September 18, 2018

A special convened meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 3:00 p.m. on September 18th, 2018 in the School Administration Office Building. Persons present were:

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

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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Board, on motion of Mr. Steele, with second by Mr. Wilburn and unanimous voting, went into a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Code, Paragraph 4: The protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and Paragraph 2: Discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth or any state school system; 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 Mrs. Guynn 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: 4
Nays: 0

Clerk of the Giles County School Board

There was a discussion on the proposed security gates at Giles High School. Mr. Steele stated his concern about why they were not up yet. Dr. Arbogast had a quote of what they would cost. Board members stated that they didn’t have to be expensive and threw out the idea about our tech center kids making them. Dr. Arbogast will check on this and talk to Mr. Mills. The proposed gates will be kept locked during the day for security and safety reasons.

Board members discussed the two lifts at the high schools. Dr. Arbogast stated that they work for a while and then go down. There is more problem with the one at Giles High School than Narrows High School. The contract that we have is for routine maintenance. Mr. Steele would like to keep track of the maintenance on the lifts to know how much we are spending on repairing them. Mr. Mills recommends that we replace the lifts.
Board members discussed the bus radios. Dr. Arbogast stated that the garage is doing the bus radios in the morning and Christy is doing them in the afternoon. Board members stated that they will look at the GPS tracking system in the next budget.

Board members discussed “vaping” and our policy on electronic cigarettes. Mr. Steele wants to be sure we are covered on our policy for kids who are “vaping.” There are new forms of e-cigarettes out now. Board members would like for the administrators to make sure the e-cigarette policy is communicated to students.

Board members had a discussion regarding whether we could get the GHS track done before spring. Mr. Steele stated as of now, the track does not meet VHSL requirements so they are not able to do any track meets at GHS. It will cost a minimum of about $60K to fix the track. Dr. Arbogast plans to email Mr. McKlarney about the track.

There was a discussion on the athletic pass policy. Mr. Ballard stated that he thinks the board agreed to a single pass for the individuals that are supposed to get them. He doesn’t feel that School Board members should get anything but a single pass when our other employees only get a single pass. The change in the passes will be approved in April or May of next year. Mr. Ballard also discussed the handicap parking at Narrows High School. He would like to see someone at the handicap parking entrance to sell tickets that way the individual that is parking in the assigned area doesn’t have to walk up to the gate to purchase a ticket.

Dr. Arbogast stated that current enrollment is 20 up from the last discussion; however we are still 24 down from the ADM number.

Dr. Arbogast discussed an upcoming field trip that he will ask for board approval on Thursday. The field trip is for NHS Theatre and they are planning to attend with Blacksburg High School.

Dr. Arbogast shared that if the board members were interested in receiving information about solar projects to let him know because he could provide information that he received regarding Sun Tribe Solar.

Mr. Ballard shared information about the possibility of putting a link on the school division webpage that would include information from GEA regarding salary comparisons for our region.

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

Chairman                                   Clerk