

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2005**

The Scott County School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, March 1, 2005, at the School Board Office in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

David T. Kindle, Chairman

ABSENT: None

Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman

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; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; Karen C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Danny L. Dixon, Director of Instruction; Jimmy L. Dishner, Secondary Supervisor; Johnny Trent, Scott County Education Association President; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Travis Nickels, Deborah J. Adams, Annie Gardner, Hal Gardner, Salary and Calendar Committee Representatives; and Gerald Miller, Duffield Mayor.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. David T. Kindle, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the agenda as submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Gerald Miller, Duffield Mayor, addressed the issue of three, four, and five year old students attending school in very cold weather. He questioned whether allowances could be made for these students.

Later during the meeting, Superintendent Scott addressed this matter by stating that the Head Start students do not have a 180 day school attendance requirement but that the five year old kindergarten students do. He explained the difficult decisions that a school division would encounter when attempting to establish a schedule for school closing due to cold weather. He cited such factors as the variances in temperature throughout the county, what degree of temperature would you use, how would the wind chill factor affect this decision, what temperature location in the county would you use, and what specific time would you use?

No Board action was taken on this matter. Board members did not comment on the matter, except to inquire about the response time should there be a school bus break down. Superintendent Scott stated that bus garage personnel are available to receive these calls and to dispatch a bus to the site immediately.

No other members of the audience came forth to speak during the public comments period.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the minutes of the February 1, 2005, Public Hearing, and the February 1, 2005 Regular Meeting, as submitted.

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

School Operating Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$1,071,039.68 as shown by warrants #8068521-8069184. School Improvement/School Construction Fund invoices in the amount of \$3,145.60 as shown by warrants #1900355-1900356. Cafeteria Auxiliary Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$161,042.41 as shown by warrants #1007158-1007296 (1007248-1007251 voided). Scott County Public School Head Start invoices and payroll totaling \$124,547.34 as shown by warrants #4099-4200 (#4133 & 4176 voided).

**APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS:** 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 overnight field trip request received from Weber City Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Society Students to Cincinnati, Ohio on May 20-22, 2005.

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 overnight field trip request received from Rye Cove High School Band Students to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on April 21-24, 2005.

Mr. Johnson informed school board members that the Rye Cove High School Academic Team traveled to the Region D State Competition held in Williamsburg, Virginia, on February 24-26, 2005. He stated that he has not heard any results of the competition.

**APPROVAL OF SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2005-06 SCHOOL YEAR:** Ms. Deborah J. Adams, School Calendar Committee Representative, stated that the school calendar proposal for the 2005-06 school year has 9-week tests scheduled for December 19 and 20. Also, she reported that the proposal stated "if school is not in session on the 19<sup>th</sup> and/or 20<sup>th</sup>, teachers will assign grades based on accumulated grades to that point, nine weeks test will be cancelled, and the calendar will be followed with respect to make-up days." Ms. Adams reported that the first semester has 87 days and the second has 93 days.

Superintendent Scott expressed that the proposed calendar is a good start and he feels is worth trying. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Scott, and on a motion by Mr. McMurray, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the School Calendar for 2005-06 as submitted.

August 10-12	Preservice-SCCTC 8:30 AM (8/10)
	11-12 Report to Schools
August 15	School Begins for Students
September 5	Labor Day ? Schools Closed

October 14	1 <sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks Ends
November 8	Election Day ? Schools Closed
November 23-25	Fall Break
December 20	First Semester Ends
December 21-	Winter
January 3	Break
Dec ? Feb	Floating Teacher Workday to Be Assigned on Snow Day
January 3	Teacher Workday/Schools Closed
January 4	Second Semester Ends
March 9	Third Nine Weeks Ends
April 10-13	Spring Break
April 14	Good Friday/Schools Closed
May 19	Second Semester Ends
May 22-23	Teacher Workdays

#### **SALARY AND FRINGE BENEFITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2005-06**

**SCHOOL YEAR:** School board members were presented copies of the Salary/Fringe Benefits Committee Proposal for 2005-06. Mrs. Andrea Gardner, Committee Member, stated that she wished to point out the two most important recommendations of the proposal as follows:

1. The committee recommends a 5% salary increase based on actual salary or \$1,200 (whichever is greater)

for all full-time employees.

2. The committee recommends funding the step increase for the 2005-06 school year.

Mrs. Gardner stated that committee members felt it important enough for her to inform the school board that much discussion took place concerning the top of the teacher salary scale.

She stated that at the top of the teacher salary scale, Scott County ranks 6 out of 8 in southwest Virginia and second in starting salary. She reported that committee members wished to add a \$1,000 step to make the scale more comparable to other school divisions in the area. She further reported that due to the cost of the proposed 5% increase for all employees (5% or \$1,200- whichever is greater) and the possibility that if the \$1,000 step was added, employees probably would not be able to receive a 5% salary increase. She reported that a committee vote was taken and 8 members voted against the proposed \$1,000 step increase on the teacher scale and 6 voted in favor. Mrs. Gardner thanked the school board members for their time.

Chairman Kindle thanked Mrs. Gardner for her presentation and stated that the Board would keep these things in mind when working on the budget.

**APPROVAL OF MEAL PRICES FOR 2005-06 SCHOOL YEAR:** Superintendent Scott presented a region comparison report of school breakfast and lunch prices. He reported that some prices in other school divisions were higher than Scott County and some lower. He reported that even with the proposed increase in salaries, he felt that the fund was solvent enough to recommend no change to the breakfast and lunch prices for the 2005-06 school year. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved school breakfast and lunch prices for the 2005-06 school year as follows:

	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>High School</u>
Full Price Student Breakfast	.75	.75
Full Price Student Lunch	1.35	1.60
Reduced Price Student Breakfast	.30	.30
Reduced Price Student Lunch	.40	.40
Extra Milk or Juice	.30	.30
Adult Price Breakfast	1.25	1.25
Adult Price Lunch	2.25	2.25

**APPROVAL OF HEALTH AND DENTAL RATES FOR 2005-06 SCHOOL YEAR:** Superintendent Scott reported that the self-funded health insurance program is going well. He informed board members that the difference in claims and revenue is approximately

\$140,000 and recommended a \$30 per plan increase to the health insurance premiums. He explained that these funds need to be retained in case of major medical claims. He further recommended that the employee share of the health rates remain the same and that the employer share increase \$30 per plan for the 2005-06 school year. He also recommended that the dental rates remain the same as the 2004-05 school year for both the employee and employer share. He informed board members that since the employee would not share in the premium increase for next school year (2005-06) and it is necessary to increase premiums for the 2006-07 school year, the employees would need to pay their share of the increase for that school year. Superintendent Scott reported that this county is lucky to have the program going as well as it has when comparing the high cost of premiums in other school divisions (example cited for one school division: \$1,820 month for family). He further reported that other school divisions have requested information on the school system's self-funded plan. On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the health and dental rates for the 2005-06 as follows:

*HEALTH INSURANCE	EMPLOYEE PREMIUM	EMPLOYER PREMIUM
EMPLOYEE ONLY	\$80.00	\$295.00
EMPLOYEE + MINOR CHILDREN	\$140.00	\$295.00
EMPLOYEE + SPOUSE	\$235.00	\$295.00
EMPLOYEE + FAMILY	\$315.00	\$345.00

*DENTAL INSURANCE	EMPLOYEE PREMIUM	EMPLOYER PREMIUM
EMPLOYEE ONLY	\$12.00	\$15.00
EMPLOYEE + ONE	\$25.00	\$15.00
EMPLOYEE + 2 OR MORE	\$45.00	\$15.00

**SCHOOL BUDGET UPDATE:** Superintendent Scott reported that according to the information he has received, the budget was worked out over the past weekend and is pretty much in place. He further reported that there is a few thousand dollars difference when comparing the proposed budgets of the Governor, House, and Senate. He informed board members that final figures should be received by Friday (March 4). He reported that the average daily membership (ADM) for this year will be approximately 3,660 students. He projected the 2005-06 enrollment to be approximately 3,680 and enrollment for 2006-07 to be over 3,700 students, as was the enrollment a few years ago. He stated that enrollment is a big factor in the funding received.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mr. Campbell made a motion to enter into closed meeting at 6:20 p.m., motion was seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board entered into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711A (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to discuss teachers, coaches, custodians, and bus drivers.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING:** All members returned from closed meeting at 7:35 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, David Kindle, Glenn McMurray, Joe Meade, Virgil Sampson

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None      ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

**NON-RENEWAL OF TEACHER CONTRACT FOR 2005-06 SCHOOL YEAR:** 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 recommendation that the teacher contract of Ms. Karina Ryans not be renewed for the 2005-06 school year.

**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 request, due to disability retirement, of Mr. Jackie Rhoton, Rye Cove High School Custodian, effective February 10, 2005. .

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation request of Mr. Andrew Tate, Maintenance Employee, effective March 3, 2005.

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 request of Ms. Theresa Cape, Homebound Teacher, (not returning from a leave-of-absence for the 2004-05 school year).

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation request of Mr. Billy McClellan, School Bus Driver, effective February 21, 2005.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation request of Mr. Wesley Dingus, effective at the end of the 2004-05 school year.

**EMPLOYMENT:** 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 employment of Mr. Eddie Hammond as a custodian, effective February 21, 2005.

On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. McMurray, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Mr. Richard Howell as a maintenance employee, effective March 15, 2005.



**ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS:** Mrs. Blair commended the Rye Cove High School Academic Team Region D Runner-up for their recent participation in the state competitions. She stated that this is an honorable achievement and speaks well for the county.

Mr. Sampson expressed thanks to everyone for their visits, words of sympathy, and kindness shown during the recent death of his mother.

Mr. Kindle commended the Scott County Skills USA competitors from Scott County. He reported that they did really well and came home with several first, second, and third place wins in the competitions.

**ADJOURN - BUDGET WORK SESSION:** There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Blair made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:47 p.m., motion was seconded by Mr. Sampson, all members voting aye. The board adjourned the regular meeting and held a brief budget work session on the Proposed 2005-06 School Budget, at which no board action was taken. The next regular school board meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 29, 2005, in the School Board Office Conference Room.

---

David T. Kindle, Chairman

---

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk

