

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013**

The Scott County School Board met for a regular meeting on Thursday, November 7, 2013, at the Scott County Career & Technical Center Auditorium in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

James Kay Jessee, Chairman	<b><u>ABSENT:</u></b> None
William "Bill" R. Quillen, Jr., Vice Chairman	
Jeffrey "Jeff" A. Kegley	
Gail L. McConnell	
L. Stephen "Steve" Sallee, Jr.	
Herman "Kelly" Spivey, Jr.	

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John I. Ferguson, Superintendent; Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney; Brad Stallard, PennStuart; Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk Of The Board/Budget Specialist/Head Start Payroll & Invoice Clerk; K.C. Linkous, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk of the Board; Tammy Quillen, Early Childhood Education Supervisor/Testing Director/Head Start Liaison; Justin Forrester, Scott County Education Association President; Suzanne Goins, Virginia Professional Educators Regional Director; Robert Sallee, Supervisor of Building Services; Jordan Dowdy, Boy Scouts of America; Ramona Russell, Duffield Primary School Teaching Assistant; Tom and Thelma Fleenor, Citizens/ Grandparents; Hope Lewis, Citizen/Parent; Lisa Taylor, Citizen/Parent; Ralph Quesinberry, Career & Technical Center Director/Principal; Stephen Taylor, Career & Technical Center Instructor/ Assistant Principal; Oakley Hartsock, Career & Technical Center Custodian, School Resource Officer; Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Wes Bunch, Kingsport Times News; and Amanda Clark, Heritage TV.

**CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Jessee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Jessee welcomed everyone and expressed thanks for their interest in the school system. The audience observed a moment of silence and Mr. Kegley led in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** On a motion by Mr. Kegley, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda including the addition as requested.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 1, 2013 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** On a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Quillen, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Tuesday, October 1, 2013, Regular Meeting Minutes, as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** On a motion by Mr. Kegley, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved claims as follows: School Operating Fund invoices & payroll \$689,495.51 as shown by warrants #8108366-8108660 and electronic payroll direct deposit \$1,071,745.67 & electronic payroll tax deposits \$513,375.04. Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$167,476.44 as shown by warrants #1015666-1015704 & electronic payroll direct deposit \$24,910.21 & tax deposit \$12,755.00. Head Start invoices & payroll totaling \$63,318.74 shown by warrants #113791-11441.

**REPORT ON 2012-2013 FINAL SOL TEST RESULTS/2013 ACCREDITATION STATUS & 2013 FEDERAL AMO STATUS:** Ms. Tammy Quillen, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education/Testing Director, reported that there are many changes taking place with testing. She explained that the state is moving away from the Standards of Learning tests to CAT tests (Computerized Adaptive Testing), which, she explained, will still be through the Pearson Company. Ms. Quillen reported that due to a decrease in test scores for certain core areas; and, with facing school improvement at a couple of the schools, Superintendent Ferguson appointed various supervisors to work with different grade levels. She explained that there are many factors that make a difference with test scores. Ms. Quillen explained that Duffield and Dungannon are undergoing an academic review with the schools being critiqued at both school division and school levels. She also explained that Fort Blackmore qualified for a waiver which kept

this school from undergoing an academic review as well. She explained that the chart included in the packet did not include *Writing* scores but she included that item in her presentation to the Board. She also explained that the SOL test scores were affected by new assessments and have been reviewed with changes being put into place and stated that it is anticipated scores will go up this year. Ms. Quillen presented the **2012-2013 Assessment Overview for Scott County Public Schools** as follows:

#### STANDARDS OF LEARNING TESTS

##### Regular Assessments AND Alternative Assessment

\*English

\*VGLA

\*Math

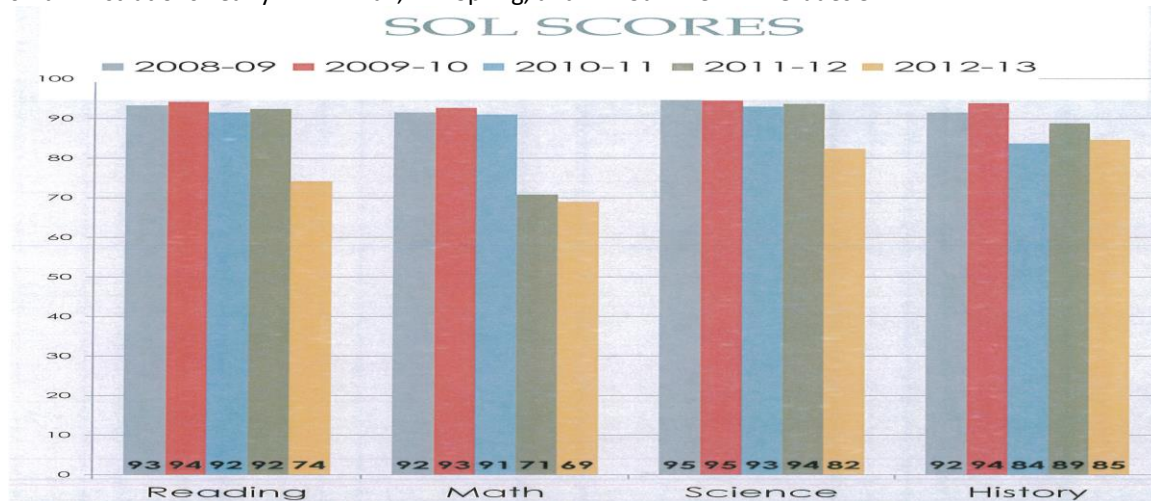
\*VAAP

\*History

\*VMAST

\*Science

6 Administrations Yearly      2 in Fall, 2 in Spring, and 2 in Summer      Grades 3-12



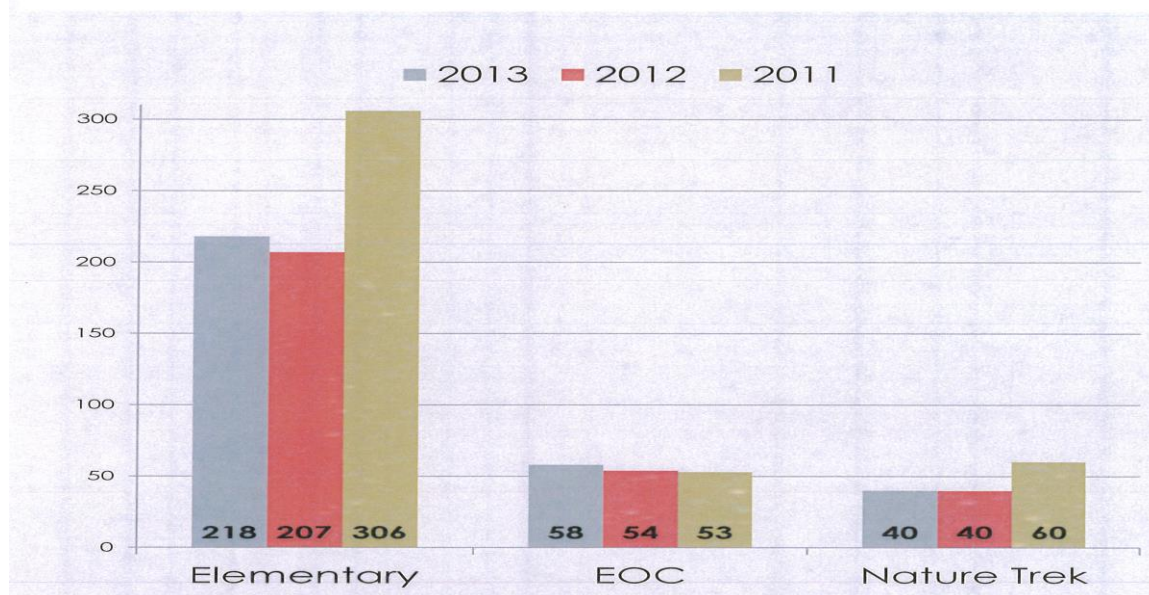
#### VIRGINIA ACCREDITATION

- A school's state accreditation rating reflects overall achievement in English, history, mathematics and science.
- A school receives an Accredited with Warning rating if its adjusted pass rates for the four core subjects are below the achievement levels required for full accreditation.
- Schools that receive this rating undergo academic reviews and are required to adopt and implement school improvement plans. Schools that are warned in English and/or mathematics are also required to adopt instructional programs proven by research to be effective in raising achievement in these subjects.
- A school may hold this rating for no more than three consecutive years.

