

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2007**

The Scott County School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, May 1, 2007, in the Scott County Career & Technical Center Auditorium in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

Gloria E. "Beth" Blair  
Lowell S. Campbell  
Nathan K. Catron  
David T. Kindle  
Joe D. Meade

**ABSENT:** E. Virgil Sampson, Jr., Chairman

**OTHERS PRESENT:** James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations; Jimmy L. Dishner, Secondary Supervisor/Director of Testing; Brenda P. Robinette, Supervisor of Special Education; C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; Karen C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Clifford Jeffery, Kingsport Times News; Gerald Miller, Mayor of Duffield; and Gate City High School students and community members.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Gloria E. "Beth" Blair, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**RESIGNATION AND ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:** Mrs. Blair stated her resignation as Vice Chairman due to personal reasons and nominated Mr. David T. Kindle to serve as Vice Chairman, nomination was seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Kindle expressed thanks to fellow members for their election of him to serve as vice chairman. He asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Superintendent Scott requested an addition to Items By Superintendent (B.) Travel Reimbursement. On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the agenda with the addition as requested.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** After Vice Chairman Kindle explained the protocol for the Public Participation at School Board Meetings, Mr. Hugh Godsey spoke on the situation concerning his termination as Gate City High School Softball Coach.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Catron, all members voting aye, the board approved the minutes of March 27, 2007 Regular Meeting, as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, 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 \$1,340,757.99 as shown by warrants #8080757-8081222 (#8080313 stopped payment, #8080907&8080908 voided). School Construction Fund invoices in the amount of \$13,987.72 as shown by warrants #1900406-1900409. Cafeteria Auxiliary Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$154,557.11 as shown by warrants #1009644-1009746.

Scott County Public School Head Start invoices and payroll totaling \$57,126.20 as shown by warrants #6052-6124.

**REPORT FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Mr. David Gray, Special Education Advisory Committee President, expressed appreciation to the school board members for listening to the committee's concerns. Mr. Gray reported that the Specialists for Civil Rights Compliance conducted a routine review at the three high schools recently and stated that the review went well and there were only a few minor maintenance issues to be corrected. He expressed thanks to the school board for their support of the special education program last year and for the coming school year; he requested consideration of the employment of an itinerant Autistic Specialist for the special education program, the addition of a covered walkway between the two buildings of the Scott County Career and Technical Center and a covered awning at the lower level of the Gate City Middle School.

Vice Chairman Kindle thanked Mr. Gray and provided an opportunity for members to ask any questions concerning the special education program.

**APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PART B, SECTION 611, FLOW THROUGH FUNDS**

**GRANT:** On the recommendation of Mrs. Brenda P. Robinette, Supervisor of Special Education, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the Special Education Part B, Section 611, Flow Through Funds grant in the amount of \$817,421.00 as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM TO LOCAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 2007:** On the recommendation of Mrs. Brenda P. Robinette, Supervisor of Special Education, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Catron, all members voting aye, the board approved the Addendum to Local Policies and Procedures 2007 as submitted by Mrs. Robinette.

**GATE CITY HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL FCCLA FIELD TRIP:** Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, reported that the Gate City High/Middle Schools FCCLA students participated in the state competitions in Virginia Beach on April 26-29, 2007.

**COURSE OFFERINGS 2007-08 SCHOOL YEAR:** Superintendent Scott presented a list of course offerings for the Advanced (5 points) and Honors (10 points) enrollment. He expressed that course offerings are out of line on the dual credit courses. He stated that he wasn't sure some of the classes could justify dual enrollment. He explained that some vocational classes listed do not usually have students that go on to college after graduation but instead go out into the work field. He also explained the rates for the dual credit courses and stated that Mountain Empire Community College would offer whatever courses the school system requests. He stated that the board could make a decision as this time or he could provide additional information if needed for a future decision.

Board members decided that they would like more time to review the course offerings and have additional information provided at the next meeting.

**TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATE:** Superintendent Scott reported that it has been several years since the travel reimbursement rate (currently 32.5 cents) has been increased and recommended a rate of (40 cents/mile) due to the increase in fuel prices. He also reported that the federal rate is 48 cents per mile. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Catron, the board approved the travel reimbursement rate to be 40 cents per mile effective beginning July 1, 2007.

**CLOSED MEETING:** There was no motion to enter into a closed meeting.

**RETIREMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board approved the Health Insurance Retirement Benefit Incentive Plan request of Mr. Jimmy L. Dishner, Secondary Supervisor/Director of Testing, effective July 1, 2007.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of new teachers for the 2007-08 school year as follows: Summer Hyder, Sarah Jennings, Andrea Jessee, and Leslie Starnes.

**RESIGNATION:** On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Catron, all members voting aye, the board approved the resignation request of Mr. James Smallwood, Twin Springs High School band instructor, effective June 30, 2007.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations, and on a motion by Mr. Catron, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board approved the employment of Kelly S. Houseright as a teacher for the 2007-08 school year.

**ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. Kindle asked Superintendent Scott to provide a maintenance update.

Superintendent Scott provided an update on the current maintenance projects being done at Duffield Primary School, Yuma Elementary School, Twin Springs High School, and Rye Cove High School. He reported that the open classrooms at Hilton Elementary School is not working well and that something like what was completed at Rye Cove Intermediate School probably needs to be reviewed for the school.

**ADJOURN:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Catron, all members voting aye, the board adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next regular meeting is to be held at 6 p.m. on June 5, 2007, at the School Board Office.

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David T. Kindle, Vice Chairman

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Loretta Q. Page, Clerk