

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2011**

The Scott County School Board met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at Yuma Elementary School in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

James Kay Jessee, Chairman	<b><u>ABSENT:</u></b> None
Lowell S. Campbell, Vice Chairman	
Gloria E. "Beth" Blair	
Katherine J. "Kathy" McClelland	
Joe D. Meade	
Dennis C. Templeton	

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John I. Ferguson, Superintendent; Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney; Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools; Tammy Quillen, Supervisor of Elementary Education/Testing; Jennifer Frazier, Supervisor of Secondary Education/School Food Program Supervisor; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk Of The Board/Administrative Assistant for Student Affairs and Operations; K.C. Linkous, Deputy Clerk Of The Board/Human Resources Manager; Kelvin Kimbler, School Resource Officer; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association Representative; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators; Billy (and son, Tristan) Nash, Maintenance Employee; Carolyn and Charlie Singleton; David Hartley, Heritage TV; Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times News; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Steve Sallee, Kelly Spivey, and Bill Quillen, School Board Members Elect; Gate City Middle/High School and Rye Cove High School Robotics Team Members and Dawn Williams, Gate City Middle School Teacher/County Robotics Team Sponsor; Lisa Taylor, Shoemaker ABA Parent; Kim (and spouse, Jeff) Henderson, Yuma Elementary School; Kathy Musick, Yuma Elementary School Principal; Yuma Elementary School faculty and staff; John, Clemmie and Maylee Taylor; Bob and Frances Perry; Nancy and Ronnie Godsey; and, citizens.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** John Taylor, along with granddaughters/Yuma Elementary students, Clemmie and Maylee Taylor entertained the audience with music and Christmas carols prior to the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Jessee called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. He sent well wishes to Carl Newman along with a reminder that he had suggested the practice that the board is currently exercising that the *Pledge of Allegiance* be a part of the board's agenda. He recognized Kelly Spivey, Steve Sallee and Bill Quillen, School Board Members Elect, which were among the audience.

**STAR SPANGLED BANNER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The audience observed a moment of silence; Loren Vermillion, Yuma Elementary School Student, performed the *Star Spangled Banner*; and, the audience cited the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**ITEMS BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA:** None.

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

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the November 1, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 30, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the November 30, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** On a motion by Mrs. McClelland, 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 \$1,068,933.86 as shown by warrants #8101579-8101933 (#8101374, 8101572 & 8101663 voided) and electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of \$1,133,079.76 & electronic payroll tax deposit \$485,816.44. Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$159,781.70 as shown by warrants #1014522-1014584 & electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of \$24,546.63 & electronic payroll tax deposit \$10,918.45. Scott County Head Start invoices & payroll in the amount of \$87,312.75 as shown by warrants #10008-10111.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators (VPE), expressed appreciation to the Board for allowing their organization to assist the teachers and students. She commented on a Board member's job not being an easy one and often not a lot of thanks. She thanked board members for their service.

Lisa Taylor, Parent of Shoemaker ABA Student, presented comments to the Board in regard to the Shoemaker ABA Class, area used for speech class at the school and, Sports Complex Facility expenditures. She commented on all students deserving a chance to learn and that Superintendent Ferguson has provided help with her child's instructional program.

**PRESENTATION OF "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS:** Superintendent Ferguson commented that at each meeting this year staff has been recognized with "Making a Difference" awards. He presented awards as follows: Rhonda Franklin, Yuma Elementary School Custodian; and, Brenda Byrd, Yuma Elementary School Teacher.

**KATHY MUSICK, YUMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:** Kathy Musick, Yuma Elementary School Principal, recognized Yuma Elementary School faculty and staff. She commented on their dedicated work toward each student's success. She also recognized the ranking of the school system in the region and state and the Board for their role in this success along with well wishes for their future.

**COUNTY ROBOTICS TEAM:** County Robotics Team students in attendance introduced themselves and commented on their work installing and deciphering software while building a robot for competition.

Dawn Williams/Gate City Middle School Teacher/County Robotics Team Sponsor, commented that the competition provides students with engineering skills before college and commended their efforts.

**HOLIDAY & PAYROLL SCHEDULE/EARLY DISMISSAL:** Superintendent Ferguson reported on the holiday and payroll schedule as follows:

12 Month Employees Holidays: Christmas – Friday, December 23 & Monday, December 26 and New Year's – Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2

Winter Break: Thursday, December 22 – Monday, January 2 and January 3 Teacher

Workday/Schools Closed and January 4 Second Semester Begins (students return to school)

Payroll for December: Friday, December 30 (due to timeframe for receipt of state funds). He also noted that the school board office will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for picking up checks.

Early Dismissal: Superintendent Ferguson asked the Board for their approval on early dismissal on Wednesday, December 21, the students last school day prior to winter break. Mrs. McClelland made a motion to allow students to leave at 1:00 p.m. and teachers be allowed to leave as soon as deemed appropriate by the principal, motion was seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye.

**BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE – ROBERT SALLEE, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SERVICES:** Robert Sallee, Director of Building Services, provided a building services update on some of the jobs completed during the past month, which included information on the installation of the new lifts for Rye Cove High School, Twin Springs High School and Scott County Career & Technical Center and reported that the

school system is now in compliance with the Voluntary Compliance Plan that was established in 2007. He reported on changes being done that are necessary for the cafeteria program since deep fryers will no longer be allowed after 2013. He commended maintenance employees and reported that the building services department is always trying to look for changes to make things better. He commented on looking forward to the future in working with the new Board. He expressed thanks and appreciation to the outgoing Board for their support. Mr. Sallee presented an update on the Sports Complex Facility on the request of Mr. Templeton.

**SPORTS COMPLEX - DONATIONS REQUESTED:** Mr. Templeton read a statement requesting donations for the Sports Complex: *In light of the Sports Complex, the school system has sent out letters asking for the needed funds for the Scott County Sports Complex. If any individual, organization, company, or other source would like to donate any part of \$195,000.00, please contact Mr. John Ferguson or Mr. Jason Smith at the Scott County School Board Office. Thank you.*

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools, reported that he is presenting the request for approval of the Amendment to Comprehensive Plan due to Brenda Robinette, Supervisor of Special Education, being unable to attend tonight's meeting. On the recommendation of Mr. Smith and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF SCOTT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL HEAD START 2011-2012 TIME LINE FOR SELF ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM PLANNING INCLUDING POLICY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS:** On the recommendation of Tammy Quillen, Supervisor of Elementary Education/Testing, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Scott County Public School Head Start 2011-2012 Time Line for Self-Assessment and Program Planning Including Policy Council Agendas as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF SCOTT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL HEAD START EMPLOYEE LIST FOR JANUARY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2012:** On the recommendation of Tammy Quillen, Supervisor of Elementary Education/Testing, and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Scott County Public School Head Start Employee List for January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012 as follows:

Charnita Adams	Teacher's Assistant	Contract
Donna Frasier	Teacher's Assistant	Contract
Amanda Bright	Teacher	Contract
Kara Grizzel	Teacher	Contract
Donna Blakenship	Teacher	Contract
Susan Lane	Teacher	Contract
Donna Hufnagle	Teacher	Contract
Camilla ( Cammie ) Collier	Teacher	Contract
Elizabeth (Bree) Smith	Teacher	Contract
Kristy Davidson	Teacher	Contract

Cindy Raymond	Teacher	Contract
Melissa (Lisa) Parks	Family Resource Specialist 1	Contract
Nora Robinette	Family Resource Specialist 2	Contract
Hourly Employee	Family Resource Specialist 3	
Hourly Employee	Food Service/Education Resource Assistant	
Kelly Bledsoe	Family And Community Services Coordinator	Contract
Katherine (Kathy) Wilcox	Child Development Services Coordinator	Contract
Theresa Newton	Health & Nutrition Services Coordinator	Contract
Michelle Ratliff	Receptionist/Data Secretary	Contract
Helen Henderson	Director	Contract
Catherine (Cathie) Sluss	Secretary/Supply Clerk	Contract
Judy Calton	Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Officer	Contract
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	
Hourly Position	Teacher's Assistant	

\*\*\*PENDING RECEIPT OF FEDERAL FUNDS

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mrs. McClelland made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 6:36 p.m. to discuss coaches and school bus drivers as provided in 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 7:14 p.m. and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Meade, the Board returned to regular session and Mrs. McClelland cited 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 2.2-3711 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

**APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST:** On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools, and on a motion by Mrs. Blair, seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Gate City High/Middle School & Rye Cove High School Students (13 students) to the Scott County Robotics Qualifying Match in Charlottesville, Virginia, on January 27-28, 2012.

**CHRIS MANN, SHOEMAKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, COMPLETES REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION:** Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools, recognized the hard work of Chris Mann, Shoemaker Elementary School Teacher, for successfully completing the requirements to receive National Board Certification. Mr. Smith provided details on the rigorous certification program and pride in Mr. Mann's accomplishment.

**LINDSEY GOLDEN, HILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, AND LAURA PYNE, WEBER CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER: MATH GRANT RECIPIENTS:** Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel/Middle Schools recognized Lindsey Golden, Hilton Elementary School Teacher, and Laura Pyne, Weber City Elementary School Teacher, as recipients of the Putting Children First Classroom Grant Award of \$750 for the Math Program.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Brent Roberts as Gate City High School Athletic Director, effective December 22, 2011.

On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Meade, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Robert Perry as Gate City High School Varsity Baseball Coach, effective December 6, 2011.

On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Garrick Hillman, substitute school bus driver, effective December 6, 2011. Mr. Smith reported that Mr. Hillman has met all the necessary requirements for employment.

**TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS:** On the recommendation of Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mrs. McClelland, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the Board approved the termination of contracts of Carolyn Singleton, school bus driver/cafeteria employee, effective December 6, 2011.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/CHAIRMAN PRESENTS PLAQUES TO OUTGOING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Chairman Jessee presented plaques to outgoing school board members. He stated that "a good friend has a favorite statement: *No good deed goes unpunished* (and that he was sure that in their years of service on the board, they had felt that at times)". He commended fellow members for their friendship and service on the Board. He presented comments on the job as a school board member—not being for the faint-hearted, thin-skinned and the requirements of following law and policy as well as this making it doubly hard in that decisions you are faced with will be your neighbors, friends, family; and, therefore, he wanted to thank each of his fellow members' from the bottom of his heart. He spoke on the

various school system awards and rankings in the state, with credit being given to the students and parents, along with a share of the credit going to Board members. He presented individual comments regarding each member and well-wishes to all.

Board members presented comments of thanks to fellow members; a special thanks to the children, faculty and staff; that consideration has been given to each of the division's stakeholders; the good job that has been done by the current Chairman; of being blessed to serve on the Board; that very little thanks are received but it is an opportunity to meet wonderful people.

The new Board received well wishes from an outgoing board member in the hopes of more funds from the governor, a Board of Supervisors as this board has had to work with that has stood behind the school board giving them funds in order to have a good school system; and, the wish that they have no personnel problems. Also stated was that the school system has a great administrator (Superintendent Ferguson), staff, school board attorney; and, school board clerks that help keep the Board straight.

They also expressed thanks to Mrs. Musick and the Yuma Elementary School staff for everything they did in preparation of hosting tonight's meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to be discussed, Mr. Templeton made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m., motion was seconded by Mrs. McClelland, all members voting aye.

James Kay Jessee, Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk