

Cherokee County Board of Education  
Meeting of  
September 8, 2011  
6:00 p.m. – Andrews Elementary 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 Mr. Chris Campbell, School Board Attorney.

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Invocation. Mr. Randy Barnett called the meeting to order and welcomed all those attending then asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Winfield Clonts led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mission Statement. Ms. Wanda Arrowood 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 August 4, 2011 were approved as presented.
6. Public Input. There was no public input.
7. Student Recognition: Dr. Stephen Lane and Ms. Cindi Herr recognized Jordan Collins a student of Andrews High School for being selected as the 1<sup>st</sup> winner of the NC STEP “No Spit All-Stars” and awarded him with a certificate of achievement.
8. PRIDE Survey: 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.
9. Principal of the Year Recognition: Dr. Stephen Lane announced Mr. Barry McClure as Cherokee County Schools’ Principal of the Year.
10. Highly Qualified Teacher Report and Enrollment Comparison: Mr. Kenny Garland provided a Highly Qualified Teacher report and enrollment comparison to the Board.
11. Budget Amendments: Ms. Shelley Hollingsworth proposed budget amendments for the Local Current Expense and Grants funds.

***Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) to approve the budget amendments for the Local Current Expense Fund and Grants Fund as presented. Voting is unanimous.***

12. Policy Subcommittee. 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.

***Pursuant to G.S. 115C-390.1 thru 12 and 115C-366 of S.L. 2011-282, a motion was made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to waive the standard 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the policies in question and proceed with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading protocol and adoption as presented. Voting is unanimous.***

13. Superintendent's Report: 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

14. 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 the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and 143-318.11(c) for the following purposes, under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential student information pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232g (FERPA) and G.S. 115C-402(e); 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, and under subsection (a)(5) to discuss the terms of a contract for employment. Voting is unanimous.***

15. 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 (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the Resignation and Retirement of:***

Susie Swanson	TA/Andrews Elementary School	Resignation	08/23/2011
Bobby Stalcup	Custodian/Andrews Elementary School	Retirement	10/01/2011

***Voting is unanimous.***

***Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the Maternity Leave request of:***

Tracy Kephart; Teacher/Murphy Middle School; effective: 08/22/2011

***Voting is unanimous.***

***Motion made (Ms. Debbie Hogan) and seconded (Dr. David Ackerman) to approve the hiring recommendations as presented by the Superintendent:***

<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

***Voting is unanimous.***

***Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) to approve the Career Track contract renewal recommendation as presented by the Superintendent:***

Michelle Adams, MES

***Voting is unanimous.***

**Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) to approve the As-Needed duty assignments as presented by the Superintendent:**

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

**Voting is unanimous.**

**Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Ms. Debbie Hogan) to approve the Substitute Teacher recommendations as presented by the Superintendent:**

Dr. Floyd Beil                      Kimberly Green                      Timothy Thompson                      Danielle Hedden

**Voting is unanimous.**

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. Manager 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

16. Adjournment. The next meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Education will be held at Andrews Middle School, on October 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

**Motion made (Dr. David Ackerman) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) adjourn the meeting. Voting is unanimous.**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m., September 8, 2011.

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Stephen E. Lane, Ed.D, Secretary

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Randy Barnett, Board Chair