**DRAFT**
**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011**

The Scott County School Board met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at Rye Cove Intermediate School in Duffield, Virginia, with the following members present:

James Kay Jessee, Chairman
Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman
Gloria E. "Beth" Blair
Katherine J. "Kathy" McClelland
Joe D. Meade
Dennis C. Templeton

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John I. Ferguson, Division Superintendent; Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools; Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk Of The Board/Administrative Assistant for Student Affairs and Operations; K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk Of The Board/Human Resources Manager; Robert Sallee, Supervisor of Building Services; Jason Cox, School Resource Officer; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association Representative; Carl Newman; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators; Billy Nash and Tim Edwards, Maintenance Employees; David Hartley, Heritage TV; Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times News; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Carol Culbertson and David Templeton, Candidates for School Board; Renee Dishner, Rye Cove Intermediate School Principal; Barbara Baker, Rye Cove Intermediate School Secretary; and Rye Cove Intermediate School faculty and staff; Carolyn and Charles Singleton; and, citizens.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Jessee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and expressed appreciation for their attendance at the meeting and interest in the school system. He commented that this school system is one of the best and that it has been proven by the students test scores over the past several years.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/*PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE*** Chairman Jessee requested that the audience observe a moment of silence and asked Mr. Meade, board member, to lead the audience in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance.*

**ITEMS BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA:** Mrs. McClelland requested that a Change In Meeting Date for the November meeting be added to the agenda. She commented that she thought when the Wednesday, November 2 meeting was scheduled it was thought that Tuesday, November 1 would be election day; however, the election will be held on Tuesday, November 8; and, changing from Wednesday to Tuesday would not conflict with Wednesday church services, etc. Chairman Jessee stated that the Change In Meeting Date would be addressed following agenda item #5.

**ITEM ADDED TO AGENDA/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda including the addition submitted by Mrs. McClelland.

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN MEETING DATE**: On a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved a change in meeting date from Wednesday, November 2, 2011 to Tuesday, November 1, 2011. Chairman Jessee requested that the Clerk of the Board to send notifications.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the September 6, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved payroll and claims as follows: School Operating Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of $ as shown by warrants # and electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of $ & electronic payroll tax deposit $ . Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of as shown by warrants # and electronic payroll tax deposit $ Scott County Head Start invoices & payroll in the amount of $ as shown by warrants #

**PUBLIC COMMENT – SUZANNE GOINS/VPE**: Suzanne Goins, VPE Representative, encouraged Superintendent Ferguson and the Board to remind teachers of the availability of the VPE grants up to $500 and $500 scholarships. She reported that the deadline is November 15 and teachers do not have to be a member in the organization to apply. She also reported that Steve Shortt, VPE Regional Representative, is offering "good manners" and "good behavior" puppet shows at the elementary schools in Lee, Scott and Wise counties. Mrs. Goins reported that according to the Governor there may be a surplus of funds and requested that should the Governor choose to give school divisions some of the surplus funding Superintendent Ferguson and the Board consider supporting a raise for teachers. She commented that school board members are doing a great job.

**VSBA ACADEMY AWARDS**: Superintendent Ferguson reported that board members, superintendents, clerks and deputy clerks are automatically enrolled in the Virginia School Boards Association Academy. He explained that they may participate in the Academy to become further educated in boardsmanship skills and curriculum issues through attendance at Academy programs. He presented Certificates of Recognition as follows: Lowell Campbell, School Board Member; Karen "K.C." Linkous, Deputy Clerk; and Loretta Q. Page, Clerk of the Board.

**PRESENTATION OF "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS**: Superintendent Ferguson stated that he has "Making a Difference" Faculty & Staff Awards for presentation as has been presented at each meeting during this school year. He presented awards as follows: Barbara Baker, Secretary and Lori Wright, Teacher.

**RENEE DISHNER, RYE COVE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**: Renee Dishner, Rye Cove Intermediate School Principal, welcomed everyone to the school. She thanked the Board and Superintendent Ferguson for making sure students are provided the opportunity to receive a quality education and go on to pursue their dreams. She expressed thanks for their devotion; and, as a token of appreciation, gave them pumpkins decorated by the students. She also expressed pride of the school faculty and staff and the dedication shown to students. She commended them for high expectations of the students and for providing hands on activities and experiments that inspires them. She further expressed to the staff that they truly make a difference.

Mrs. Dishner explained that a fall door decorating contest was held and invited everyone to tour the school to view and enjoy the fall decorations.

**SUPERINTENDENT DESIGNEE TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN ABSENCE OR INABILITY OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**: On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools, to attend all meetings of the school board in the absence or inability of the superintendent.

**APPROVAL OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**: On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council for the 2011-2012 school year as follows:

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|---|---|
| Tony Anderson | Teacher |
| Tommy Musick | Teacher |
| Brent Roberts | Special Needs |
| Phillip Lane | Parent |
| Hunter Lane | Student |
| Mark Blanton | Business & Industry |
| Bill Franklin | Business & Industry |
| Sis Dickenson | Fluor Business & Industry |
| John Kilgore | Business & Industry |
| Rex McCarty | Business & Industry |
| Lou Britt | Family & Consumer Science |
| Desiree Clark | VA Dept of Rehabilitation |
| Connie Rhoton | Mt. Empire Comm.College |
| Tommy Clements | Mt. Empire Comm. College |

**APPROVAL OF NURSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Nursing Advisory Committee for the 2011-2012 school year as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jane Carter | Guidance Counselor | Rye Cove High School |
| Lori Flannary | Guidance Counselor | Twin Springs High School |
| Rebecca Baker | Guidance Counselor | Gate City High School |
| Amber Goode | Nurse Supervisor | Scott County Schools |
| Jody Hilton | Director of Nursing | Ridgecrest Health Group LLC |
| Lena Whisenhunt | Director of Nursing | Mountain Empire Comm. College |
| Rachel Burke | Instructor | Scott County Career & Tech. Center |
| Ralph Quesinberry | Principal | Scott County Career & Tech. Center |

**APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Special Education Advisory Committee for 2011-2012 school year as follows:

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|---|---|
| Lisa Dean | Chairman/Teacher/Parent |
| Sandra Craft | Vice Chairman/Parent |
| Allison Kimbler | Secretary/Teacher |
| Joseph Deckard | Parent |
| Eileen Deckard | Parent |
| Judy Flanary | Retired Teacher |
| Chad Griffin | Parent |
| David Gray | Parent |
| Brenda Robinette | Supervisor of Special Education |
| Renee' Light | Teacher |
| Chad Robinette | Assistant Principal |
| April Griffin | Parent |
| Stacy Wood | Assistant Principal |
| Pam Bellamy | Health Department |
| Phyllis Compton | Parent |
| Lowell Campbell | School Board Member |
| Randy Compton | Parent |

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA:** On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved a *Resolution in Support of Public Education in Virginia* as follows:

***WHEREAS,*** *per pupil state funding for public education has been reduced by more than 13% since 2009, and*

***WHEREAS,*** *neither the requirements of the Standards of Learning and of No Child Left Behind, nor the overall costs of operating the public schools have been reduced, and*

***WHEREAS,*** *state funding for public education does not reflect the true cost of constructing, staffing, equipping, operating and maintaining schools that perform at the level needed to meet the requirements of the Standards of Quality and the Standards of Learning, and*

***WHEREAS,*** *none of the $544.8 million FY2011 budget surplus has been proposed to be allocated to K-12 public education.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** *that the Board of Directors of the Virginia School Boards Association respectfully requests the Governor to allocate a fair share of the $544.8 million FY2011 budget surplus to K-12 public education, to begin to restore funds cut from K-12 public education in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010, and 2011.*

*James Kay Jessee, Chairman (Signature)*
*Gloria E. "Beth" Blair, Board Member (Signature)*
*Joe D. Meade, Board Member (Signature)*
*Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman (Signature)*
*Kathy J. McClelland, Board Member (Signature)*
*Dennis C. Templeton, Board Member (Signature)*

*ATTEST:*

*John I. Ferguson, Division Superintendent (Signature)*
*Date: 10/4/11*

**BUILDING SERVICES – ROBERT SALLEE, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SERVICES**: Robert Sallee, Director of Building Services, presented a Work Schedule Update for building services. He also answered Board member questions in regard to temperature at the Gate City Middle School, boiler at Dungannon Intermediate School, bleachers at Gate City High School stadium and bleachers and lighting at the Gate City Middle School. He presented Electric Usage Charts for Gate City Middle School, Rye Cove Intermediate School and the Weber City Elementary Tennis Court, which showed a cost savings when comparing 2010 and 2011. He also provided a detailed report of the current monitoring system (Johnson Controls) being used in the schools. He explained that work is being done at all schools with Gate City Middle School, Rye Cove Intermediate School and the Weber City Tennis Courts being the targeted areas. He explained that Kathy Cox, Johnson Controls Representative, is providing assistance to Scott County and other schools divisions including looking for grants. He further explained that the building services employees have been doing preventative maintenance at the schools.

**REPORT ON NAME OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM IN REGARD TO RECENT ARTICLE IN KINGSPORT TIMES NEWS:** Superintendent Ferguson reported that a recent article in a newspaper referenced a name change for Scott County's Alternative Education Program. He reported that the current name of the program is the Renaissance Program and explained that it is a regional program that includes Lee County and the name has not been changed. He reported that the name change (AIMS: Alternative Methods for Students) was only a suggestion and explained that no board action was done to change the name of the program.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mrs. McClelland made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:55 p.m. to discuss central office staff, bus drivers and coaches as provided in Section 2.2-3711A (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended; motion was seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING:** All members returned from closed meeting at 8:07 p.m. and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Templeton, the Board returned to regular session and Mrs. McClelland cited the following certification of the closed meeting:

*CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING*

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

*WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires certification by this Scott County School Board that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scott County 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 this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Scott County School Board in the closed meeting.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE*

*Ayes: Beth Blair, Lowell Campbell, Kay Jessee, Kathy McClelland, Joe Meade, Dennis Templeton*

*Nays: None*

*ABSENT DURING VOTE: None* *ABSENT DURING MEETING: None*

**APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST**: On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the overnight field trip request from the Rye Cove Band students (number of persons 32, 1 student, 5 chaperones) to attend the National Music Showcase Festival Competition in Atlanta, GA, on April 26-29, 2012.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT - JOHN I. FERGUSON, SUPERINTENDENT**: On a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the employment contract of John I. Ferguson, Superintendent, as presented.

**RESIGNATION**: On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation request of Shannon Boy from the position of Gate City High School Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, effective September 19, 2011.

**LEAVE-OF-ABSENCE**: On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the leave-of-absence request of Wayne Templeton, maintenance employee, effective October 3-31, 2011.

**EMPLOYMENT**: On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Jason Cox, Rye Cove High School Resource Officer, effective September 15, 2011.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**: Board members thanked the audience for their attendance at the meeting and interest in the school system. Chairman Jessee also commended Rye Cove Intermediate School Staff and expressed appreciation for the job they do and how they care about education and the students in Scott County.

**ADJOURNMENT**: There being no further business to be discussed, Mr. Campbell made a motion to adjourn at 8:11 p.m., motion was seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye.

James Kay Jessee, Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk