A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 3:00 p.m. on August 7th, 2018 in the School Administration Office Building. Persons present were:

Marion C. Ballard  Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
Melissa R. Guynn  Richard R. Franklin, Assistant Superintendent
Phillip A. Pennington  Amanda J. Tickle
Stephen M. Steele
Mark A. Wilburn

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, went into a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Code and Paragraph 4. The protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business; Following discussion, Mr. Wilburn moved to go to regular session. Mrs. Guynn seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. On motion of Mr. Steele, with a second by Mr. Pennington and unanimous voting, the following Certification of the closed meeting was certified.

WHEREAS, the Giles School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Giles School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which certification applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

VOTE  Ayes: 5  Nays: 0

Clerk of the Giles County School Board  Date

The School Board had a follow up regarding felony charges on our students. Dr. Arbogast stated that he followed up with counsel and they stated we could continue to place students on/in an alternative based setting if they had a reportable offense. Counsel felt like if a student is charged with a non-reportable offense, we didn’t have the authority to place them in an alternative based setting, unless the parent agreed. Examples of reportable offenses are weapons, drugs, sexual assault and non-reportable offenses are grand larceny. Mr. Wilburn feels like we need to protect our kids that are currently in the schools. Dr. Arbogast stated that we can operate how we have been handling these situations. If we are made aware of a non-reportable offense, we can talk to the parents about an alternative based placement and then go from there.

Dr. Arbogast updated the School Board on Kindergarten numbers. He was made aware of increased numbers for Narrows Elem/Middle Kindergarten and First Grade. We are needing 4 teachers in both grades, so he requesting to post another position for First Grade. Dr. Arbogast should be able to cover one teacher, but we need to make sure coding is done appropriately for IDEA and VPI+. 
There was a discussion regarding the VSBA Media Honor Roll. The board would like to recognize Amelia Whittaker with the Virginian Leader and Alexa Nash.

There was a discussion on work orders. Mr. Steele stated that a flag pole had been donated to GHS for the football field and a work order was put in, but they don’t know when it will be put in. He stated that it would be nice to know when work orders will be done or if they have been done. He has seen individuals from the county with an app that can track the work orders. Is there a way for some of our staff to have access to the app so we can track it? Dr. Arbogast is going to check with Mr. McKlarney to see if we can get access to the work order app.

Mr. Steele had a concern with the K12/VA online programs. He stated that it is apparently state funded and taught by a certified teacher. He is concerned that people may be going to these online programs.

Dr. Arbogast stated that based on preliminary information, all 5 schools should be fully accredited.

Dr. Arbogast shared information from the GEA. He stated that they will have several town hall meetings from August – November throughout the county. These meetings will be held to raise awareness for the need for funding for education.

Dr. Arbogast stated that GHS has requested that two gates be installed behind the school – one near the cafeteria and one near where the buses are parked on the side to keep people from going around to the back of the school during the day. Giles High School feels like they need it for student safety.

There was a brief discussion on the parking and bus situation at Macy McClaugherty. Mrs. Mustain is going to discuss this with the School Resource Officer and Mr. White, evaluate and decide what she is going to do about bus drop off, bus pick up and parent pick up.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he has evaluated 3 different substitute calling platforms. We have looked at TalentEd, FrontLine and ReadySub. Each one has a cost associated with them. Dr. Arbogast is going to gather more information from the principals.

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

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Chairman  Clerk