

MINUTES
ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 1, 2011

The meeting was held at the Ashe County Board of Education Annex as scheduled with all members present. Chairman King called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Beckworth requested that the personnel action items 4.02, 4.03 and 4.04 be moved to after closed session. A request for reassignment from Kristen Heckle was also added to the action items. There being no further changes, the agenda was approved by general consensus of the Board.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board on June 30, 2011 and the special meeting on July 8, 2011.

Dr. Reeves presented the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan for Ashe County Schools and noted that he is changing the wording to *explore the graduation project as a senior requirement with the inclusion of the high school principal and a committee of high school teachers* under Priority Goal 1. This paragraph will replace the first four paragraphs on page 8. He also plans to add a paragraph under the demographics, along with the 2010/11 budget, in the first section. STEM related initiatives will be added at the back. Mrs. Jones noted that a high school picture had not been included. Dr. Beckworth noted the following questions and/or changes:

- Page 3—Pre-K numbers should be changed.
- Page 7—are there costs involved in establishing a Curriculum Committee? No cost figure was available at this time
- Page 9—does the requirement that all sophomores take the PSAT or equivalent require that the school system pay for the test? Dr. Reeves responded yes; however, the State may pay for students who take the ACT.
- Page 10—will there be costs involved with students moving toward taking tests online? Yes—there will be costs involved with online testing, however this will be mandated from NCDPI.
- It was noted that K-12 Pacing Guides has been brought up twice—need to remove 3rd paragraph on page 10.
- Page 10—the word *complied* should be changed to *compiled* under the paragraph *Implement Peer Observation Walkthrough Process*.
- Page 15—Goal 3.5—last sentence needs to be restated to make it clearer as to the purpose of the website.
- Page 22—Goal 6.2 should read *efficiency* rather than *efficient*.

Following changes made by Dr. Reeves and Board members, a motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan for Ashe County Schools.

Human Resources Director Lesia Nave presented revisions to *Policy 7920 Professional Personnel Reduction in Force* as required by HB 200 (SL 2011-145, sc. 7.23). Dr. Beckworth noted that the first sentence in section F should read *available career employees*. A motion by Mr. Williams and a second Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the revisions and the noted change to *Policy 7920 Professional Personnel Reduction in Force*.

During the *Tech Talk* segment, Westwood Literacy Specialist Sonya Vannoy briefed the Board on the new Reading 3D Program, an online color-coded diagnostic tool to assist teachers in determining student needs in reading.

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Vice Chairman Jones gave unanimous approval to a request from Kristen Heckle, who resides in Ashe County, to allow her son, Christopher Heckle, to attend school in Watauga County effective the 2011/12 school year.

Athletic Director Marc Payne gave an update on live audio/video distribution of sport programs and other relevant events as offered by Heartland Publications. He expressed appreciation to the Jefferson Post but stated he needs more time to study this relatively new concept and how it relates to the sport programs at Ashe County High School.

Dr. Reeves related that the calendar waiver request from the required 185 instructional days had been approved by the State Board of Education. However, the waiver of 5 instructional days and 25 instructional hours must be converted to teacher workdays and used for professional development training on the new essential standards and common core curriculum. Dr. Reeves asked the Board to consider adding early dismissal days to the 2011/12 Calendar and that these days be used for professional development. A motion by Mrs. Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to designating September 1, October 13, November 10 and April 5 as early dismissal days for professional development in the 2011/12 School Calendar. These four half days will be used in conjunction with the three required teacher workdays already scheduled within the calendar.

Director of Maintenance Kenneth Richardson reviewed the school system's long-range facility needs, noting that he felt replacing the roof at Blue Ridge should be the number one priority. The recession has forced contractors to bid lower than normal, making this a good time to let bids. Phyllis Yates and Dr. Reeves will review the guidelines for the Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) and the ability to change and/or add projects. A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to begin the process for replacing the roof at Blue Ridge Elementary.

Teresa Stansberry, Director for Exceptional Children, gave an update on the More at Four program now known as NCPK. Although there is no charge for students who are considered at risk, co-payments have not been eliminated. Co-pays will be charged to those students who are not eligible for the program but whose parents are willing to pay. Parents will be receiving letters and phone calls soon. Dr. Beckworth stated that he is thankful for Judge Manning.

Dr. Reeves gave an update on the 10th Annual Golf Tournament. While numbers were down somewhat, 82 golfers, 19 hole sponsors, and one corporate sponsor participated. Approximately \$6,200 was raised.

School Based Health Center Chairman David Blackburn, along with Appalachian District Health Department Director Beth Lovette, gave an update on School Based Health Center (SBHC). Gratitude was expressed to the Board for its support, to Dr. Reeves and CB Jones for attending meetings, and to the administration at the middle school. Mr. Blackburn also stated that the Committee enjoys the perspective from the two students who attend the meetings. The mission to provide health for young people by qualified staff and to serve all kids regardless of ability to pay is the overall priority of the SBHC. The Bulldog Clinic is scheduled to open August 9, 2011. A fundraiser is scheduled for October—the goal is to raise \$11,300.

Director of Maintenance Kenneth Richardson provided an update on the QSCB construction projects. The majority of the roof at Ashe High is completed, and he is very pleased with the work. He is also pleased with the progress of the Mountain View project, which is one week ahead of schedule. The deadline for the Mountain View project is October 31, 2011.

Director of Transportation Shea Coldiron provided an update on the new bus routing system—he is facing challenges and will work through them. Mailers are going out tomorrow advising parents of their child’s bus number, estimated time of pick up for AM and the PM bus number. Tables will be set up at the schools’ open house to answer questions. Drivers will receive their regular pay for the first month based on last year’s contract. Mr. Coldiron responded to numerous questions, particularly about ride times and sit times. Mr. Williams expressed concern in trading ride time for sit time and asked to see those figures. He also stated that this is a work in progress and appreciates everyone’s patience with transportation.

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval at 8:48 pm to having a short recess before going into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action involving an officer or employee of this Board [N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(6)].

The Board returned to regular session at 11:20 pm.

A motion by Vice Chair Jones and a second by Mrs. Jones gave unanimous approval to the personnel recommendations under action item 4.02. Personnel added to this section resulting from closed session are in bold.

CERTIFIED

Central Office

- Reassignment of Tara Miller from family support facilitator to school guidance counselor at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011

Teachers

- Resignation of Matt Hoskins from school psychologist at Blue Ridge and Ashe Middle effective July 30, 2011
- Resignation of Reggie Wiles as teacher for exceptional children at Westwood, effective July 26, 2011
- Promotion of Amy Simmons from teacher assistant at Westwood to 6th grade teacher at Mountain View effective August 4, 2011 (prior approval)
- Re-employment of Larry Dix as graduation coach at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011 (DSSF funding 2011/12/prior approval)
- Transfer of Teresa Goodman from Pre-K teacher at Ashe Early Learning Center to 1st grade teacher at Mountain View effective August 4, 2011
- Transfer of Kari Truax from Pre-K teacher at Ashe Early Learning Center to 1st grade teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011
- Reassignment of Keith Phillips from ISS at Ashe High to social studies teacher at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011
- Reassignment of Shera Ashley from 6th grade teacher at Mountain View to AIG teacher at Mountain View effective August 4, 2011 (prior approval)
- Reassignment of Brandi Vannoy Hurley from classroom teacher at Westwood to teacher for exceptional children at Westwood effective August 4, 2011 (prior approval)
- Transfer of Jennifer Wilkinson from math teacher at Ashe High to math teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 4, 2011
- Transfer of Lynette Stallings from guidance counselor at Ashe High to guidance counselor at Ashe Middle effective August 4, 2011

