

October 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held on October 20, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. Persons present were:

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

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

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Guynn made a motion to approve the October 20th, 2022 School Board Meeting, along with a second by Mr. Pennington. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, amended the agenda to move next to the Educational Feature.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Work Session – September 7th, 2022
2. Regular Meeting – September 15th, 2022

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include September 30th and October 14th and 30th, 2022
2. Payment of Bills
3. September 2022 Revenue & Expenditure Reports
4. Field Trips
5. Surplus
6. Appropriation Request for November 2022
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County

RE: November 2022 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the months of November, 2022. This is for the fifth month of the fiscal year 2022-2023. I would appreciate the Board's consideration of this request. The request for the operating budget is consistent with the approved operating budget submitted by the School Board.

Original Monthly Appropriation Request:	\$ 2,945,000.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
ESSR III	<u>\$ 147,010.60</u>
Total:	\$ 3,092,010.60

This request is one-twelfth of the operating budget and includes the anticipated monthly expenditures in the flow-thru account. Our year to date appropriation and expenditures are contained in the monthly summary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Matthew Bowles attended the meeting to discuss his thoughts on consolidation. He feels like this is a spurred, rushed decision and feels like the School Board is declaring war on one half of the county. He discussed his thoughts on how consolidation would affect the economic impact of Narrows. He would like to see economic impact of Narrows a part of this study. He discussed a major development project that he is working on that is now in holding. He discussed all the revenue that his pending projects would bring to the town of

Narrows. Mr. Buckland stated that we are still in the 3rd draft of the facilities report. In addition, Dr. Arbogast has put together a draft of answers to the PSA questions discussed at a previous meeting. Mr. Buckland discussed his thoughts and concerns with having NHS as an empty building.

Mr. Chucky Buracker attended the meeting to discuss consolidation. He stated that this is not just about Narrows – it is about all of the towns. He asked the board how all of this would affect staffing. Mr. Wilburn stated that it's too early to tell, but he doesn't think it will affect staffing. Mr. Buracker stated that we could also lose students if we consolidate. He stated that we need to worry about the kids first. Mr. Buckland stated that in his opinion with some of these options, he's not sure how you couldn't have teacher cuts. Mr. Wilburn stated that he doesn't think we will lose teachers.

Brooke McGlothlin attended the meeting to discuss how important education is to her family. She stated that most proportions of consolidation show that it will provide better education for your children. She hears this so many times in our community. She stated that she has received a copy of the answers from the list of PSA questions. Unfortunately, according to the answer provided by Dr. Arbogast, bettering the education of our students does not seem to be a priority. He stated that according to this, it doesn't seem to provide any different or better education options if we consolidate.

Mrs. Anne Chambers attended the meeting to speak regarding the issue of consolidation. She discussed paying taxes and her experience with taxes and the elderly during her many years as Commissioner of Revenue. She wants people to think about the citizens of this county when decisions are made.

Mr. Tom Spangler attended the meeting to share information about his discussion with two college freshmen.

Mrs. Sabrina Gautier attended the meeting to also share information and ask questions regarding consolidation. She stated that we will need a figure on "rebranding" because that would cost millions. She stated that both NHS and GHS need the same repairs – not just NHS.

EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

On behalf of Narrows Elementary/Middle School, Mr. Gautier, along with Mrs. Ralph and several 5th grade students, attended the School Board meeting to present the educational feature. Mrs. Ralph presented information about their "Trout in the Classroom" project that they have going on. Trout in the Classroom is a conservation orientation program. She discussed the recent field trip to Paint Bank to the hatchery that her class took and the kids in attendance presented information as well regarding the field trip and project regarding the Trout.

On behalf of Narrows High School, Mrs. Jewell, along with Mrs. Divers attended the meeting to present information about inclusive practices at Narrows High. They discussed how they have been co-teaching and the setbacks versus the benefits. They also discussed the Inclusive schools vision statement & plan.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

1. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. Guynn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Contracts**: Athletic Contracts: Camry McCroskey – GHS Head JV Volleyball, Kelsey Lucas – GHS Asst. Volleyball, Mandy Havens – GHS Head Varsity Volleyball, Shane Dalton – GHS Track Assistant, Luke Craig – GHS Head Theater Coach, Shane Dalton – GHS Scholastic Bowl
2. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. Guynn, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Tonya Vaden – GHS Volleyball, Kiersten Shrader – NHS Volleyball, Lindsay Miller – GHS Volleyball, Cheyenne Jennings – GHS Volleyball, Sharlyn Thacker – GHS/EEMS Band/Library, Zachary Morris – GHS FFA/Ag., Casey Lucas – GHS Coaching, Melanie Hart – GHS Band, Anthony Ratcliffe – GHS Athletics, Chris Collins – GHS Athletics, Tierra Henderson – GHS General

3. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. Guynn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the following **Resignations**: Karen Hale – EEMS Teacher Assistant (9/27/22), Ginny Perfater – MMS Elementary Teacher (10/31/22), Keisha Jeffrey – MMS Special Ed. Teacher (10/28/22)
4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the following **Employment**: Hailey Gillespie – MMS Teacher Assistant (9/14/22), Joyelle Huffman – EEMS Teacher Assistant (10/3/22), Meredith Jeffers – EEMS Teacher Assistant (9/12/22), Elizabeth Fish – MMS Teacher Assistant (9/26/22), Katie Cumbee – EEMS Teacher Assistant (10/24/22), Timmy Bailey – GHS Cafeteria, Gina Griggs – Substitute for Cafeteria, Ericka Porterfield – EEMS Teacher Assistant (10/24/22)

B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved a textbook adoption for the Early Childhood Education program at the Giles Tech Center. The textbook is as follows: Goodheart-Willcox Company "Working with Young Children" ninth edition by Dr. Judy Herr.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS...

Dr. Arbogast stated that enrollment as of today is 2,190. This is 2,180 in person and 10 virtual in county. This is a decrease of 2 from the end of September. We also have 1,238 STRIDE (Non Residential students) for a total of 3,428.

Dr. Arbogast gave board members an update on the NEMS HVAC project. More units have been placed on the roof. He anticipates that they will need to have one more day where a crane is on site. There are some things that need to be addressed at the next progress meeting.

Dr. Arbogast gave an update on the water softener project at the schools.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated Shane Dalton from GHS for earning recognition as a Jostens National Yearbook Program of Excellence at the Bronze level.

Dr. Arbogast also congratulated the GHS FFA Stockmens Team. Nine FFA members participate in the Carroll County Fair Stockmens Contest in Galax last Tuesday. The team consisting of Jess Johnson, Mary Lambert, Amyha Perfater and Garrin McDaid placed first with Amyha Perfater placing 2nd, Jess Johnson placing 4th and Mary Lambert placing 10th individually.

Dr. Arbogast gave an update on the process of the Governor's School building and finding a new location. Dr. Arbogast, along with other local Superintendents, has met with individuals from Radford University about possibly using their campus for classes. Also, a meeting is scheduled with presidents from both New River Community and Wytheville Community college. Mr. Buckland expressed his concerns of making sure the program is self-contained and not around college students. The other concern he would like addressed is that we have some control over the program.

Dr. Arbogast stated that during the last work session, questions were brought about this the lights at the GHS football field. We have reached out to ZMM and asked them those questions and he is awaiting a response.

Dr. Arbogast stated that the questions were sent to the ESCO's with a due date of tomorrow, so at some point early next week, I should be able to share information with you.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he has sent 3 emails to CRA last week to help clarify items within the most recent draft, but he hasn't heard back from him yet.

Dr. Arbogast stated that two teams from GHS competed in the Humanities Challenge. The Humanities Challenge is a competition presented by Bluefield State University and focuses on the arts and humanities studies. Thacker Underwood, Aidan McDonald and Evan McDonald placed second, earning them \$250 scholarships towards education at Bluefield State University. GHS Seniors Trevor

Rhodes, Chance Sowder, and Josh Midkiff also competed. Also, NHS had two teams that competed at the humanities challenge. Congratulations to Taylor Sowers, Elizabeth Chapman and Stephanie Dressler for capturing first place. They will receive a \$500 scholarship to Bluefield State University.

Dr. Arbogast thanked Bradley Sutphin, NHS Business Teacher, for inviting him down to speak to his leadership class.

Dr. Arbogast thanked Mrs. Divers, Mrs. Jewell, Mr. Gautier, Mrs. Ralph and the students for attending and presenting the educational feature.

Mr. Wilburn thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mr. Wilburn congratulated the GHS Varsity and JV Volleyball Team for winning the MED. Also, Walker Gillispie placed 15th in the state for golf.

Mr. Wilburn commended the NHS Football Team on their comeback last Friday.

Mr. Wilburn stated that the board visited NEMS and it was great to see the students and all the stuff on the wall.

Mr. Wilburn stated it was wonderful to see the educational features. Thanks to those who presented!

Mrs. Guynn also commended the educational features! It is always great to see the kids at the meetings!

Mrs. Guynn thanked everyone who attended the meeting and for their patience.

Board members thanked all of the staff at the SBO and schools for all of their hard work.

Mr. Pennington congratulated all of the sports teams for their achievements!

Mr. Pennington also thanked the individuals who attended the meeting.

Mr. Buckland also echoed what everyone else has said. He stated it's a hectic time of year, but we get to go in the schools for budget meetings.

Mr. Buckland also commended the humanities teams on their achievements!

Mr. Buckland congratulated the GHS Volleyball team!

Mr. Buckland stated that he got to attend the groundbreaking on the Habitat House. He commended Jimmy McCroskey and Kevin White on their involvement in this!

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The next regular School Board meeting will be held Tuesday, November 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk