

Board Meeting Highlights
February 1, 2016

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday February 1, 2016, at T.S. Cooper Elementary School. Madam Chair Glendale Boone called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The following board members were present: Glendale Boone, Ray Felton, Leslie Byrum, Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson.

Mr. Felton made a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Whitehurst seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge to the American Flag, led by Deja Gainey, student at Gates County High School.

Mrs. Barbara Toti, teacher at Gates County High School, signed up for public comments. She spoke about the free event with speaker Alex Sheen on January 21, 2016, at the Performing Arts Building at the high school. Due to the weather, there was a smaller crowd than anticipated. However, Mr. Sheen's program, entitled "Because I Said I Would", was enjoyed by all in attendance. Mr. Sheen will be returning to the county to provide programs for the students at Gates County High and Central Middle, on May 19, 2016. She presented certificates to Principals in appreciation for the schools' participation in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, held on Saturday, January 30, 2016. She thanked everyone for their overwhelming support, which has contributed to the success of this project.

During the Academic Report, there was a video highlighting the students and staff at T.S. Cooper Elementary School.

Deja Gainey and Olivia Parker, student advisors, presented a powerpoint with Good News from the schools.

During the superintendent's report, Dr. Williams read an e-mail from Jack Hoke, the Executive Director of the North Carolina School Superintendents' Association, in which he stated that the House Select Committee on Education Strategy and Practices met on Thursday, January 28, 2016, in Raleigh. The following panel of superintendents were on the committee: Mr. Jeff Booker, Gaston County; Dr. Sean Bulson, Wilson County; Dr. Beverly Emory, Winston-Salem Forsyth Schools; Mr. Mike Garrett, McDowell County; Dr. Greg Little, Mt. Airy City Schools; Dr. John Parker, Roanoke Rapids City Schools; Dr. Frank Till, Cumberland County; and Dr. Barry Williams, Gates County. These eight superintendents had a two-hour conversation with committee members, during which, issues and possible solutions were discussed, with an extremely positive exchange occurring between superintendents and House members. Mr. Hoke commented that it was the best public dialogue between lawmakers and educators that he had witnessed in his four years as executive director. He commended the panel for their excellent representation of superintendents across the state.

During the report from the board, Mrs. Whitehurst and Mr. Felton thanked Mrs. Toti for organizing the Polar Plunge and for the participation from our schools. Mr. Byrum asked Mrs. Adrienne Bradley to give highlights from the last meeting of the Gates County Educational Association for Excellence meeting. Mrs. Bradley stated that the purpose of the association is to provide money for the schools. They have worked, through fundraisers, to provide scholarships for students. The Ed Association directors want to provide small grants to teachers for special projects. The Association will develop an alumni fundraising drive. They were instrumental in securing the funds, from Southern Bank, to provide for the Alex Sheen free event, at the high school, on January 21, 2016. They are involved in the Amanda Gail Harrell and Cheryl Kennedy Scholarships, and have provided funds for the Annual Teacher of The Year Event. Mr. Byrum requested time during each of the schools' staff meetings, to educate the employees about the Association. Mrs. Boone informed that she had attended a webinar, provided by Recontext Solutions, which are promoting a pilot program to improve the quality of education across the state. She said the webinar was very informative. She also read a letter from Randall Collins, Executive Director, from the District Administration Leadership Institute, praising Dr. Williams for being invited to join the Institute, and attend their conference in Orlando, Florida, January 13-15, 2016. This organization is engaged in high-level dialogue concerning the future of K-12 education in our nation. Participation was limited to only a small number of selected Superintendents, so this was quite an honor for Dr. Williams and the Gates County District.

Mr. Rube Blanchard gave the Financial Report for month seven, and gave a financial update on the New Beginnings Daycare.

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes - January 11, 2016 Regular Session
2. Consideration of Request for Approval of Central Middle School Cheerleaders' Field Trip - Prior Approval by Superintendent
3. Consideration of Request for Approval of Central Middle School Field Trips - James Woods
4. Consideration of Request for Approval of Central Middle School Portrait Cafe Fundraiser - March 18 - 21, 2016 - James Woods
5. Consideration of Request for Approval of Gatesville Elementary Pre-K Field Trips - Scott Corrente
6. Consideration of Request for Approval of Gates County High School's Fundraisers - Tammi Ward
7. Consideration of Request for Approval of Overnight Trip for GCHS Basketball Teams - Tammi Ward
8. Consideration of Request for Approval of Buckland Elementary Fundraiser - Gail Hawkins

9. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 3000 - Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program - Adrienne Bradley
10. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 3430 - School Improvement Plan - Adrienne Bradley
11. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 3540 - Comprehensive Health Education Program - Adrienne Bradley
12. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 6430 - State Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials and Supplies - Adrienne Bradley
13. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 7405 - Extracurricular and Non-Instructional Duties - Adrienne Bradley
14. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 7920 - Reduction in Force: Teachers and School Administrators - Adrienne Bradley
15. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 7100 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel - Adrienne Bradley
16. Consideration of Request for Approval of Policy 7810 - Evaluation of Licensed Employees - Adrienne Bradley
17. Consideration of Request for Approval To Maintain Small Grants (\$2500 or less) At School Level - Rube Blanchard
18. Consideration of Request for Approval of Budget Amendment No. 1 - Child Nutrition Funds - Rube Blanchard
19. Consideration of Request for Approval of Budget Amendment No. 4 - State Funds - Rube Blanchard
20. Consideration of Request for Approval of 2016-2017 School Calendar - Jennifer Hill

Mrs. Whitehurst made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items one through twenty Mr. Byrum seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

1. CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
Ann Harrell – Career Development Coordinator at Gates County High School
2. SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS
Doretha Woods – Retired Teacher
3. REASSIGNMENT
Whitney Hobbs – Reassigned from 6th grade CTE teacher to 8th grade CTE teacher at Central Middle School
4. COACHES FOR CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

James Woods – Head Softball Coach (Volunteer)
James Liles – Assistant Softball Coach
Lauren Lilley – Assistant Softball Coach

5. ADJUSTED COACHING SUPPLEMENTS

John Long – Assistant Baseball Coach - \$400 (decreased from \$800)
Marcus Barber – Track Coach - \$800 (decreased from \$1000)
Richard Turner – Track Coach - \$800 (increased from \$600)
James Liles – Assistant Softball Coach - \$600
Lauren Lilley – Assistant Softball Coach - \$400

6. TUTORS FOR GATESVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Vicki Taylor – Retired Teacher
Courtney Hale – Teacher

7. TUTORS FOR BUCKLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Carolyn McDaniels – Retired Teacher
Lori Cowper – Former Teacher

8. RESIGNATIONS

John Silver – School Guidance Counselor – Buckland Elementary School –
Effective: 1-22-2016

10. CHANGE IN JOB TITLE

Debra Vaughan – change in job title from Long-term Substitute Math Teacher (approved at the 1-11-2016 Board Meeting) to Interim Math Teacher at Gates County High School – replacing John Mathis – Effective 1-19-2016 through the end of the school year

In Other Business, the following items were discussed:

- March regular meeting will be held at the Central Office, rather than Central Middle School, on March 7, 2016 beginning with the Executive Closed Session at 6:00 p.m., followed by an open session at 7:00 p.m.
- Budget Meeting to be held February 29, 2016 beginning at 4:00 p.m., at the Central Office
- Dr. Williams was asked to check with the county manager concerning scheduling a quarterly meeting with the commissioners

There being no further business Dr. Dickerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Byrum seconded the motion and the board members approved the motion unanimously. Madam Chair Boone adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.