

February 17th, 2022

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:30 p.m. on February 17, 2022 in the School Administration Office Building Conference Room. The School Board Retreat began at 8:00 a.m.. They met with School Board Office administrators throughout the day. 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 G. Mustain, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's February 17th, 2022 School Board Meeting Agenda.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Jeff Morris, Board of Supervisors Chairman, distributed certificates to School Board Members in honor of School Board Member Appreciation Month.

Mrs. Guynn and Dr. Arbogast presented Amanda Tickle, School Board Clerk, with a gift/certificate in honor of School Board Clerk Appreciation Week.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Meeting Minutes

1. January 20th, 2022

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include January 31st and February 15th, 2022
2. Payment of Bills
3. January 2022 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. Appropriation Request for March 2022
TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
RE: March 2022 Appropriation

Original Monthly Appropriation Request: \$ 2,350,000.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)

Total: \$ 2,350,000.00

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. If you have questions, please feel free to let me know.

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. Pennington, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment**: Mandy Seeberger – GHS Special Ed. Teacher (2/7/22), Transfer of Sara Malik from NEMS to MMS (22-23)

2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the **Resignations**: Amanda Presley – GHS History Teacher (1/25/22), Amber Skidmore – MMS Teacher Assistant (2/7/22)
3. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the following **Retirement**: Bonnie Mosley – NEMS Teacher Assistant (end 21-22)
4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Benji Ratcliff – GHS JV Baseball Assistant, Mandie Anderson – MMS, Sarah McGlothlin – NHS Track.
5. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the following **Athletic Contracts**: Steven Malik – GHS Head JV Boys Basketball

B. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the following bid for Environmental Consulting Services (EI Group)? This bid was obtained by Galax City Public Schools and includes Giles County Public Schools as part of the Southwest Virginia Administrative Consortium (SVAC). This bid will expire December 31, 2025.

C. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the following bid for copy paper for 22-23 school year. I have listed the prices below: (based on the purchase of 560 cases)

Liberty Paper - \$38.98 / case

Oliver Distributing Co. - \$57.10/ case

D. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, approved the 2022-2023 school calendar as recommended by the calendar committee.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Dr. Arbogast stated that enrollment as of January 31st is 2,176.

Dr. Arbogast reminded the board of the county spelling bee, which will be held on Tuesday, February 22nd at 1:00 p.m. at Giles High School. School winners are as follows: EEMS – Joanna Jackson, NEMS – Preston Mitchell, MMS – Cecil Black, GHS – Colton Moye and NHS – Jackie Kirby.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated the GHS students who participated in the Senior All-District Choir last Friday. They were Rachel Hart, Molly Morris, Karly Bryant, Kynslee Blankenship, Grace Ellison, Autumn Bowles, Kelly Galitz, Layla Keller, Scotty Mahaney, Aidan McDonald and Eli Wiscarson. Also, they had 15 band students qualify for Junior and Senior All-District Band. Congratulations!

Dr. Arbogast congratulated and wished the GHS swim team good luck as they are headed to the state competition. The students were Scott Mahaney, Rachel Hart, Trevor Rhodes, Tyler Duncan, Grace Moye, Francis Deighan, Abbie White, Emily Braeck, Odessa Farrier and Kaylin Law.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated the NHS Scholastic Bowl team for being Pioneer District Champions – 3rd season straight. They were runner up in the Region C Tournament and attended Super Region this past Saturday. Andy Tawney and Liam Ralph earned recognition as first team all-district and first team all-region.

Dr. Arbogast congratulated Jimmy McCroskey and his building trade students for securing 1st place in the SkillsUSA competition.

Dr. Arbogast thanked board members for their support and work they do!

Board members thanked all the staff for everything that they do!

Mr. Pennington thanked Mr. Morris for attending and giving them their certificates.

Mr. Pennington congratulated Jimmy McCroskey and his building trades students!

Mr. Pennington congratulated the NHS Scholastic Bowl students and GHS Band/Choir for their achievements.

Mr. Pennington stated that he was able to attend Macy last week for School Board appreciation month and thoroughly enjoyed it!

Mrs. Guynn thanked all the individuals who contributed to the School Board retreat.

Board members thanked Mrs. Tickle for the work she does.

Mr. Wilburn congratulated the GHS Band/Chorale for their achievements! Also, thanks to the teachers for all the extra work they put in.

Mr. Buckland also congratulated all the achievements of the swim team, scholastic bowl, band/chorale and all extra-curricular at the schools. We are very fortunate to be able to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Mr. Buckland thanked Mr. Morris for being there!

Mr. Steele thanked all the individuals who worked hard to make the “retreat” happen. He stated that this is our “game time” as a board. They have also been working to address facility issues and working with the Board of Supervisors to hit a lot of those buildings.

Mr. Steele thanked Katie Wright and all the teachers who reach out to the Board regarding concerns.

Mr. Steele commended Mrs. Mustain and her staff for her recent grant to help with learning loss.

Board members had a discussion regarding DOLI and masking. Given recent discussion and updates, Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington made a motion to make masking optional for staff, effective the end of this meeting. Masking was made optional last month for students. Masks are currently still required on school buses. Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, amended the motion to state that masking should continue to follow CDC guidelines with exposure and a positive test.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the following Volunteer Agreement – Hunter Orey (NHS Tennis – as needed), Harley Sanders.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Buckland, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the following Field Trip: GHS/Swim Team – Thursday, February 17th – 18th (State Swim Meet) to Richmond, VA – 10 students involved.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Buckland and unanimous voting, approved the following Employment: Breanna Sanders – GHS History Teacher (2/21/22), Rhonda Davis – MMS Cafeteria Worker (3/1/22).

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved ProSource Inc. of Virginia to refinish the two high schools’ floors (sanding all the way down), paint & reseal and to reseal the elementary schools.

Dr. Arbogast stated that we have already utilized 9 remote learning days due to weather. We cannot exceed more than 10 days, so we needed to submit a request to DOE to provide us a waiver. We were approved for this waiver and will be approved for 5 more if needed. He stated the board needs to certify that we provided instruction and services consistence with the guidance of remote learning. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn approved this certification.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held March 15, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

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

Chairman

Clerk