

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2010**

The Scott County School Board met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 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: James B. Scott, Superintendent; John Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent; Greg Baker, School Board Attorney/Transition Superintendent; Dr. Kellie C. Johnson, Director of Personnel/Instruction; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators; Tiffany Scott, Scott County Education Association Representative; Billy Nash and Tim Edwards, Maintenance Employees; Nancy and Ronnie Godsey, Citizens; Gerald Miller, Town of Duffield Mayor; David Hartley, Heritage TV; Ramona Russell, Duffield Primary School Teaching Assistant; John Hamilton, Citizen; Travis Nickels, Duffield Primary School Principal; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; and Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times News.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 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. Blair to lead the audience in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Travis Nickels, Duffield Primary School Principal, commented that, although school board appreciation is in February, he had an item to present to them and expressed appreciation for the outstanding job that they do.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 5, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the October 5, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: On a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved payroll and claims as follows: School Operating Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$1,110,043.07 as shown by warrants #8097276-8097677 (#8097096, 8097093, 8097125, 809071, 8097075, 8097082, 8097098, 8097103, 8097105, 8097122, 8097068, 8097119, 8097120, 8097121, 8097114, 8097081, 8097069, 8097072, 8097074, 8097110, 8097095, 8097084, 8097083, 8097090, 8097087, 8097070, 8097101, 8097117, 8097078, 8097176, 8097212 voided) & electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of \$1,125,630.91 & electronic payroll tax deposit \$533,642.90. Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$168,302.72 as shown by warrants #1013565-1013662 (#1013503, 1013502, 10135525 & 10135339 voided) & electronic payroll tax deposit \$10,468.56. Scott County Head Start invoices & payroll in the amount of \$67,191.60 as shown by warrants #9131-9211 (voided #9172, 9175 & 9202).

ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Blair announced that the Gate City Girls Cross Country Track Team came in 2nd place today and will be going to state competitions and Garrett Watts finished 10th setting a new Gate City High School record.

Chairman Jessee expressed congratulations regarding these accomplishments.

Mr. Campbell asked for an update on direct deposit for cafeteria payroll.

Superintendent Scott reported that due to monthly bank charges and including a per employee cost, it would only be feasible for cafeteria payroll direct deposit if several employees participate. He stated that staff are checking to try to determine a number of participants that are interested.

Mr. Campbell also asked about the recent incident at Yuma Elementary School.

Superintendent Scott reported the school cannot be completely fenced off due to the homes that have a right of way but explained that bids are being obtained for fencing an area at the side road near the playground if the Board approves and estimated a cost to be around \$3,500.00. Board members did not express any objection to installing a fence as discussed.

Superintendent Scott updated the Board on the cameras that were ordered for the schools which will be installed soon. He explained that this will only leave a need for approximately 40 more cameras to complete the remaining schools and purchasing additional license. He stated that grants will be reviewed to determine if funding is available for this use.

Mr. Templeton asked Superintendent Scott to provide an update on the Hilton Elementary School and Sports Complex Projects.

Superintendent Scott reported that, if the Board approves, two additional heat pump units would be installed and complete the Hilton Elementary School Project. No objections expressed by school board members.

Superintendent Scott provided an update on the current status and a completion order of the various fields at the Sports Complex Project. He provided details on the irrigation system and restrictions on the use of creek water for this purpose. He reported on plans being discussed for a bridge to be installed at the ford area and explained that a commitment for funding has been received.

Mrs. McClelland expressed a concern regarding copying paper needs at the schools and expressed that the Board hasn't given a raise in the past couple of years and she does not think teachers should be expected to buy paper out of their own pockets. She requested that the paper situation be checked on at the schools.

Superintendent Scott reported that he has checked with the schools and is not aware of any teachers buying paper out of their own pocket. He stated that paper was distributed to the schools about a week ago, with most still having paper; but, he explained that a couple of schools had asked about paper. He reported that he doesn't know what has happened this year since normally two tractor trailer loads of paper is what is purchased for the school year. He further reported that paper usage is running double what it has in the past. He commented that he doesn't want the schools to do without paper and pointed out that the schools have funds that the Board provided to them earlier this year that can be used to purchase paper. He stated that the matter would be reviewed more closely and discussed at the next principals meeting. He also stated that prices are being obtained at this time for placing another order.

APPROVAL OF GIFTED PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS: On the recommendation of Superintendent Scott and on a motion by Mr. Templeton,

seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Gifted Program Advisory Committee Members as follows:

Brenda Byrd
Kim Dorton
Gina Fuller
Melissa Gillenwater
Renee' Light

Tina Lucas
Mary Beth Vaughn
Brigitte Hillman
Ruby Rogers
Jim Scott

CLOSED MEETING: Mrs. McClelland made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:24 p.m., to discuss teachers, principals and 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 6:52 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mrs. Meade, 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

Chairman Jessee stated there is no action to be taken on matters discussed.

REVISED OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM: Assistant Superintendent Ferguson presented a revised Overnight Field Trip Request Form containing more detailed information as had been suggested by school board members. Mrs. Blair expressed appreciation for the revised form which included more detail.

SCHOOL SAFETY UPDATE: Assistant Superintendent Ferguson informed the Board that panic lines are being installed in the schools and explained that this is a direct line to 911 which will allow anyone in the office to speak directly to them in the event of a crisis.

RESIGNATION: On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved resignation request of Erica Rodeheaver from the position of Gate City Middle School Yearbook Sponsor, effective October 7, 2010.

RETIREMENT: 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 the retirement request of Mary Barnette, Weber City Elementary School Teacher, effective January 1, 2011.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Tommy Musick as Gate City High School 9th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2010-2011 school year (replaces Adam Keith).

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Kristie Carter as Yearbook Sponsor for Gate City Middle School, effective October 7, 2010.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Carmela Hall as a Physical Therapist effective October 18, 2010. Superintendent Scott informed board members that Ms. Hall will replace an employee who resigned that explained that she will work three days a week for Scott County and one day a week for Lee County Schools.

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 the employment of Nikki Compton as a cafeteria employee for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year and explained that she replaces an employee who resigned.

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 Jenny Page as Teaching Assistant/Sign Language Program employee effective November 8, 2010.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Derek Cassell as a Math Teacher, effective January 3, 2011 and it was explained that this is a replacement (due to teacher retirement).

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Ralph Lee Lyons as a substitute school bus driver effective November 3, 2010.

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 Estep and Zac Jones as Gate City High School Boys Basketball Volunteer Coaches for the 2010-2011 school year.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved Tia Vermillion as Gate City High School Girls Basketball Volunteer Coach for the 2010-2011 school year.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved Derek Bryant as Twin Springs High School Drama/Theater Volunteer Coach for the 2010-2011 school year.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved Darren Reed as Gate City Volunteer Indoor Track Coach (for student participation in VHSL sanctioned indoor track meets) for the 2010-2011 school year.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: None.

COMMENTS FROM UPCOMING (TRANSITION) SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Greg Baker stated that he wanted to publicly recognize and acknowledge Dr. Kellie Johnson who is present and who has joined the central office staff as of November 1. He explained that her job assignment is Director of Personnel and Instruction. He stated that John Ferguson will remain as Assistant Superintendent and explained that he will take on some new important duties. He commented that he is looking forward to John's work in those areas which are very important for the school system. He explained that next month, when personnel are being presented, Dr. Johnson will handle it. He reported that Dr. Johnson is here tonight to observe and explained that she and John will make that transition over the next month. He commented that he did want to acknowledge Dr. Johnson being here tonight and her move to the central office and Mr. Ferguson's continued role as assistant superintendent. He further commented that he wanted to acknowledge both of them and that he is looking forward to their wise leadership, counsel and good work.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

James Kay Jessee, Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk