

August 11, 2022

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held on August 11, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. Persons present were:

Jason B. Buckland
Melissa R. Guynn
Phillip A. Pennington
Stephen M. Steele
Mark A. Wilburn

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, School Board Clerk
Lisa Mustain, Assistant Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's August 11, 2022 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Nedra Thorne attended the meeting to discuss the need to increase substitute bus driver pay. She stated that the substitute pay has only increased one time in 25 years. She stated that there are only a few substitute bus drivers right now.

Mrs. Katie Wright submitted a letter to be read on behalf of the GEA. It reads as follows:

We appreciate you allowing the Giles Education Association a moment of your time today. As members, we wanted to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the meticulous attention to the upcoming budget in regards to salary increases and improvements. We know this journey has been characterized by ups and downs, as you battle through the necessities and demands of this county and how to effectively support the amazing students of this county to the best of your ability. We recognize that you are invested in the success of this school system and community as you always have been. We applaud you for the acknowledgement of the value of the staff and faculty of this school system. As we look to the upcoming school year, a simple thank you is not enough to express our gratitude but we will continue to fight for our students, alongside with you and your vital support.

Sincerely,
Katie Wright

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

The Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, accepted the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following consent items:

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – June 30th, 2022
2. Special – June 23rd and July 14th, 2022

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include July 15th and 29th, 2022
2. Payment of Bills
3. June and July 2022 Revenue & Expenditure Reports & Post Year
4. Surplus
5. Appropriation Request for August and September 2022

August

Original Monthly Appropriation Request: \$ 1,250,000.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)

ESSR II Funding – HVAC Project at NEMS \$ 582,703.40

Total: \$ 1,832,703.40

September

Original Monthly Appropriation Request:	\$ 2,585,000.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
ESSR II Funding – HVAC Project at NEMS	\$ 268,959.25
	\$ 582,703.00
	\$ 265,563.00
Total:	\$ 3,702,225.25

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. The Superintendent recommended action and Board approval of the following personnel/contractual items:

1. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Buckland and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Resignations**: Lisa Johnston – EEMS Teacher Assistant (6/29/22), Adarah Williams – EEMS Teacher Assistant (6/6/22), Angela Rice – EEMS Teacher Assistant (6/30/22), Henry Buchanan – NHS Tech Ed. Teacher (7/13/22), Shelia Hutto – EEMS Teacher Assistant (7/15/22), Christina Martin – STEM Coordinator (8/5/22), Theresa Smithson – NEMS Teacher Assistant (8/1/22), Kim Thompson – NEMS Cafeteria (7/28/22)
2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Buckland and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Retirement**: Paula Lee – GHS Teacher Assistant (7/6/22)
3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the following **Employment**: Amber Skidmore – NEMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Sherry Mullins – EEMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Cierra Sprouse – NEMS Teacher Assistant (8/22/22), Katie Burton – EEMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Kellan Alls – MMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Alyssa Murphy – MMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Manny Lopez – MMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Lana Faw – MMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Katrina Orey – Finance Assistant (7/1/22), Heather Frazier – Transfer from NEMS to GHS Teacher Assistant, Amber Wood – MMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Bobbie Boone – NHS Guidance Clerk (8/15/22), Evan Daniels – NHS Band Teacher (22-23 School year), Kevin Law – NEMS Assistant Principal (7/25/22), Sarah Woods – EEMS Assistant Principal (7/20/22), Brittany Johnson – MMS Assistant Principal (7/18/22), Savannah Boggess – SBO Executive Secretary, Tonya Kelley – GHS Student Support Services (8/8/22), Marinna Rhodes – GHS Student Support Services (8/15/22), Juliet Rice – GHS Special Ed. Teacher (8/15/22), Elizabeth Snidow – GHS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22), Suzanne Woodward – NHS Student Support Services (8/15/22), Transfer of Mark Middleton from EEMS Middle School Teacher to NHS Biology Teacher, Donna Sanderson – EEMS Cafeteria (8/15/22), Erin Tucker – NEMS Teacher Assistant (8/15/22)
4. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. Guynn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the following **Volunteer Agreements**: John Ross – GHS Golf
5. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Kameryn Fields – NHS JV Football Cheer Coach, Teresa Lowe – NHS Football Cheer Coach

B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the bid IFB 9-2022 A (rebid) (Steamers for MMS/GHS) from Douglas Equipment. This is for two convection gas steamers and includes installation. Bid prices are listed below:

Douglas Equipment - \$52,241.96

Hooten - \$58,188.00

Central Restaurant - \$46,952.52 (does not meet did bid specs - will not install)

CONCERNS/COMMENTS...

Dr. Arbogast thanked Horace Mann for sponsoring breakfast for new teachers and also to Celco Community Credit Union for sponsoring lunch.

Dr. Arbogast stated that the School Security Grant was submitted to DOE about a week and a half ago. The amount that was submitted was \$186k and there is a matching requirement. We should know by the end of September what was funded.

Dr. Arbogast stated that we are waiting on a few crisis plans. Once we receive them all, we will be sending them out to board members to review.

Dr. Arbogast stated that based on preliminary information, all schools should be accredited for the 2022-23 SY. There are areas that we need to address, but we will be working through those.

Dr. Arbogast stated that the NEMS HVAC project will not be finished before school starts. The full project probably won't be completed until November. Delivery dates for equipment keep getting pushed back causing delays on this project. Mr. Buckland asked Dr. Arbogast to look into portable units for the school and these can be kept and used once we start other school HVAC projects.

Board members had a discussion on substitute bus driver pay and the current need for bus drivers. They will discuss this further at their next work session.

Mr. Pennington and Mrs. Guynn thanked all employees with the school system for all of their summer work. He hopes everyone had a good summer! They are looking forward to a new school year.

Mr. Wilburn echoed what Mr. Pennington and Mrs. Guynn said.

Mr. Buckland stated he always enjoyed the first meeting of the school year and meeting new staff.

Mr. Buckland thanked the county for getting work done on our schools. He is looking forward to a great year!

Mr. Steele stated that he is excited to see all the positions we have filled.

Mr. Steele commended the Tech Center students/Building trades for the home they built that will be going to Pulaski.

Mr. Steele stated that he and other board members are frustrated that they still have not received the facilities study. He would like to give the company a final deadline and if it's not produced, we should give it over to another firm to wrap up. Mr. Buckland stated that the architectural piece is only one piece of what you need to make decisions. Staffing, education and transportation are not addressed by CRA and those are all factors needed to make difficult decisions. He stated that John Mills provided a report about five years ago that says the same thing as CRA. Mr. Buckland stated that we may need to consider legal action to get our money back. Mr. Buckland stated we need to do HVAC on all of our buildings anyway and we have enough in the report to pursue this. Mr. Buckland made a motion to set a final date of August 19th for CRA to have the report completed. Mr. Pennington seconded the motion, with unanimous voting.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the following Volunteer Agreements: Florence Stephens – GHS Band, Anne Campbell – GHS Band

Dr. Arbogast updated board members on carryover funds information for the last few years. Giles County Public Schools would like to request to carry over from FY20 in the amount of \$743,785.78, carry over from FY21 in the amount of \$2,211,963.94 and funds from FY22 in the amount of \$1,452,669.54. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved FY20, FY21 and FY22 funds be carried over to the FY23 budget.

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The next regular School Board meeting will be held Thursday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m.

The Chairman, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Buckland and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk