

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
MINUTES OF  
Tuesday, August 4, 2009**

The Scott County School Board met Tuesday, August 4, 2009, in the School Board Office Conference Room in Gate City with the following members present:

James Kay Jessee, Chairman  
Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman  
Gloria E. "Beth" Blair  
Joe D. Meade  
Dennis C. Templeton

**ABSENT:** Katherine "Kathy" McClelland

**OTHERS PRESENT:** James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; John Sigmond, School Board Attorney; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Jack Newland, Gate City Community Member; Jack Hamilton, Hilton Community Member; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators; Billy Nash, employee Scott County Schools; John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent; Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times-News; Laura Quillen, Gate City High School and David Hartley, Heritage TV.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. James Kay Jessee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and presided.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda with the following additions: VII. Items by Superintendent (D) Sports Complex – Barn Demolition bids; (E) Audit; (F) Travel for School Board Members; (G) Fresh Fruit Grant and (H) AYP.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no comments during this period.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Meade all members voting aye, the Board approved the minutes of the July 7, 2009 School Board Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** On a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved claims as follows: School Operating Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$1,301,264.41 as shown by warrants #8091931-8092185 (voided #808654) and \$1,163,449.50 electronic payroll direct deposit and \$590,602.17 electronic payroll tax deposit. School Cafeteria Fund invoices and payroll in the amount of \$90,069.41 as shown by warrants #1012148-1012200 and \$12,483.84 electronic payroll tax deposit. Scott County Head Start invoices and payroll in the amount of \$34,627.03 as shown by warrants #8126-8176 (voided #8158, 8168 & 8169).

**ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. James Kay Jessee, Chairman, presented an update on the School Security System. A contract was awarded to Building Systems Technology for Duffield Primary and Weber City Elementary with the system installed and ready to go by the start of school on August 17.

**AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT – STATE STABILIZATION FUNDS AND PRE-K PROGRAM FOR FOUR YEAR OLDS:** Superintendent Scott presented information on the Local Application to Receive State Fiscal Stabilization Funds under the ARRA of 2009. Scott County Schools received additional stimulus funds in the amount of \$1,635,910 and it was recommended that a Pre-K Program for Four Year Olds, including four classes, be started for the 2009-2010 school year. Presently the details are being worked out and applications are being accepted from parents.

Superintendent Scott stated that, currently, 24 applications have been received for Yuma, 17 for the Scott County Career and Tech Center, five for Duffield and one for Dungannon. Superintendent Scott also explained that the school system has advertised for classroom aides for these four classes.

**APPROVAL OF REVISED POLICY GCLA-R:** Superintendent Scott presented a revised policy change to GCLA-R – In-service Credit for Certificate Renewal or Contract Fulfillment. The change is to reflect the five pre-service days to match the school calendar that was adopted by the School Board.

**MAINTENANCE PROJECTS:** Superintendent Scott reported that work on the Twin Springs High School kitchen, floor and tile is complete. The maintenance crew is getting heat pumps ready for the start of school. Superintendent Scott also reported that Rye Cove Intermediate had some extensive storm damage and the school system had to hire an insured contractor to take care of the clean up.

**SPORTS COMPLEX UPDATE AND BARN DEMOLITION BIDS:** Superintendent Scott reported that no rock was found during the core drilling at the Gate City Athletic Field and that grading can begin on August 12.

Superintendent Scott also reported that two bids were received on the demolition of the barn and both bids were rejected. One bid for failure to prove liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance and the other due to the price. Superintendent Scott explained that we can now see if someone would like to tear down the barn for what materials they can get out of it.

Mr. Meade made a motion that the Board give Superintendent Scott authority to do what is necessary to get the barn removed, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye.

**SCHOOL AUDIT:** Superintendent Scott reported that Jim Fern, CPA with Hicok, Fern, Brown and Garcia, stated that this year was the best audit since he has been working with Scott County Schools and that some small issues still need to be worked on.

**TRAVEL FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Superintendent Scott explained that the school system would like to give Board Members an opportunity to ask for reimbursement for travel when they are asked to attend certain events within the county.

**FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GRANT:** Superintendent Scott reported that Fort Blackmore Primary and Shoemaker Elementary have been selected to participate in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during the 2009-2010 school year. The school nutrition program (SNP) director/supervisor, Travis Nickels, and the members of the FFVP team are to be commended for seizing this opportunity to create a healthier school environment by increasing students' access to fresh fruits and vegetables and providing nutrition education.

The total program funding for the school year is equal to approximately \$63 per student based on October 2008 SNP membership. Funding allocations for the first quarter and the second through fourth quarters are as follows:

Fort Blackmore Primary	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter - \$1,073.09	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter - \$ 3,789.54
Shoemaker Elementary	\$6,313.10	\$22,294.32

**ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT:** Superintendent Scott presented a summary of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the Division for the 2008-09 school year. The report shows that all schools made AYP.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mr. Templeton made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:25 p.m. motion was seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the board entered into closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A) 1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to discuss teachers and coaches.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING:** All members returned from closed meeting at 7:32 p.m. and James Kay Jessee, Chairman, reconvened the 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: Mrs. Blair, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Jessee, Mr. Meade, Mr. Templeton

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

**RESIGNATIONS:** On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the following resignation requests:

Stephanie L. Potter, Shoemaker Elementary School Teacher/Assistant Principal, effective July 8, 2009.

Kayla Morelock, new teacher for the 2009-2010 school year, effective July 13, 2009.

Tamera Stout, Gate City Middle School Teacher, effective July 27, 2009.

Lura Sheppard, Gate City High School Teacher, effective August 31, 2009.

On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the resignation request of Ms. Jackie Sue Mullins (Johnson), Hilton Elementary LPN, effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the resignation request of Mr. Darrell Dougherty, school bus driver, effective for the 2009-2010 school year

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the leave of absence request for Shirley Bledsoe, school bus driver, effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Deborah Taylor, and Adam Williams as school bus drivers, effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the following as new teachers for the 2009-2010 school year: Tiffany Godsey, Jacqueline "Jackie" Hazlett, Jamie Johnson, Samantha Jones, April Mullins, Candace Danielle Starnes, Isaiah Spivey and Brittani Taylor.

On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Charles Wood as custodian effective August 3, 2009.

On the recommendation of Mr. John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved Mr. Ben Robertson as a volunteer football coach at Twin Springs High School.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Mrs. Blair stated that she is looking forward to a new beginning of school and wanted to wish all the new teachers and those currently employed best of luck for the 2009-2010 school year.

Mr. Templeton stated that he would like the appropriate employees to know the Board has received our audited Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, 2009 and we are aware of the auditors concerns and recommendations. We expect the affected employees to follow the certified public accountants requests in the future.

Chairman Jessee requested an update on the Imagination Library. Superintendent Scott reported that Head Start contacted Philadelphia and they would see a problem using someone during the work day to administer this program. Superintendent Scott proposed that in order to get the Imagination Library out of debt, that the School Board split the cost with the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Templeton made a motion that the School Board would pay half of the debt if the Board of Supervisors paid half, seconded by Mrs. Blair, vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Templeton, Mrs. Blair, Mr. Jessee

Nays: Mr. Campbell, Mr. Meade

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the board adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

James Kay Jessee, Chairman

K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk