori Roberts
Debbie Sanders	Tammy Walker	Debbie White	

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the following Summer Day Camp Counselors as presented:

Alice Bettis	Kevin Carter	Adam Clonts	Brian Hoyt
Teresa McCloskey	Shannon Palmer	Margaret Soik	Bill Waldroup
Julie Wiley	Brenda Worley		
Tasia Dockery,	Music Activities		
Cicely Mason,	Art Activities		

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the following Substitutes for Summer Day Camp as presented:

Amanda Barber	Darin Bond	Melinda Gramm	Tristan Hamby
Laura Hibberts	Alex Hughes	Lisa Loudermilk	Hailey Rogers
Vicki Sullivan	Crystal Ware	Hannah Watson	Rebekah MacDonald
Brittany Hoyt			

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) to approve the following Employment Terminations as presented:

Wanda Martucci, MHS Cafeteria

Larry Worsham, MES

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Ms. Wanda Arrowood) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the following Employment Non-Renewals as presented:

Elizabeth Salvatore, Andrews High School

Kendra Shaffer, Murphy High School

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) that the Board authorize the Superintendent to begin the discussions with his nominee for the School Finance Officer with said nominee to be hired pending Board Approval.

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Mr. Erik Brinke) that the Board authorize its legal counsel to file the notice of appeal in *The Learning Center v. the Cherokee County Board of Education*.

Voting is unanimous.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) that the Board approve the Interconnection Agreements with TVA/Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation for Ranger and Hiwassee Dam Schools and authorize the Chair and Superintendent to execute such agreements subject to final revisions regarding insurance and indemnity requirements by legal counsel.

Voting is unanimous.

23. Adjournment. The next meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Central Office, on Monday, July 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to adjourn the meeting. Voting is unanimous.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m., June 13, 2011.

Stephen E. Lane, Ed.D, Secretary

Randy Barnett, Board Chair