

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2005**

The Scott County School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, August 2, 2005, at the School Board Office in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman **ABSENT:** David T. Kindle
Gloria E. "Beth" Blair
Glenn M. McMurray
Joe D. Meade
E. Virgil Sampson, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations; C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney; Danny Dixon, Director of Instruction; Mr. Jimmy L. Dishner, Secondary Supervisor/Director of Testing; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk of the Board; K. C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Johnny Trent, Scott County Education Association President; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Otis Lawson, Scott County Citizen; and Gerald Miller, Mayor of Duffield Community.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the agenda with the following additions:

Item V. Additional Claims (D.R. Beeson, Architect & Mark's Hardware)
Item VII. D. 21st Century Grant

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Otis Lawson, Scott County Citizen, spoke on roofing repairs needed at an office at the stadium. He asked about having a metal ceiling installed like what was installed in the other area of the stadium. He reported that a ventilation dehumidifier is currently being used for the area but that something else needs to be done about the situation. It was decided that the school system would start on the problem by placing a fan at that particular area of the stadium and see if it helps the situation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the minutes of July 5, 2005, Regular Meeting as submitted.

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

School Operating Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$_____ as shown by warrants #8070979-_____. Cafeteria Auxiliary Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$_____ as shown by warrants #1007638-_____. Scott County Public School Head Start invoices and payroll totaling \$_____ as shown by warrants #4467-_____.

REPORT ON SOL TEST SCORES – MR. JIMMY L. DISHNER, SECONDARY SUPERVISOR/DIRECTOR OF TESTING: Mr. Jimmy L. Dishner, Secondary Supervisor/Director of Testing, reported that Virginia recognized only 77 Title #1 schools that met the criteria of Math & English proficiency scores above 60% and meeting AYP for two consecutive years. He further reported that of the 77 recognized, 5 were in Scott County: Fort Blackmore Primary School, Hilton Elementary School, Nickelsville Elementary School, Shoemaker Elementary School, and Weber City Elementary School.

Mr. Dishner reported that the school division met all AYP targets and was 1 of only 29 school divisions out of 132 in the Commonwealth, which placed the school division in the top 22% of the state. He also reported that Rye Cove Intermediate School has been nominated for a Federal Blue Ribbon School Award because of their high achievement in spite of high levels of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch.

Mr. Dishner reported that Scott County was recognized as “Outperforming Division.” He explained that in a nation-wide analysis of school divisions, Standard & Poor recognized 16 from Virginia with Scott County being included among those divisions recognized. He further explained that this recognition was based on higher than expected achievement in the face of high poverty for a two year period.

Mr. Dishner reported that attendance at the schools was good but that some schools are dangerously close to the 94% minimum requirement for AYP. He also reported that the drop-out rate was great for 2004-05 with only 14 students and some of these were not “technically drop-outs” but had to be counted as such on the report.

Mr. Dishner presented detailed SOL assessment data for several prior years, various core areas, specific subject areas, and for various grade levels. He also provided data from 1994-2005 on the AIM scholars and reported that this program and enrollment continues to do well.

Mr. Dishner reported that the test scores are based on unadjusted scores and averages. He explained that the final results should be even better. He also explained that the scores include raw data and will have transfers out.

Mr. Dishner thanked the school board for the resources provided to the teachers and the remediation program provided to assist the students. He stated that the school division will continue their efforts and work toward even better results. He reported that as far as he has been able to calculate, he expects that all schools have made the AYP (2005-06 school year).

APPROVAL OF POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS & NEW POLICIES: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the Policy Manual Revisions & New Policies as presented. Mr. Johnson explained a change to policy JGE.

APPROVAL OF STUDENT /PARENT HANDBOOK & CODE OF CONDUCT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the Student/Parent Handbook & Code of Conduct as presented. Mr. Johnson explained that revisions have been made to the Student/Parent Handbook according to policy changes.

REPORT ON SURPLUS SALE: Superintendent Scott reported that the amount of revenue for the surplus sale held on July 9, 2005 was \$5,650.50. He reported that attendance at the sale was better when the surplus school buses were being sold; however, he reported that the revenue received from trade-in with the bus company is more than the revenue brought in when selling them at surplus sale auction. A report was provided to school board members showing the surplus sales from prior years as follows:

<u>Date of Sale</u>	<u>#Registered</u>	<u>Sales Amount</u>
July 9, 2005	39	\$ 5,650.50
Nov. 6, 2004	99	\$26,404.50
July 12, 2003	129	\$14,739.00
July 13, 2002	96	\$10,603.50
July 14, 2001	114	\$ 7,125.50
July 8, 2000	88	\$ 9,074.00
July 10, 1999	67	\$ 9,569.50
July 11, 1998	108	\$14,166.50
July 12, 1997	121	\$ 9,263.50
July 13, 1996	117	\$ 7,561.00
August 5, 1995	59	\$ 6,119.00
August 6, 1994	121	\$10,988.00
July 10, 1993	184	\$ 9,318.00
August 8, 1992	180	\$ 8,805.00
December 7, 1991	57	\$ 5,802.00
August 3, 1991	91	\$ 7,276.50

APPROVAL OF 21ST CENTURY GRANT: Superintendent Scott informed board members that Mrs. Teresa Culbertson and Mrs. Loretta Page are working on a 21st Century Grant Application. He reported that the grant could possibly be around two to three-hundred thousand dollars or, because of the good SOL test scores and the school division meeting the AYP last school year, the school division may not be able to qualify to receive the grant. He explained that the grant would be for an After-school Program at Shoemaker Elementary School, provided funding is available for the program. He stated that this could also be looked at division-wide if needed. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the assurances and application of the 21st Century Grant.

PERSONNEL UPDATE: Superintendent Scott reported that the employment of personnel for the 2005-06 school year is basically complete. He reported that it may be necessary to move some personnel within the schools. He also reported that the New Teacher Orientation was held today and that a lot has been accomplished as far as them being assigned to their school and classroom. He further reported that a lot of parents have enrolled students but he is uncertain of how many will leave and we will have to see how the enrollment turns out.

CLOSED MEETING: Mr. McMurray made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:33 p.m., to consider a personnel grievance matter being that of teacher, Jeff Jones, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.1-3711A(1), motion was seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All members returned from closed meeting at 6:39 p.m. and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Sampson, 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, Glenn McMurray, Joe Meade, Virgil Sampson

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYMENT: Mr. McMurray made a motion that after consideration of the findings of fact, recommendations, and the transcript of the fact-finding panel at its June 29, 2005 hearing, the school board accepts the recommendation of the superintendent that Jeff Jones is hereby dismissed from employment with the Scott County School System, motion was seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Dominick Colobro, Jennifer Gose, and Tonya Odle, as teachers for the 2005-06 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Luke Osborne as Twin Springs High School Junior Varsity Basketball Coach.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Angela McAmis as Twin Springs High School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Nathan Kilgore as Twin Springs High School Assistant Football Coach.

Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, reported that Kellie Young has been recommended for employment as a Head Start teacher. He reminded board members that personnel employed for the Head Start Program are approved by the Head Start Policy Council. He explained that the policy council met recently and was unable to approve this employment since they did not have a quorum. He informed board members that this matter would be presented to them again at a later date.

RETIREMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the retirement request of Marjorie Blalock, Central Office Supervisor, effective August 1, 2005. Mr. Johnson stated that Ms. Blalock's original request was to retire effective July 5, 2005 and then requested that for social security purposes her request be changed to August 1, 2005.

RESIGNATION: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation of Joanna "Jodi" Qualls, Head Start Teacher, effective June 30, 2005.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation of Denise Sturgill, Special Education Teacher, effective July 13, 2005.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation of Jeffery Casteel as school bus driver (remain on substitute school bus driver's list), effective July 14, 2005.

