A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:30 PM on September 7th, 2017 in the School Administration Office Building. Persons present were:

Marion C. Ballard                         Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Eric G. Gentry                            Richard R. Franklin, Assistant Superintendent
Drema K. McMahon                          Amanda J. Tickle, Clerk
Mark W. Wilburn

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman. On motion of Mr. Ballard, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, the agenda was approved.

Mrs. Mary Henderson attended to talk about her school nurses. She stated that she is in need of substitute nurses, but stated that she cannot get them with the current daily rate of $70. Mrs. Henderson had a list of pay rates for surrounding counties. She requested that the board consider either raising the substitute nurse daily rate to $100/day or hire another nurse that could float between all schools. The board will discuss this.

Individuals from New River Valley Community Services and Virginia Tech attended to discuss the Youth Risk Behavior survey that was conducted last fall. They went over the results from this survey and provided board members the opportunity to ask questions. The survey was given to 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders here in Giles last fall (2016).

Dr. Arbogast informed board members that due to the upcoming hurricane, that the facilities study from DOE has been postponed to October 10 – 13.

There was a discussion about another article in the Virginian Leader that would include the tax survey. The board would like for Mr. Steele to meet with Zach at the Virginian Leader and provide him further information and statistics. Mrs. McMahon stated that it would help to pull figures from surrounding counties.

Mr. Gentry updated the board on the NHS adjoining property. Mr. Gentry has figured out who owns the property that is being discussed. He plans to meet with the gentleman next week to see whether he is interested in selling it.

Mr. Gentry discussed the company TRANE. He has been in touch with a local representative that is coming to meet with him, Terry, Paul, Chris, John, Jeff and Mark to see what they have to offer in regards to HVAC instruction and incorporating it into the current Building Trades curriculum, as well as NC3 certifications.

Mrs. McMahon asked if we were doing enough in our schools to prevent bullying. She has had discussions with people in the county about bullying. She just wants to ensure that we are doing enough in our school system to prevent this.

Mr. Gentry asked what the procedure is for using names on the radio on the buses. Mr. Franklin explained what the procedure is and the “do’s and dont’s.”