April 4, 2018

A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on April 4, 2018 in the School Administration Office Building. Persons present were:

Marion C. Ballard
Melissa R. Guynn
Phillip A. Pennington
Stephen M. Steele
Mark A. Wilburn

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Richard R. Franklin, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, Clerk

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

School Board members met with Mrs. Michele Thompson (Director of Special Education) and Mrs. Shannon Douthat (School Psychologist). Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Douthat explained the process of school based referrals and referrals to outside agencies, including Family Assessment Planning Team (FAPT). Information was shared on the current number of students receiving school based services and school based counseling services. In addition, specific information was provided on the IACT committee and referrals to FAPT. Also discussed were other interventions resulting from IACT meetings, which includes school health plans, guidance counseling, academic support, School Resource Officer intervention and positive behavior supports.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved to move into a regular meeting to discuss and vote on insurance plans.

School board members then discussed the proposed insurance plans, rates and health equity information for the 18-19 school year. The plans that will be offered through BPA Bestlife are the $1000, $2800 and $5000 deductibles. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved the plans as presented. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the contribution rate towards the insurance premiums of $550 for each employee. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Pennington, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved the company, Health Equity, who will be overseeing the HSA plans. The $2.35 monthly fee for the HSA plans will be paid for by the school/county. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Wilburn, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, approved to place half the HSA money in the employees HSA account up front and will coordinate dates with the county. The monies will be loaded in two equal installments on June 30th and December 20th, 2018. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mrs. Guynn and unanimous voting, approved to offer dental/vision insurance coverage à la carte.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Steele with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, voted to come out of the regular meeting and back into the work session.

Dr. Arbogast shared information about adding extra time to the school day to make up for the 14 school days that were missed to due to weather. There will be 15 minutes added to the beginning and 15 minutes added to the end of the day, effective April 16th and ending May 31st, 2018.

Dr. Arbogast provided board members the final copy of the facilities study that was done by the Virginia Department of Education last Fall. Mr. Ballard stated that in the information, it does not list the maximum capacity of students for each building. Board members plan to review this information and it will be discussed at a later date.
There was a discussion about a RFP to have a facilities assessment completed. Mr. Steele emailed everyone examples that are close to what we will be asking for in ours. Board members were asked to review the sample RFP and let Mr. Steele know what changes need to be made.

The last discussion was about the possibility of having rollover money for redoing gym floors, new lighting, etc. Dr. Arbogast stated that he doesn’t not know right now if there will be any funding available for this to be completed. We will need to wait a while longer to see if that is going to be a possibility.

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