

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2002**

The Scott County School Board met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 5, 2002, in the School Board Office Conference Room in Gate City with the following members present:

Glenn M. McMurray, Chairman

**ABSENT:**

David

T. Kindle

Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman

Gloria A. "Beth" Blair

W. Mack Gilliam

E. Virgil Sampson, Jr.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations; C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; K.C. Quillen Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Danny L. Dixon, Director of Instruction; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; and Alison Taylor, Scott County Education Association Co-President.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Glenn M. McMurray, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and presided.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda with additions presented by Chairman McMurray as follows: Item VI. Report on Summer Programs by Mr. Danny Dixon, Director of Instruction, will also include Technology and School Accreditation Updates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No members of the audience came forth to speak during this period.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the Board approved the minutes of June 26, 2002, and July 2, 2002, as submitted.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Superintendent Scott explained that the Scott County Telephone Cooperative claim in the amount of \$5,000 is for line-lease service for the school division. He further explained that the monthly lease fee is 34% after the 66% for e-rate reimbursement. On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the invoices and payrolls as follows:

School Fund invoices totaling \$469,614.18 and payroll totaling \$353,319.96 as shown by warrants #8052810-8053183.

Cafeteria Fund invoices totaling \$11,954.88 and payroll totaling \$33,319.50 as shown by warrants #1004011-1004066.

Capital Improvement/School Construction Fund invoice totaling \$869.60 as shown by warrant #1900248.

Scott County Head Start invoices totaling \$37,401.06 and payroll totaling \$17,666.44 as shown by warrants #1175-1264 (#1254 voided)

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION UPDATE: Mr. Danny L. Dixon, Director of Instruction, presented tentative information on the accreditation status of schools in

the division. He stated that for the prior year 2000-01, 7 schools out of 13 were fully accredited, 5 met the state standards, and one school was in need of improvement. He reported that for the 2000-01 school year, Scott County Schools ranked 27 compared to the 136 school divisions in the state. He was pleased to report that a minimum of 10 schools will be listed as fully accredited. He explained that the information is tentative, since adjustments are made for test scores of transfer students and specific remedial education students. He reported that the school division should be able to present a school accreditation report at the next meeting. He stated that the school needing improvement last year is now fully accredited. He stated that personnel changes have been made, material purchased and staff development workshops provided in order to strengthen the curriculum and assist in improving student improvement. He reported that the remediation recovery program has really helped the high schools and that each high school appears to be accredited.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE: Mr. Danny L. Dixon, Director of Instruction, reported that 300 computers have been ordered through technology funds. He stated that computers in the labs are to be replaced first and then the libraries are to be updated with new computers. He reported that a new lab and possibly two or three will be installed, depending on the number of students enrolled in the schools. He stated that a firewall needs to be installed to add additional security since hackers are downloading movies, etc. He stated that the first computer order received is to be installed at Weber City to re-create a lab there. He reported that a delivery schedule has been established for use in replacing computers at the schools to minimize down time.

REPORT ON SUMMER PROGRAMS: Mr. Dixon reported that enrollment increased to 286 students in the 2002 summer enrichment programs compared to 150 students last year. He stated that personnel worked hard in organizing the summer programs including the transportation department. Also, he reported that the school division would receive more funding this school year due to the increase in enrollment in the summer programs.

Mr. Dixon reported that the accelerated reader program was used this summer in the schools and worked out well. He also reported that competition was held for reading the most books and that awards were presented to student winners. Mr. Dixon presented the Summer 2002 Enrichment Programs Report as follows:

Summer Enrichment

Grade K-2 – 50

Grade 3-5 – 50

Middle School – 11

High School – 14

Science In The Summer

Beginners – 60

Advanced – 57

Library Night Reading Program

Enrichment Students Attending – 23

Students Only Attending Library Night – 44

Grand Total of Individual Students Served = 286

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO POLICY MANUAL FOR 2002-03 SCHOOL YEAR: Superintendent Scott presented Policy Manual revisions for the 2002-03 school year. He stated that most of the changes came about due to the General Assembly. He explained a number of revisions with board members and provided them an opportunity to ask questions concerning them. On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the revisions to the Policy Manual as presented.

APPROVAL OF STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK & CODE OF CONDUCT:

Superintendent Scott reported that Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, reviewed revisions to the Student/Parent Handbook & Code of Conduct with principals at the Principal Institute held on July 30-31, 2002. Mr. Johnson pointed out that changes were made to the policy on Sexual Harassment, Honors & Advanced Diplomas, and significant changes to the guidelines in providing directory information to the military and colleges. He explained that previously students had the choice to "Opt In." He reported that beginning this school year, the student names are not sent to military recruitment personnel or colleges if the students sign a form to "Opt Out." On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the Student/Parent Handbook & Code of Conduct as presented.

APPROVAL OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD STATEMENT 34 RESOLUTION: Superintendent Scott explained that the new Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 requires that the counties, cities, towns must report their assets and net worth. He reported that this could be useful for the county in borrowing funds. He reported that the County Board of Supervisors selected a \$2,000 threshold for tracking assets. He reported that according to information received, the county has visited Washington County and reviewed their fixed assets system already in place and that it is working well. He reported that Mrs. Loretta Page, Clerk of the Board, is currently working with Mrs. Pat Cline, County Purchasing Administrator, on establishing records of the school division's fixed assets. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, this board hereby selects the amount of \$2,000.00 as a threshold for fixed assets for Scott County Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF REVISION TO FY 2002 HEAD START SUPPLEMENTAL FUND: Superintendent Scott reported that revisions being presented to the FY 2002 Head Start Supplemental Fund Budget were approved by the Head Start Policy council. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approves the revision to the FY 2002 Head Start Supplemental Fund giving degree teachers an additional \$372 annually (plus \$88 in fringe cost) in order to ensure that the entire amount of \$8,204 is utilized for Teacher Salary and Fringe Quality Improvement and to revised Column G/Degree Teachers on 2002-03 Salary Scale. (Appendix S)

REPORT ON SURPLUS SALE: Superintendent Scott reported that 96 people registered for the surplus sale held on July 13, 2002, and that sales were in the amount of \$10,603.50 (buses: \$3,120 – supplies: \$2,328.50 – equipment: vehicles and snow plow \$5,155). He presented a report of surplus sale information from prior years for comparison.

REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL BUS RUNS: Superintendent Scott recommended the consolidation of four bus runs into two for the coming school year. He stated that last year one school bus run was consolidated and that this helped with transportation expenses. He reported that a committee consisting of Mr. Gary Adams, Mr. Bill Houseright, Mr. Otis Bowen, and Mr. Gilbert Smith, recommended these school bus route changes that would result in approximately \$22,000.00 in savings of salaries and fringe benefits for the school division. He asked Mr. Danny Meade, Transportation Supervisor, to explain the changes for consolidation of the school bus runs.

Mr. Meade explained the school bus changes to combine Ms. Valerie Lane and Mr. Don Bowles routes and those to combine Ms. Carolyn Singleton and Mr. David Kinkead routes (special needs buses). He reported that Mr. Gary Adams, School Bus Garage Employee, ran these trips several times to make sure of the times listed for student pickup. Mr. Meade reported that the special needs bus route is subject to change as the need arises. He answered specific questions concerning these route changes.

Superintendent Scott reported that these consolidated school bus route changes would be tried and if it does not work out, additional route changes can be made at a later date. He reported that it is difficult to make school bus route changes once the year has already begun. He gave board members the opportunity to ask questions about transportation changes. He informed board members that bus drivers have been changed on certain bus routes in order for drivers to be as close to their bus routes as possible.

UPDATE ON MAINTENANCE PROJECTS FOR 2002-03: Superintendent Scott presented an update on maintenance projects for the 2002-03 school year. He reported that air conditioning is a priority at this time. He reported that drop ceilings are being completed as air conditioning units are being installed at some of the

elementary schools. He reported that since time is running out and school will begin soon, some of these schools are to have air conditioning units installed and drop ceilings completed at a later date. He reported that no property has been located for a track. He reported that the Gate City High School track is in bad need of repair. He reported that a recommendation for repair was completed and hopefully track striping can be completed by spring. He reported that this track is to be 3 lanes. He stated that the only choice right now is to use the facilities at Powell Valley or Wise. He stated that hopefully sometime in the future a full track could be installed. He reported that parking lot repairs need to be completed at some of the schools including Yuma and Rye Cove High. He reported to hopefully complete these projects this fall. He reported that construction funds received previously have been spent and that the new funds should be received in two payments, December and April. He reported that the elevator project at Shoemaker is being finalized. He reported that air conditioning needs in the kitchens at the schools is being reviewed.

Mrs. Blair asked if the Shoemaker Drive is to be paved this year. Mr. Meade reported that he would check on this matter. Mr. Campbell reported that he attended a cheerleading activity at the Gate City Middle School gym and that it was very hot since the fans were not turned on and no personnel available for this purpose. He further reported that some elderly people had to be assisted down from the bleachers. Superintendent Scott reported that he would check on this matter and stated that the schools should have personnel and/or keys available for this purpose.

CLOSED MEETING: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board entered into a closed meeting at 6:48 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711A(1) to discuss personnel.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All board members returned from the closed session at 8:30 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, the board returned to regular session and considered 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 2.2-3712 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, Mack Gilliam, Glenn McMurray, Virgil Sampson

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None  
None

ABSENT DURING MEETING:

RESIGNATION: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board accepted the resignation of Mr. Cossie E. (C.E.) Starnes, Jr., school bus driver, effective July 12, 2002.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board accepted the resignation of Ms. Heather Sykes, Gate City High School Teacher, effective July 30, 2002.



LEAVE-OF-ABSENCE: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the leave-of-absence request of Mr. Greg A. Lawson, teacher, effective September 6, 2002, for the 2002-2003 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the leave-of-absence request of Mrs. Kathryn O. Asbury, teacher, effective for the first semester of the 2002-03 school year.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Mr. Jason Smith, teacher, effective for the 2002-03 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Ms. Lois Kirkus, Mr. Paul Emmons, and Mr. Darrell Dougherty, school bus drivers, effective for the 2002-03 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Mr. Billy Gene McClellan as a substitute school bus driver for the 2002-03 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the list of coaches for Gate City High School as presented with the additions of a fifth supplement for varsity football and a third supplement for varsity basketball.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the list of coaches for Rye Cove High School including the addition of Mr. David Bishop as assistant football coach.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the list of coaches for Twin Springs High School as listed.

(Appendix T)

ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Blair asked that a sympathy card be sent to a county employee due to the recent death in the family. Superintendent Scott stated he thought several people were not aware of the county employee's death in the family and that a sympathy card would be sent to the county employee on behalf of school board members. Mr. Campbell asked about a fence in need of repair at Yuma Elementary School. Superintendent Scott stated that he would check on the fencing repair needed at the school.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Campbell made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m., motion was seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye. The next regular meeting is to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2002 in the Scott County Vocational Center Auditorium.

---

Glenn M. McMurray, Chairman

---

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk

