

SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2003

The Scott County School Board met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2003, at the Scott County Career & Technical (Vocational) Center in Gate City with the following members present:

Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman

ABSENT: Glenn M. McMurray

Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman

W. Mack Gilliam

David T. Kindle

E. Virgil Sampson, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; Danny L. Dixon, Director of Instruction; C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; K.C. (Karen) Quillen Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Tom Haynes, Scott County Career & Technical Center Director/Principal; Alison Taylor and Bob Moorehouse, Scott County Education Association Co-Presidents.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and presided.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Blair asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Superintendent Scott requested additions to the agenda as follows: Items by Superintendent (IX.) Discussion Concerning ?Little House? at Weber City Elementary School

and Discussion on Letter Concerning Corporal Punishment Received from Senator Phillip Puckett. On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the agenda with additions as presented by Superintendent Scott.

PRESENTATION OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES: Superintendent Scott expressed thanks and appreciation to school board members for their service to the school division. He presented Certificates of Appreciation to school board members from the Virginia School Boards Association in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month ? February 2003.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Gilliam, all members voting aye, the board approved the minutes of January 7, 2003, as submitted.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the board approved payroll and claims as follows:

School Operating Fund invoices in the amount of \$682,223.61 and payroll in the amount of \$357,540.79 as shown by warrants #8055740-8056213.

School Cafeteria Fund invoices in the amount of \$53,468.07 and payroll in the amount of \$33,128.76 as shown by warrants #1004611-1004716 (#1004641 voided & #1002369 stop payment).

School Construction Fund invoices in the amount of \$2,451.60 as shown by warrants #1900269-1900270.

Scott County Public School Head Start invoices in the amount of \$49,241.30 and payroll in the amount of \$1,046.88 as shown by warrants #1772-1867.

APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members

voting aye, the board approved the overnight field trip request for Rye Cove High School band students to perform in competition at Williamsburg, Virginia, on April 24-27, 2003.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the overnight field trip request for Yuma Elementary School 6th grade students to visit Chattanooga, Tennessee (Incline Railroad, Point Park Civil War Park, Tennessee Aquarium, Imax Theater, and Riverboat Cruise) on April 10-12, 2003.

REPORT ON STATE FUNDING: Superintendent Scott presented board members a copy of the Scott County Budget Calendar for Preparation for FY 2003-04 received from Mr. John Strutner, County Administrator. He pointed out that March 17 is the timeline set for the school board to forward its preliminary budget. Also, that April 2 is the timeline established by the county for providing the school board with an indication on its budget request.

Superintendent Scott presented state entitlement figures based on the 3,610 average daily membership projection used for the 2002-03 School Budget, which shows a projected state revenue amount of \$17,832,415. He also presented the state entitlement figures based on the current 3,710 average daily membership and showing a projected state revenue amount of \$18,227,006. He explained that if the 3,710 average daily membership holds true and is the figure used for the March 31, 2003 Average Daily Membership Report and is also used for comparison to the 3,610 average daily membership in the school budget, the school division would receive additional revenue in the amount of \$394,591 for 2002-03.

Superintendent Scott reported that using the 3,710 average daily membership projection for the fiscal year and the Final General Assembly Conference Amendments to SB/HB 30, a total of state revenue would be \$18,227,006. He further reported that using the same average daily membership and the Governor's Proposed Amendments to Chapter 899, 2002 Acts of Assembly (December 20, 2002), the school division would receive \$18,347,229, which would be \$120,223 difference. He stated that either entitlement received would mean additional revenue.

Superintendent Scott reported that if an average daily membership projection of 3,700 is used for the 2003-04 school budget, the state entitlement based on Final General Assembly Conference Amendments to SB/HB 30 would provide \$18,554,340 state revenue. He also stated that based on the same average daily membership the Governor's Proposed Amendments to

Chapter 899, 2002 Acts of Assembly (December 20, 2002) the school division would receive \$18,604,947.

Superintendent Scott reported that a fax received prior to the meeting tonight shows very little difference in the 2003 session budget amendments by the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees. He explained that the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee would propose their own budgets and conferees for each committee would negotiate a compromise between the two versions of the budget. He further explained that after the House and Senate come to an agreement, the budget amendments would then be sent to the Governor who could then veto certain line items if desired and if so, would be subject to a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate to override.

Superintendent Scott reported that according to one of the Senate Finance Committee amendments proposed is that no later than August 15, 2003, the Governor would prepare a status of the economy and should the economy not drop, then an appropriation would be used for a 2% raise for January 2004. He explained that the 2% is more like 1% since the school year is already in session at that point. He also reported that one of the House Appropriations Committee amendments adds \$16.9 million for Health Insurance Premium Supplements funded by cutting Student Achievement Block Grants and requires a local match. He stated that both the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee may do some rearranging; however, he thought the Governor has made few cuts to K-12 education so far and he stated the Governor has done a good job from that standpoint. He reported that the General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn on February 22, 2003.

Superintendent Scott provided an opportunity for school board members to ask questions with regard to the 2003 and 2004 FY state entitlements and school budgets.

REPORT ON WEBER CITY ?LITTLE HOUSE? STRUCTURAL/MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS: Superintendent Scott reported that in January 2003 a water line break in the basement of the ?Little House? damaged the main electrical cable that runs between the meter location and the main panel. He further reported that information provided by Mr. Danny R. Meade, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that in order to bring the building?s electrical systems back on-line and in compliance with the building code would require extensive electrical repairs and would probably also require fire and smoke alarm upgrades. Mr. Meade also recommended that due to the existing condition of the building (wood floors and roof framing) and the needed electrical upgrades, it would be better to consider completely removing the ?Little House.?

Superintendent Scott reported that Beeson and Beeson, architects, were asked to report on the possibility of using the Weber City "Little House" for classes. He also reported that the architect conclusion was that the wood floor and wood roof framing were inadequate to meet Code requirements for live loads. He explained that the architect's recommendation was that the building not be remodeled for any classroom-type use.

Superintendent Scott recommended that for the time being the Weber City "Little House" be closed down due to no electricity or water and the unsafe condition of the building. He recommended that the items in the house be removed and the house locked and boarded up. Mr. Gilliam asked about the public's view of this facility not being used by the school division since the facility appears to be in a useable condition. Board members agreed that Superintendent Scott should provide information to the public concerning the "Little House" situation through the newspaper. Mr. Gilliam asked about the house being torn down. Superintendent Scott stated that this and other options are available and that the County Attorney could provide legal assistance for the project.

Mr. C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney, stated that he would speak with Mr. Bill Dingus, County Building Inspector, and ask for his assistance with the "Little House" situation.

SENATOR PHILLIP PUCKETT REQUEST CONCERNING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT: Superintendent Scott reported that he received a letter from Senator Phillip Puckett asking for an opinion and position concerning the possibility of reinstating corporal punishment in the public schools. He explained that Senator Puckett was asking for the information at the request of the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors. Superintendent Scott stated that he needs to respond to the request and asked board members to let him know if they wished to voice their opinion. He stated that he would be sending a response to Senator Puckett and if any members wished to include their opinion or comments to let him know.

CLOSED MEETING: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the board entered into a closed meeting at 6:24 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711A(1) to discuss teachers, supervisors, principals, and coaches.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All board members returned from the closed session at 7:10 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, 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 2.2-3711A 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, David Kindle, Virgil Sampson

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

Chairman Blair stated that there was no board action to be taken concerning the closed meeting.

RESIGNATION: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board accepted the resignation request of Ms. Heather Smith as Twin Springs High School Junior Varsity Volleyball Coach.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Ms. Chrissy Dorton as Twin Springs High School Junior Varsity Volleyball Coach.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Mr. Gregory A. Duty, Mr. Robin Hood, Mr. Lonnie Lucas, Ms. Rhonda S. Phillips as substitute school bus drivers.

ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: Board members expressed thanks and appreciation to the Central Office Staff and Mr. Tom Haynes, Career and Technical Center Director/Principal for the School Board Appreciation Dinner held prior to the school board meeting. Board members also expressed thanks to Mr. Haynes for the hospitality and opportunity to use the facilities.

BUDGET WORK SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH: Superintendent Scott stated that a budget work session on the Proposed 2003-04 School Budget is to be held immediately following the next regular meeting on March 4, 2003. He stated that it would also be necessary to schedule another follow-up school budget work session some time during the latter part of March.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Sampson made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. motion was seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye. The next regular meeting is to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2003, in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Gloria E. ?Beth? Blair, Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk

