

SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2003

The Scott County School Board met in a regular meeting, on Tuesday, April 8, 2003, in the School Board Office Conference Room in Gate City with the following members present:

Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman

ABSENT: Lowell S. Campbell

W. Mack Gilliam

David T. Kindle

Glenn M. McMurray

E. Virgil Sampson, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; K.C. Quillen Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor; Robert Moorehouse and Alison Taylor, Scott County Education Association; Jimmy Dishner, Secondary Supervisor; Danny Dixon, Director of Instruction; Tom Haynes, Principal and Director of the Scott County Career and Technical Center; M. A. Lunsford, United Way; Bob McConnell, President of Southwest Virginia United Way; Mary Stallard, Executive Director of United Way; David Dotson, Executive Director of the Dollywood Foundation; Marjorie Blalock, Principal Rye Cove High School; Donnie Qualls, Teacher and Volleyball Coach at Rye Cove High School, and members of the Rye Cove High School Girl?s Volleyball Team.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and presided.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION TO RYE COVE HIGH SCHOOL CUMBERLAND DISTRICT, REGION D AND GROUP A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VOLLEYBALL TEAM: Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman, and Mr. David T. Kindle, Board Member, presented Coach Donnie Qualls and members of the Rye Cove High School Girl's Volleyball Team with the resolution congratulating them on being Cumberland District Champions, Region D Champions and Group A State Champions. The Rye Cove Volleyball Team presented Superintendent Scott with an autographed volleyball. Mrs. Marjorie Blalock, Principal of Rye Cove High School, invited Superintendent Scott, the Board Members and Central Office Staff to a reception in honor of the Rye Cove Volleyball Team on Saturday, May 24 at 6: 00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. M. A. Lunsford, United Way of Southwest Virginia representative, presented a packet to Board Members concerning ?The Imagination Library? ? Preschool Reading Program from the Dollywood Foundation. Mr. Lunsford also introduced Mr. Bob McConnell, President of the Southwest Virginia United Way, Ms. Mary Stallard, Executive Director of United Way and Mr. David Dotson, Executive Director of the Dollywood Foundation.

Mr. Bob McConnell explained that the program was developed in 1995 for Sevier County, Tennessee. The concept of the program is that if books are in the home, children are more likely to read and that the key to success in school and beyond is to develop proficient reading skills.

Ms. Mary Stallard, Executive Director of United Way stated that this would help children on the right path to learning.

Mr. David Dotson, Executive Director of the Dollywood Foundation, explained that the program initiated because educators identified preschool reading and parent involvement as among the most important factors for a child's success in school. From the day they are born, children who register for the program receive a book every month until their fifth birthday. Preschoolers currently living in the community may enter the program at any time and begin receiving an age-appropriate book every month. Mr. McMurray, Board Member, asked what percentage of children stay with the program for the full five years. Mr. Dotson explained that the only way a child exits the program is if the family moves out of the community. The program started out with 2,300 books in Sevierville and is now in 197 communities in 31 states and 50,000 books are sent out each month. Mr. Dotson also stated that the primary sponsors for this program are school boards, United Way and other educational agencies.

Mrs. Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman, asked how children are recognized for this program. Mr. Dotson explained that the program is open to any child under age five. A registration brochure is printed with the locality?s information and then distributed for display to HeadStart Centers, Child Care Centers, Churches, Newspapers, etc. Mr. Kindle, Board Member, asked if the brochures could be printed locally. Mr. Dotson explained that the Foundation prefers to print these brochures due to information that is requested on the registration form.

Superintendent Scott asked what the school system?s part would be. Mr. Lunsford stated that the school board could act as a Grantee for funds that become available either through grant money or other resources for literacy. Mr. Lunsford also explained that the cost of the program is \$27.00 per year per registered child for twelve books.

Mr. Bob McConnell explained that United Way was the strongest in Southwest Virginia and would like to fund the program, but was not able to raise any more money. He also stated that if the School Board strongly endorsed this reading program, it might open other doors for United Way to help fund the project.

Superintendent Scott stated that everyone here at this meeting agrees the more a child is able to read the more the school system is benefited. He also explained that the funding issue needs to be looked at a little closer. Ms. Stallard asked if Scott County could be used as a territory for a pilot program. Superintendent Scott said the School Board would be willing to only endorse and not sponsor the program at this time and saw no problem with being a pilot program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the Board approved the minutes of Tuesday, March 4, 2003 as submitted.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: On a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the Board approved payroll and claims as follows:

School fund invoices totaling \$670,476.61 and payroll totaling \$348,315.17 as shown by warrants #8056721 - 8057204.

Cafeteria Fund invoices totaling \$65,333.76 and payroll totaling \$34,353.86 as shown by warrants #1004828 -1004942.

Capital Improvement/School Construction Fund invoices totaling \$14,226.29 as shown by warrants #1900277 - 1900281.

Scott County Head Start invoices totaling \$45,697.00 and payroll totaling \$1,499.72 as shown by warrants #1970 - 2055.

APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the board approved the overnight field trip request received from Hilton Elementary School Sixth Grade Class to Pigeon Forge & Knoxville, Tn., May 29-30, 2003.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the overnight field trip request received from Twin Springs High School Band students to Atlanta, Georgia, April 25-27, 2003.

APPROVAL OF NON-TENURED TEACHERS FOR 2003-04: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved non-tenured teachers for the 2003-04 school year as presented. **(Appendix D).**

APPROVAL OF TEACHING ASSISTANTS, SECRETARIES, NURSES, MAINTENANCE, BUS GARAGE, COMPUTER TECHNICIANS, CUSTODIANS, BUS DRIVERS AND CENTRAL OFFICE CLERICAL STAFF FOR 2003-04: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of teaching assistants, secretaries, nurses, maintenance staff, bus garage staff, computer technicians, custodians, central office clerical staff and bus drivers for 2003-04 as presented. The employment of bus drivers is pending the passing of a physical exam. (Appendix E)

APPROVAL OF FULL TIME CAFETERIA PERSONNEL FOR THE 2003-04 SCHOOL YEAR: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott, and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved full-time cafeteria personnel for the 2003-04 school year as presented. (Appendix F)

APPROVAL OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATES: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved high school graduation dates as follows: Gate City High School ? Thursday, June 5, 7:00 p.m.; Twin Springs ? Friday, June 6, 7:00 p.m. and Rye Cove ? Saturday, June 7, 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF LOCAL ANNUAL CAREER & TECHNICAL PLAN FOR 2003-

04: Mr. Tom Haynes, Director/Principal, Scott County Career & Technical Center, handed out to the board an annual performance report that was conducted in the school year 2001-02. He stated that in conjunction with this report, improvement plans had to be made concerning "non-traditional" items. Mr. Haynes explained that the State requires 12.5% of students have to be non-traditional. Mr. Haynes handed out another report showing some changes that can be made to meet non-traditional standards. He stated that instead of adding new classes, we may be able to change current classes and titles so that the Career and Technical Center would be in compliance.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott, and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the Local Annual Career & Technical Plan for 2003-04 school year.

RETIREMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the retirement request of Mrs. Sammie Jo Baker, Hilton Elementary Teacher, effective the end of the 2002-03 school year.

RESIGNATIONS: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board accepted the resignation request of Mr. Greg Ervin, Gate City High School Head Basketball Coach, effective March 10, 2003.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board accepted the resignation request of Ms. Sherilyn Shepard, School Bus Driver, effective January 24, 2003.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye the board accepted the resignation request of Mr. Darren Reed, Gate City High School Head Girl's Volleyball Coach, effective April 6, 2003.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Mike Lane, Twin Springs Girl's Track Coach, effective April 8, 2003.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Todd Baker; Ms. Jessica Day; Ms. Crystal McConnell; and Ms. Heather Varner, as Teachers for the 2003-04 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Kindle all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Ms. Melinda Brickey and Mr. Michael Lee Brickey, Substitute Bus Drivers.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl Johnson, Director of Operations/Elementary Supervisor, and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Tony Andersen, Welding Instructor.

ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: There were no items presented by board members.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Kindle made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., all members voting aye. The next regular meeting is to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2003 in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman

K.C. Quillen Linkous, Deputy Clerk