- Transfer of Ricky Goodman from 6th grade teacher at Blue Ridge to 7th grade science teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 4, 2011 (prior approval)
- Transfer of Dawn Richardson from 6th grade teacher at Blue Ridge to 8th grade language arts/social studies teacher at Ashe Middle effective August 4, 2011 (prior approval)
- **Promotion of Ruth Ashe from teacher assistant at Mountain View to 6th grade teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011**
- **Promotion of Ginger Hopson from teacher assistant at Mountain View to 4th grade teacher at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011**
- **Employment of Zach Russ to fill undetermined medical leave of absence for Marc Gamble (social studies) at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011**
- **Resignation/retirement of John Brown, JROTC instructor at Ashe High, effective September 1, 2011**

Employee Leaves

- Request from Kelly Gunderson, media coordinator at Ashe Middle, for parental leave beginning one or about September 1, 2011 and ending on November 28, 2011 (FMLA=12 weeks)

Prior approval to employ the following vacant positions

- 6th grade teacher at Westwood
- EC teacher at Westwood (adapted/self-contained classroom)
- Substitute teachers as necessary
- **JROTC instructor at Ashe High**
- **K-6 teacher at Blue Ridge**
- **K-6 teacher at Westwood**
- **School nurse (additional position provided by State)**

CLASSIFIED

Afterschool

- Resignation of Amanda Gouge as 4-H afterschool onsite coordinator at Blue Ridge effective July 22, 2011
- Reassignment of Ryan Little from 4-H afterschool tutor coordinator at Mountain View to 4-H afterschool onsite coordinator at Mountain View effective August 4, 2011

Bus Driver

- Reassignment of Brenda Gorman from teacher assistant/bus driver at Mountain View to bus driver for exceptional children at Mountain View effective August 9, 2011

Bus Driver Substitute

- Addition of Art Eaton to the approved substitute bus driver list

Cafeteria Assistant

- Resignation of Cheryl Melene Testerman, cafeteria assistant at Westwood, effective July 29, 2011

Cafeteria Assistant Substitute

- Addition of Michah Kolseth to the approved substitute cafeteria assistant list

Custodian

- Increase in hours of employment for James Tyler Richardson, custodian at Blue Ridge, from 11 months to 12 months effective July 1, 2011 (prior approval)

- Request from Rosemary Dorinzi, custodian at Westwood Elementary, for an intermittent family medical leave of absence effective July 14, 2011 with an undetermined ending date

Lifeguards

- Employment of Allison Powers as part-time temporary lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective July 22, 2011
- Employment of Samuel Bowers as part-time temporary lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective August 1, 2011
- Employment of Zeb Richardson as part-time temporary lifeguard at Ashe Middle effective August 1, 2011 (contingent upon drug screening and background check)

Office Support

- Transfer of Kimberly Roten from receptionist at Ashe Middle to receptionist at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011

Teacher Assistants

- Release of Andrea Baker, teacher assistant with exceptional children at Ashe Developmental Day and Ashe Middle, effective July 18, 2011
- Resignation of Chastiney Jones, teacher assistant with exceptional children at Westwood effective July 27, 2011
- Reassignment of Tammy Woods from teacher assistant with exceptional children at Ashe High to ISS assistant at Ashe High effective August 4, 2011
- Transfer of Robin Scott from Pre-K teacher assistant at Ashe Early Learning Center to teacher assistant at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011
- Transfer of Sara Jane Roten from Pre-K teacher assistant at Ashe Early Learning Center to teacher assistant at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011
- Transfer of Kelly Ashley from teacher assistant for exceptional children at Ashe Middle to teacher assistant for exceptional children at Blue Ridge effective August 4, 2011

Transportation Safety Assistant

- Transfer of Valerie Greer from transportation safety assistant at Ashe High to transportation safety assistant at Mountain View Elementary effective August 9, 2011

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Prior approval to employ necessary staff to begin the 2011/12 school year

- ESL tutor at Blue Ridge
- 4-H afterschool onsite coordinator at Ashe Middle—two positions
- 4-H afterschool tutor coordinator at Blue Ridge
- 4-H afterschool onsite coordinator at Blue Ridge
- Part-time temporary cafeteria assistant at Ashe Middle
- Full-time cafeteria assistant at Blue Ridge
- Substitute bus drivers
- Substitute cafeteria assistants
- **EC teacher assistant**

A motion by Dr. Beckworth and a second by Mr. Williams gave unanimous approval to the following 2011/12 coaching assignments at Ashe High.

Athletic Director—Marc Payne, CMAA

Assistant Athletic Director—Keith Phillips, CAA

Assistant Athletic Director—Laura Foster

Athletic Trainer—Adam Elliott, LAT/ATC

FALL SPORTS

Football

Bill Strong, Head
 Keith Phillips, Assistant
 Tom Roberts, Assistant
 Ronnie Pruitt, Assistant
 Mike Tasso, Assistant
 Mark Baldwin, Assistant
 John Watts, Volunteer Assistant - Retired
 Don Mayley, Volunteer Assistant - Retired

Volleyball

Lindsey Williams, Head
 Jennifer Wilkinson, Head JV

Men's Soccer

Wes Rousseau, Head
 Sam Piercy, Assistant (volunteer)
 TBA, Head JV / Assistant Varsity

Women's Tennis

Larry Dix, Head

Men's/Women's Cross Country

Mary Beth Greene, Head
 Shane Greene, Assistant (rover position)

Women's Golf

Laura Foster, Head

Cheerleading—Fall and Winter

Donna Harless, Head Varsity
 Brandi Marlow, Assistant (NF - rover position)
 Cynthia Kastl, Head JV (ASU – ST)

WINTER SPORTS

Men's Basketball

Marc Payne, Head Varsity
 Dwight Furches, Varsity Assistant (NF)
 Scott Grubb, Head JV
 Justin Grubb, Assistant JV (NF – volunteer)
 Daniel Waln, Head Freshmen (WCC/ASU – Student)

Women's Basketball

Laura Foster, Head Varsity
 Ray Dancy, Varsity Assistant (NF)
 Mark Hudler, Head JV (NF)
 Bobby Hudler, JV Assistant (NF)

Wrestling

Mark Maya, Head
 Dale Wineberg, Assistant (NF)

Men's/Women's Indoor Track

No Team

Weight Training

Bill Strong and Staff

A motion by Vice Chairman Jones and a second by Dr. Beckworth gave unanimous approval to the following 2011/12 coaching assignments at Ashe Middle. This motion gave approval to only three paid coaching positions in football, eliminated the two roving positions and did not approve the addition of golf as a middle school sport.

Athletic Director—Mike Johnson

Volleyball

Jill Gambill
 Paula Carlton

Soccer

Alex Wray, Head Boys
 Alex Wray, Head Girls
 TBA, Assistant

Cheerleading

Sarah Houck
 Geneice Day

Football

Chris Taylor, Head Coach
 Zeb Gambill, Assistant
 Kevin Nichols, Assistant
 Andy Patton, Assistant
 Greg Richardson, Assistant
 Mark Sheets, Assistant
 Joey Burgess, Assistant
 Chris Barr, Assistant

Basketball

Mitchell Mash, Head Coach
Harry Calloway, Head Coach
Dustin Farmer, Head Coach
Mike Johnson, Head Coach
Tony Miller, Assistant
TBA, Assistant
TBA, Assistant
TBA, Assistant

Wrestling

Dalton Lewis, Head Coach
TBA, Assistant

Baseball

Ken Guyton, Head Coach
Trent Lowder, Assistant

Softball

Mary Howell, Head Coach
Chris Taylor, Assistant

Track

Dustin Farmer, Head Boys Coach
Dustin Farmer, Head Girls Coach
Josh Church, Assistant Boys
Johnna Church, Assistant Girls

There being no further business, the Chairman immediately declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 pm.