LEAVE-OF-ABSENCE: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the leave-of-absence request of Sheila Stapleton, Gate City Middle School Teacher, effective the first semester of the 2005-06 school year.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Charles Fugate, Greg Gilliam, and Doug Powers as school bus drivers for the 2005-06 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Timothy Cecil Benton and Beverly C. Cross as substitute school bus drivers.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Jeremy Culbertson as a teacher for the 2005-06 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Melissa Robinson for part-time Nursing and part-time cafeteria for the 2005-06 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of

Linda Ellen Lane from part-time to full-time employment.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Wally Pat Ford as Rye Cove High School Golf Coach.

DISCUSSION CONCERNING SCHOOL SECRETARIES: Superintendent Scott informed board members that the secretary from Duffield Primary School was transferred to Rye Cove High School and has turned in a request for sick leave until the beginning of September. He stated that Ms. Shupe, who assisted in the office at Duffield Primary School will be transferred to Rye Cove High School, if agreeable with the board. No members expressed any opposition to this personnel change. He informed board members that secretarial interviews have been held and that no decision has been made at this time. School board members requested an opportunity to be informed of the applicants for secretarial positions.

ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: There were no items by board members except for the presentation of a resolution as follows.

RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH "BETSY" SCOTT - RETIRED TEACHER: Mr. Sampson presented a resolution to Superintendent Scott in memory of his mother, Elizabeth "Betsy" Scott, retired teacher, who passed away on July 23, 2005. The resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION
IN RECOGNITION OF
ELIZABETH "BETSY" HAGAN SCOTT
SCOTT COUNTY RETIRED TEACHER**

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board wishes to extend their deepest sympathy in the recent death of Elizabeth "Betsy" Hagan Scott, Scott County retired teacher, and

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board wishes to recognize the sincere commitment and dedicated service of Elizabeth "Betsy" Hagan Scott to Scott County Public Schools, and

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board realizes Elizabeth "Betsy" Hagan Scott leaves behind a memorial; a memorial not of stone or steel, but a memorial that is carved into the lives of those who knew and worked with her; a memorial in the lives of the students for whom she labored so diligently and so well, and

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board realizes it is those of us left behind that continue to be living memorials to a life that had the courage, the dignity, and the integrity to touch each of us on a personal and meaningful level, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Scott County School Board that this resolution be presented to the next of kin, being James B. Scott, and to the Scott County Retired Teachers Association in recognition of Elizabeth "Betsy" Hagan Scott, Scott County retired teacher.

ATTEST:

*Lowell Campbell, Vice- Chairman
(Signature)*

*August 2, 2005
(Date)*

*Loretta Q. Page, Clerk of the Board
(Signature)*

INSERVICE – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2005 – 8:30 A.M. – SCOTT COUNTY CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER: Superintendent Scott presented a brief overview of the agenda for the August 10, 2005 Inservice to be held at 8:30 a.m. at the Scott County Career & Technical Center. He invited board members to attend the Inservice Program and stated that they were welcome to speak if they wished to do so.

MAINTENANCE UPDATE: Superintendent Scott reported that maintenance projects are going well throughout the county. He stated that the Rye Cove Intermediate School Kitchen Project should be completed by the beginning of the school year. He also stated that the Twin Springs High School Project will be complete for the ballgames. He reported that the Gate City High School Windows Project is currently being completed. He also reported that the Rye Cove High School Window Project bid was less than what he expected at \$408,000.00 and that the cost of the Fort Blackmore Primary School project will

be \$69,000.00. He stated that the windows at the School Board Office are yet to be completed. He further reported that it is expected that all window projects should be complete by November 10.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE: Mr. Danny Dixon, Director of Instruction, provided an update on the on-line testing project, changes and additions for computer labs at the schools, the availability of a broadcast quality video-server resource for teachers to utilize. He reported that as far as technology, our school division is second to none.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS: Superintendent Scott reported that the effort to make sure all teachers are highly qualified as is required by the No Child Left Behind Act is going well. He asked Mr. Johnson to provide an update. Mr. Johnson reported that, pending a final decision of the Department of Education on the Praxis test, probably by the end of the 2005-06 school year, 100% of teachers will be highly qualified.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Meade made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m., motion was seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye. The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 2005, in the School Board Office Conference Room.

Lowell Campbell, Vice-Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk