

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010**

The Scott County School Board met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, in the School Board Office Conference Room in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

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

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent; Greg Baker, School Board Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association President; Billy Nash, Maintenance Employee; Nancy and Ronnie Godsey, Citizens; Gerald Miller, Town of Duffield Mayor; David Hartley, Heritage TV; Ramona Russell, Duffield Primary School Teaching Assistant; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators; John Hamilton, Citizen; Travis Nickels, Duffield Primary School Principal; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; and Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times News.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Jessee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for their interest in the school system. He asked Mrs. McClelland to lead in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chairman Jessee stated additions to the agenda as follows: VIII. Items By Superintendent (E.) School Audit and (F.) Update on Sports Complex Project. On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda including the additions submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF JULY 6, 2010 PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the July 6, 2010 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Superintendent Scott reported that Mr. Jim Fern brought copies of the school audit and an invoice for their services yesterday. Superintendent Scott also reported that the amount of the billing (\$5,200.00) is included in the school budget and requested approval for the claim to be included for payment. On a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved payroll and claims as follows: School Operating Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$1,198,283.95 as shown by warrants #8096273-8096530 (#8096355 voided) & \$1,107,127.08 electronic payroll direct deposit & \$573,165.77 electronic payroll tax deposit. Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$84,890.32 (#1013350 voided) as shown by warrants #1013351-1013401 & \$16,613.63 electronic payroll tax deposit. Scott County Head Start invoices & payroll in the amount of \$38,291.36 as shown by warrants #8937-8985 (#8940 voided).

**ITEMS BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Mrs. McClelland congratulated Ralph Quesinberry, Scott County Career & Technical Center Director/Principal, for being recognized with the 2010 School Administrator Award. Mrs. McClelland stated that this

is a national award in which Mr. Quesinberry was awarded in Chicago and selected from applicants of 50 states. Mrs. McClelland also recognized that Laken Love, Rye Cove High School student, was selected as the State President of the FCCLA. She commented that this means a lot of recognition for our county and thought it would be good to send them a letter.

Mr. Jessee reported that the letter school board members received regarding the Head Start Program was given to them for review and will be brought up at the next meeting. He stated that a decision is to be made on what action the Board needs to take concerning the matter.

**APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL COACHING SUPPLEMENT FOR GATE CITY MIDDLE/HIGH, RYE COVE AND TWIN SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOLS:** Superintendent Scott explained that cuts were made to the coaching supplements at the high schools but that there are two or three situations that require additional coaches. He recommended an additional coaching supplement for all high schools and reported that there is funding in the school budget for the supplements. He recommended that it be left to the discretion of the principal on how best to use the additional coaching supplement at their school. He suggested if the Board members have any comments they might want to make on the matter to give the schools a call. He stated that he would notify the principals and provide names for these additional supplements to Board members at the next meeting. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved an additional coaching supplement for Gate City Middle/High, Rye Cove and Twin Springs High Schools.

**MILEAGE CHARGE FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUSES:** Superintendent Scott reported that several area school systems in Southwest Virginia have increased their mileage charge for transportation costs. He recommended an increase in the amount charged per mile for use of school buses from 60 cents per mile to 75 cents per mile. On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved an increase from 60 cents per mile to 75 cents per mile (effective July 1, 2010) for transportation costs which includes field trips and all sports trips.

**COUNTY AUDIT:** Superintendent Scott reported that the Hicok, Fern, Brown & Garcia audit firm will once again be performing audit services for the county and that the school system's audit is being done this week. He reported that the county auditor does the audit for various departments including the school system and Head Start Program. He explained that selection of a county auditor is a decision made by made by the county and the school board does not have any say in the matter. He reported that Mr. Jim Fern used to do the audit for the county and then the county selected another auditor, which he guessed was the low bidder; however, it did not work out and he stated that he isn't sure if audits were ever finished. He explained that not having a completed audit for the Head Start Program is a problem.

Chairman Jessee reported that the Head Start Program has two noncompliance matters that action must be taken on at the next meeting.

**PRELIMINARY 2009-2010 SOL TEST RESULTS:** Superintendent Scott reported that these SOL test scores are probably the best year ever and that one or two areas were slightly down. He explained that the results are preliminary and expects them to be slightly better when final and Tammy Quillen, Director of Testing, will give a final report on the 2009-2010 SOL test scores at the next meeting. He commended the schools for a job well done. He presented preliminary results as follows:

<i>Scott County Schools</i>	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007
Gr 3 History	<b>99</b>	98	97	97
Gr 3 Mathematics	<b>97</b>	98	98	97
Gr 3 Reading	<b>94</b>	95	94	85
Gr 3 Science	<b>98</b>	98	97	96
Gr 4 Mathematics	<b>97</b>	93	93	90
Gr 4 Reading	<b>96</b>	92	94	93
Virginia Studies	<b>96</b>	96	90	89
Gr 5 Mathematics	<b>97</b>	96	95	96
Gr 5 Reading	<b>95</b>	95	96	88
Gr 5 Science	<b>96</b>	97	96	93
US History to 1877	<b>87</b>	86	84	77
Gr 6 Mathematics	<b>81</b>	87	79	75
Gr 6 Reading	<b>97</b>	97	89	91
US History 1877 to Present	<b>98</b>	99	97	91
Gr 7 Mathematics	<b>87</b>	85	79	79
Gr 7 Reading	<b>96</b>	92	90	88
Civics	<b>94</b>	91	90	89
Gr 8 Mathematics	<b>93</b>	89	91	83
Gr 8 Reading	<b>87</b>	93	83	85
Gr 8 Science	<b>95</b>	94	92	93
Virginia & US History	<b>97</b>	95	99	98
World Geography	<b>85</b>	79	86	93
Algebra I	<b>96</b>	92	93	92
Algebra II	<b>92</b>	88	87	89
Biology	<b>92</b>	92	91	96
Chemistry	<b>99</b>	99	97	96
Earth Science	<b>90</b>	91	79	89
Spanish: Reading	<b>95</b>	90	89	98
Geometry	<b>88</b>	92	95	95
World History I	<b>95</b>	90	86	93



He reported that he has not had the opportunity to discuss the matter with Superintendent Scott. He thought the schools just need a little more documentation and verification with regard to using sign in/out for cards, more than one person involved with purchasing/receipt of goods, two people counting money, and using a lock box safe for credit cards.

Superintendent Scott informed board members that after they have had a chance to review the audit and should feel it is necessary, the auditor can come to a future meeting. He reported that there has not been an incidence but that the auditors suggest recommendations in order to assist in keeping things from happening.

School Board Attorney Baker commented that these procedures are for the employees' own protection and they should want to do it.

After discussion, Mrs. McClelland stated that, for each item the auditor addressed, it would be good to come up with a policy on how to address that issue.

Superintendent Scott assured Board members that additional policies would be worked on for putting into place and provided to board members at the next meeting.

**SPORTS COMPLEX PROJECT UPDATE:** Superintendent Scott reported that the fields may be finished in two months. He commented that if Board members haven't visited the site lately he encouraged them to do so as the project has come a long way. Superintendent Scott provided an opportunity to answer any questions board members might have on the items he presented.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Chairman Jessee stated the need to go into a short closed meeting involving only the school board members. Mrs. McClelland made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:27 p.m., to discuss central office staff according to Section 2.2-3711A(1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended; motion was seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING:** All members returned from closed meeting at 6:55 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board returned to regular session and Mrs. McClelland cited the 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 2.2-3711 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, Kay Jessee, Kathy McClelland, Joe Meade, Dennis Templeton

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

**SPECIAL MEETING SCHEDULED - FOUR APPLICANTS FOR SUPERINTENDENT POSITION:** Chairman Jessee announced that there will be a

Special Meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, August 30, 2010, in the school board office, at which time the Board will immediately go into closed session to further consider central office staff. He also announced that there are four applicants for the position of superintendent.

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF CRISIS PLANS:** Assistant Superintendent Ferguson reported that the Crisis Plans for each school have been updated, available for board member review, and, upon request a copy can be provided to them. He stated he would be glad to answer any questions that they might have pertaining to the crisis plans of each school.

**SPORTS ACTIVITY PASS CARD:** Assistant Superintendent Ferguson reported that the Sports Activity Pass Cards are once again available at each high school as discussed last year and the cost is \$75.00 per pass.

**RESIGNATION:** On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the resignation request of Mr. Cornelius Franklin Wright, VII, Rye Cove High School Teacher, effective July 29, 2010.

Assistant Superintendent Ferguson reported that a resignation is expected from a school bus driver and a school nurse. He requested permission from the Board to hire replacements pending school board approval at the next meeting, if these resignations are received.

Superintendent Scott explained that phone calls have been received from these particular employees stating that they would not be coming back but nothing has been received in writing as of this date. He stated that if the Board gives approval for hiring replacements they could act on it at the next meeting; or, if not agreeable for the employment, the replacement employee could be paid for whatever work they had done up to that date.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Dustin Fleenor as a teacher for the 2010-2011 school year. Assistant Superintendent Ferguson explained that this position would not be an additional position but a replacement.

**APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEERS:** On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved Mark Thompson (football), Nathan Catron (golf), and Cara Hamilton (volleyball) as volunteers for Gate City High School.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Mrs. McClelland stated that we should be very proud of the SOL test scores and commented that there was very little fluctuation.

Chairman Jessee wished good luck and safety to teachers, students and all personnel.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board adjourned at 7:05 p.m.