

Regular Session Board Meeting Highlights
October 1, 2018

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 1, 2018, at the Board of Education Office. Vice Chair Glendale Boone called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Mrs. Claire Whitehurst made a motion to enter into closed session at 3:05 p.m. and Dr. Daniel Dickerson seconded the motion to discuss matters that are confidential by law, including confidential student matters and to approve closed session minutes, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1); to confer with the Board Attorney and preserve the attorney/client privilege as allowed by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3); and to discuss personnel as allowed by North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. The following board members were present: Mrs. Claire Whitehurst, Dr. Daniel Dickerson, Leslie Byrum and Mrs. Glendale Boone. Mrs. Chante' Jordan, HR Director & Board attorney John Leidy were present.

Mrs. Boone reconvened open session at 4:03 p.m., with the following board members present: Mrs. Glendale Boone, Mr. Leslie Byrum, Mrs. Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson.

Mrs. Whitehurst made a motion to approve the agenda, with the deletion of Item Number Three- Approval of AIG Fundraisers and Trip – from the Consent Agenda, and moved to New Business, and the deletion of Item Number Sixteen – Approval of GCHS Robotics Club Amazon Affiliates Link Fundraiser. Mr. Byrum seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

During Public Comments, Mrs. Dawn Powell spoke about the need for a full time band director at Central Middle School. She noted that Ms. Morgan is doing a great job, but it is a lot of responsibility to serve at both the high school and the middle school. She feels the addition of a band director at Central would help to build a better foundation for the band, and would provide much needed support for Ms. Morgan. Mrs. Glendale Boone acknowledged that the board has these same concerns, and thanked Mrs. Powell for taking the time to come talk with board.

Mr. Milton Carter spoke about the demolition work taking place at Central Middle School. He is concerned about the amount of dust the students are being exposed to. He feels there are harmful materials in the dust, and this poses a health risk to the students. Mr. John Greene, Maintenance Director, assured Mr. Carter that all asbestos has been removed. He will talk with the contractor about providing additional water to keep the dust to a minimum. Board members assured Mr. Carter they are concerned about the safety of the students as well, and they will take measures to provide a safe environment at the school. They thanked Mr. Carter for coming and expressing his concerns.

During Items for Information, Interim Sheriff Robert Jordan provided information about monies the Sheriff's Department has received through the collection of evidence gathered in criminal cases. He would like to donate a total of \$600.00 to the schools, with \$100.00 going to each school and the remaining \$100.00 donated to the athletic department at Gates County High

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Williams reported the following:

- Demolition started at Central Middle School over the week-end. There will be bricks and pieces of the gym bleachers that will be available for pickup in the near future. There will also be commemorative plates with pertinent dates of the school's history, for the pieces of memorabilia. A date and time will be advertised. He also noted that we will work on the dust problem created by the demolition.
- He noted that tests scores have been compiled, and Gates County did very well compared to other schools in our region. Gates County High School earned a score of B, and our other five schools scored a C. The scores for our school and others in our region were posted in the Gates County Index last week. He is very proud of the hard work and dedication, and of course we will always look for ways to improve.
- He congratulated the Board for receiving the Gold Bell Award at the North Carolina School Boards Association District One Meeting held in September. The Gold Bell Award recognizes boards where every member earned twelve hours of training between July 1 and June 30.
- Dr. Williams noted that October is Principal Appreciation Month and asked everyone to thank our principals for the great job they are doing. He is planning to give out a token of appreciation to each of them this week.

During the Report from the Board, board members commented on how nice the Saunders Science Scholarship event was. The program will allow students to experience science in new and innovative ways. The board expressed how honored they felt for Gates County to be chosen for this prestigious program.

Mr. Rube Blanchard, Finance Officer, gave the Financial Report and provided an update on New Beginnings Daycare. He also requested, on behalf of Dr. Paula Simpson, Director of School Nutrition, to temporarily transfer \$15,000 from our local fund to the School Nutrition program, until they receive their allocation from the State. When funds are received, the \$15,000 will be paid back to the local fund.

