

March 1st, 2022

The Giles County School Board held a work session at 1:00 p.m. on March 1st, 2022. 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, Clerk
Lisa Mustain, Assistant Superintendent

The board chairman called the work session to order.

The first item that was discussed was the “Energy Systems Group” ESG presentation that Dr. Arbogast, Mr. Steele and Mr. Buckland heard. Other board members were provided with the presentation from “Energy Systems Group”. This group came into NHS, GHS and MMS and looked to see what energy saving projects they could do to offset replacements costs for HVAC, roofs, lighting, etc. Based on this conversation, the board is interested in pursuing the performance contracting process. Dr. Arbogast will reach out to representatives from Virginia Energy to gather additional information about the performance contracting process and to see what the next steps are to move forward.

Dr. Arbogast discussed budget information with board members, but doesn’t currently have anything final yet from the house and senate. He gave board members handouts on his current proposals. He also discussed salary rankings for our teachers with other surrounding counties and discussed figures to get our county comparable to other surrounding counties. They also discussed the possibility of increasing the bus driver starting salary to \$15K per year. Dr. Arbogast gave documents to board members for their review that included the personnel costs if they did this increase. Also, he discussed the possibility of increasing the starting teacher pay to \$40K. He also stated that he has proposed an increase to athletic coaching supplements and to the activity coordinators.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he is still waiting on quotes for the bathrooms at the football field concession stand at NHS, quotes for the storage buildings for NHS and EEMS and ZMM is working on the RFP proposal for the kitchen floors for NHS and GHS and we are working on scheduling a meeting with a lighting and sound consultant at GHS. Also, he stated that it has been difficult to get quotes for water softeners. As soon as he gets some quotes, he will start going forward with some of these projects to use money out of this year’s budget. ProSource is working on a schedule to do the gym floors.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he sent out an email to staff regarding getting licensure for Driver’s Ed and they had a few that expressed interest. Two additional courses over the summer would be needed to obtain this. The board mentioned the idea of helping to pay for this. Dr. Arbogast stated that if the board wanted to, he could earmark/budget money for college level courses for teacher certification purposes and then they would have to apply. Dr. Arbogast discussed the idea of possibly helping to pay for planning periods if teachers have to cover classes. The consensus of the board is to have a line item to help with licensure purposes.

Dr. Arbogast had a discussion with board members about masking on the buses. He shared new information regarding upcoming changes from the CDC and other entities. Mrs. Mustain shared that it is very difficult to make kids wear masks on school buses. The consensus of the board is to do away with the requirement of masking on the buses. They will now be optional.

The Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, went into a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Code and Paragraph 1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body. Following discussion, Mr. Wilburn moved to go to regular session. Mr. Pennington seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. The School Board, unanimously, certified that the meeting was in regards to personnel and conducted under section 2.2-3711.

VOTE Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Clerk of the Giles County School Board

Date

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk