

## **Board Highlights May 5, 2014**

The Gates County Board of Education met to discuss personnel as outlined in N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6).

The Gates County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting in the Conference Room of the Gates County Board of Education Office on May 5, 2014 at 7:06 p.m.

Chairman G. Douglas Lilley welcomed visitors and staff.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Earl Rountree spoke about Common Core during Public Comment. He made mention of how Common Core will probably be repealed and urged everyone to embrace that idea. Mr. Rountree addressed Mr. Lilley regarding his upcoming departure as school board chair. He expressed his appreciation for Mr. Lilley's devotion and dedication and turned his attention to the other board members to convey his gratitude for their service as well.

### **Agenda Items**

Xavier Roscoe, Student Advisor to the Board, shared the Good News about the Elementary Schools, and Michelle Munoz, Student Advisor to the Board, shared the Good News about the Middle School and the High School.

Lori Ward, Director of the Pre-K Program presented the Academic Report. She spoke briefly about how they are preparing for next year and have met with parents and Kindergarten teachers. She then introduced one of the Pre-K teachers, Mrs. Mary Bunch. Mrs. Bunch talked about how NC has updated their foundations and has brought attention to their guidelines showing what they teach their children with regard to Pre-K Standards. The guidelines prepare the students for academics and school readiness. Mrs. Meghan Maurer, a parent of an autistic child who is enrolled in the Pre-K Program at Gatesville Elementary School spoke about her daughter's vast improvement since entering the program over two years ago. She gave boundless credit to the teachers and staff who have worked tirelessly and diligently to ensure her daughter's growth and development. Mrs. Maurer was asked if there was anything she would change about the program if she could, and she did mention how difficult the program is to get into with the strict income and disability requirements.

Mrs. Lori Ward showed a PowerPoint of parents giving their commendation to the Pre-K Program and to the teachers and staff who make it such a success.

Mrs. Lori Ward asked the board members to participate in a "Jeopardy" type game with handouts they received.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Williams discussed the following topics (see PowerPoint on the district webpage under ("News from the Desk of the Superintendent")):

- \* Teacher Tenure Law
- \* A-F Accountability
- \* Read to Achieve
- \* Teacher Compensation
- \* Vouchers
- \* Virtual Charter Schools
- \* Common Core Standards

Alyssa Douglas, a senior at Gates County High School, shadowed Dr. Williams last week. Dr. Williams sent a letter to Mrs. Michele Warren, Family and Consumer Science teacher in the Career and Technical Education Department at Gates County High School, detailing Alyssa's day in the life of a superintendent.

During the Report from the Board, Mr. Felton stated that Relay for Life was a bust due to the weather, but he was thrilled to see the award the school got that was handed out. He was able to speak with Amanda Hobbs's class about cancer and Relay for Life and got the student's attention by telling them that about one third of them would end up getting cancer. He went on to praise the school system's participation in Relay for Life and commended the willingness of students, teachers, and staff to help.

Mrs. Whitehurst helped judge the Science Fair at Buckland Elementary and she thought the projects were really wonderful. Mrs. Whitehurst was able to attend the Prom and the Viking Ball and spoke about how beautiful the decorations were and how lovely all the students looked dressed up.

Mr. Lilley and Dr. Williams met with Commissioner Chairman Dr. Henry Jordan and Interim County Manager, Ed Windley at the Central Office to go over the budget. Mr. Lilley said the meeting was very beneficial and enlightened Dr. Jordan and Mr. Windley to the essential needs of the schools. Dr. Jordan said he was very impressed and commented that this is the first time his eyes were opened to the needs of the school system. It was an excellent meeting and Dr. Jordan and Mr. Windley seemed very receptive to what was presented.

Mr. Byrum was disappointed that he was unable to attend the Prom or the Viking Ball. He has had a rough time with health related issues this year. He did mention Common Core and how he doesn't think DPI did a good thing by selling it to the school systems here. Mr. Byrum believes that if Common Core went back to the way it was originally, it would be much better. The coalition who helped write the new Common Core is not in the classroom; therefore they were not able to see what would be beneficial and fundamental. The legislators are in the same position, yet are dictating doing away with tenure. Mr. Byrum feels that the morale is low due to all of this.

Rube Blanchard presented the financial report for the end of month ten.

Dr. Williams approved the following Out-of-District Request:

\*Wanda Lassiter for her daughter, Madison Stiles, to attend T.S. Cooper Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

\*Standra Harrell for her daughter, Skye Murray, to attend Gatesville Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

\*Erica Gatling for her daughter, Destinee Sessoms, to attend Gatesville Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

\*Regina Bracy for her son, Lance Bracy, to attend Gates County High School and for her daughter, Ginny Bracy, to attend Buckland Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

\*Misty Rawles for her son, Lee Rawles, to attend Gatesville Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

\*Devonda Roscoe for her son, Christopher Roscoe, to attend Gatesville Elementary School for the upcoming 2014-15 school year.

### **Approval Items**

Rube Blanchard requested the approval of the following budget amendments:

Budget Amendment No. 3 – Capital Outlay Funds

Budget Amendment No. 7 – General Expense Fund 2

Budget Amendment No. 9 – General Expense Fund 8

Budget Amendment No. 10 – State Funds

Gail Hawkins requested the approval of the IDEA Part B (611) Grant.

Gail Hawkins requested the approval of the Exceptional Children's Division IDEA-Part B (619) Preschool Grant.

Gail Hawkins requested the approval of the agreement between the University of NC at Chapel Hill for the TEACCH Autism Program and Gates County Schools.

Gail Hawkins requested the approval of a funding request for New Beginnings Daycare and the Exceptional Children's Division.

Adrienne Bradley requested the approval of the following 9000 Series Policies:

- \*Policy 9000 – Planning to Address Facility Needs
- \*Policy 9020 – Facility Design
- \*Policy 9120 – Bidding for Construction Work
- \*Policy 9200 – Care and Maintenance of Facilities

Dr. Williams requested the approval on behalf of Ms. Deborah Jordan for New Hope Missionary Church to use the water and parking lot at the Central Office for a car wash.

Dr. Williams requested the approval on behalf of Mrs. Lola Rountree of an out of state travel request for Mrs. Rountree and some of her department to attend a PowerSchool Users Training Event in Myrtle Beach, SC on May 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

Tammi Ward requested the approval for the high school volleyball team to attend Volleyball Camp at UNC from July 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.

Tammi Ward requested the approval of an overnight trip for the GCHS Playmakers to go to NY City in December, 2014.

Tammi Ward requested the approval to pursue an opportunity to incorporate Fencing into the GCHS Club offerings.

Tammi Ward requested the approval of the Dress Code Policy revisions for the 2014-15 school year.

### **Contract Renewal**

- \*Tammy Boone – Director of Elementary Education (K-8) 4-year contract

### **Long-Term Substitute**

- \*Cindy Barber – Long-Term Substitute Lab Facilitator at Gates County High School

### **Internship**

- \*Lashunda Harrison – Field Observation Internship at T.S. Cooper Elementary School

### **Transfers**

- \*Robin Spivey – Bus Driver – Transfer from Gates County High School to Gatesville Elementary School
- \*Sherry Reid – Substitute Bus Driver – Transfer to Regular Bus Driver at Central Middle School
- \*Melissa Jordan – Transfer from Bus Driver for Bus #108 to Bus #75 at Gates County High School

**Resignations**

\*William Muse, Jr. – HVAC Mechanic in Maintenance Department

\*Jennifer Odom – Bus Driver at Central Middle School