Mrs. Whitehurst made a motion to transfer \$15,000 from local fund to school nutrition until funds are received from the state. Dr. Dickerson seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

The following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

1. September 5, 2018 Regular Session Minutes and amended August 6/August 10, 2018 Regular Session Minutes
2. Buckland Out-of-State Field Trip to Jamestown, VA
3. Nomination of Board for School Board Leadership Award
4. Agreement with Linda Kathryn Hoffner to provide Interim Speech & Language Services for EC Dept.
5. T.S. Cooper Participation in Fall Water Education Program
6. Budget Amendment No. 2 - State Funds
7. Budget Amendment No. 2 - Local Fund No. 2
8. Budget Amendment No. 2 - Local Fund No. 8

9. GCHS BETA Club Overnight Field Trip to Williamsburg, VA
10. GCHS FFA Field Trip to Suffolk, VA
11. Two GCHS FFA Members and Mrs. Brinkley to attend FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, IN
12. GCHS Advanced PE and Weightlifting Classes To Take Field Trip to Chesapeake, VA
13. GCHS Athletes To Attend NCHSAA Retreat in Raleigh, NC
14. GCHS FCA Club T-shirt Sale Fundraiser
15. GCHS Band Overnight Field Trip to Cary, NC
16. T.S. Cooper Field Trip to Williamsburg, VA

Under New Business Dr. Dickerson made a motion to add language “School trips that require travel outside of the continental United States are prohibited unless approved by the Board”, to policy 3320 – School Trips. Mrs. Whitehurst seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

Mrs. Whitehurst made a motion to approve the AIG Fundraisers and the AIG Trip to Belize, which was moved from the Consent Agenda. Dr. Dickerson seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

NEW HIRES

TEACHERS

- Stacey Bisignano

PART TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT/ NEW BEGINNINGS DAYCARE

- Bobbi Jo Morris
- Nicole Mitchell

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

- Linda LaRue
- Shawn Riddick
- Katron Greene
- Sarah Dunn
- Todd French
- Sharneka Dillard

AFTER-SCHOOL TUTOR FOR ELL STUDENTS

- Aretha Ruffin

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS

- Jessica Jordan
- Latoya Grant

TRANSFERS

- Malcolm Sears transferred to Technology Technician III – replacing Steven Harrell
- Monica Hathaway transferred to Technology Technician I – replacing Malcolm Sears
- Alisha Hawk transferred to Technology Assistant – replacing Monica Hathaway
- Timothy Jordan – transferred from Substitute Bus Driver to Full-time Driver at Gatesville Elementary

VOLUNTEERS

- Dana Forsythe – T.S. Cooper Elementary

RESIGNATIONS

- Latoya Grant – Bus Driver at Gatesville Elementary
- Madelynn Hobbs – New Beginnings Daycare Part-time Teacher Assistant

GATES COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL COACH

- Whitney Hobbs – Head Junior Varsity Volleyball

COMMUNITY CENTER FALL SOCCER OFFICIALS

- Brandon Nale
- Caleb Brickhouse
- Haven Stiles
- Cody Higginbotham
- Emily Conner

In Other Business the following items were discussed:

- The regular November session will be held at T.S. Cooper Elementary School on Monday, November 5, 2018, with closed session beginning at 3:00 p.m., and open session at 4:00 p.m.

The Board discussed which board members would be designated as delegates at the North Carolina School Boards Association Annual Conference in November. Mrs. Boone and Mr. Felton will serve, and the third person will be chosen at a later date.

Dr. Williams noted that the National School Boards Association Annual Conference will be held in Philadelphia, PA, March 30th through April 1, 2019. If anyone is interested, please contact Ms. Riddick.

Mrs. Whitehurst made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Byrum seconded the motion and board members approved the motion unanimously.

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Boone adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.