#### 2013-14 ACCREDITATION RATINGS

	<u>Overall Rating</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Math</u>
Duffield Primary	Accredited with Warning	85 Meets Benchmark	57 Warned
Dungannon Intermediate	Accredited with Warning	79 Meets Benchmark	53 Warned
Fort Blackmore Primary	Fully Accredited*	38 Warned*	27 Warned*
Gate City High	Fully Accredited	89 Meets Benchmark	73 Meets Benchmark
Gate City Middle	Fully Accredited	81 Meets Benchmark	81 Meets Benchmark
Hilton Elementary	Fully Accredited	87 Meets Benchmark	79 Meets Benchmark
Nickelsville Elementary	Fully Accredited	84 Meets Benchmark	78 Meets Benchmark
Rye Cove High	Fully Accredited	76 Meets Benchmark	82 Meets Benchmark
Rye Cove Intermediate	Fully Accredited	82 Meets Benchmark	78 Meets Benchmark
Shoemaker Elementary	Fully Accredited	85 Meets Benchmark	76 Meets Benchmark
Twin Springs High	Fully Accredited	77 Meets Benchmark	79 Meets Benchmark
Weber City Elementary	Fully Accredited	82 Meets Benchmark	90 Meets Benchmark
Yuma Elementary	Fully Accredited	86 Meets Benchmark	88 Meets Benchmark

## SUMMER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT



### **APPROVAL OF HEAD START PERSONNEL LIST FOR JANUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014:**

On the recommendation of Ms. Tammy Quillen, Early Childhood Education/Head Start Liaison, and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Head Start Personnel for January 1, 2014 thru June 30, 2014 as follows:

Lora Edwards	Teacher's Assistant
Michelle Wallen	Teacher's Assistant
Tracy Osborne	Teacher's Assistant
April White	Teacher's Assistant
Sandy Henry	Teacher's Assistant
Ana Martinez	Teacher's Assistant
Charnita Adams	Teacher's Assistant
Donna Frasier	Teacher's Assistant
Amanda Bright	Teacher
Kara Pippin	Teacher
Donna Blankenship	Teacher
Donna Hufnagle	Teacher
Camilla (Cammie) Collier	Teacher
Kristy Davidson	Teacher
Cindy Raymond	Teacher
Melissa (Lisa) Parks	Family Resource Specialist 1
Nora Robinette	Family Resource Specialist 2
Kelly Bledsoe	Family & Community Services Coordinator
Katherine (Kathy) Wilcox	Child Development Services Coordinator
Theresa Newton	Health & Nutrition Services Coordinator
Michelle Ratliff	Receptionist/Data Secretary
Catherine (Cathie) Sluss	Secretary/Supply Clerk
Judy Calton	Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Officer

\*\*\*PENDING RECEIPT OF FEDERAL FUNDS

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mrs. Lisa Taylor, Citizen/Parent of Scott County Public Schools Student, presented comments concerning installing cameras or two-way mirrors in certain classrooms and drug tests for all employees. She also presented comments regarding her child's classroom, instruction, and the recent schools soft lockdown.

**APPROVAL OF SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD FOR 2013-14:** On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Spivey, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the School Health Advisory Board for 2013-14 as follows:

Mrs. Amber Goode, RN, BS	School Nurse Coordinator
Mrs. Katrina Smith Toole	School Psychologist
Mrs. Cindy Vaughn, RN	Scott County Health Department/Parent
Mr. Jason Smith	Central Office Representative
Ms. Theresa Newton	Head Start Representative/Parent
Mrs. Lori Bush	Rye Cove High School Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Rebecca Baker	Gate City High School Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Brenda Byrd	Yuma Elementary School P.E. Teacher
Mrs. Kathy Funkhouser	Gate City Middle School Parent

**Sub Committee** - School Nurses: Michelle Basham, RN; Courtney Bolling, RN; Mona Carter, RN; Lisa Castle; Karen Dunlap, RN; Yvonne Edwards, LPN; Tammy Farmer, LPN; Farrah Lane, RN; Stephanie Penley, RN; and Kristie Qualls, RN

**REVISION AND REPORT ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** On the recommendation of Superintendent Ferguson and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the revisions to the Comprehensive Plan as presented (Appendix A). Along with the Report on Comprehensive Plan, Superintendent Ferguson presented the Superintendent's Annual Report 2013.

**DISCUSSION ON FORMING A COMMITTEE AND DISCUSSION ON DRUG TESTING FOR ATHLETES AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:** After a brief discussion among Superintendent Ferguson, School Board Members and Mr. Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney, the Board decided to establish a committee for the purpose of establishing guidelines and policies in regard to drug testing for athletes and extracurricular activities. Mr. Sturgill pointed out that the Department of Education guidelines are very clear that the stipulation is for "extracurricular" activities.

Mr. Jason Smith, Director of Personnel & Student Services, who had researched, reviewed and provided information in regard to this matter to school board members, suggested that a committee could work on recommendations and proposed policies over the next few months and then bring to the Board for approval with a timeline to have the policy in place by July for the fall sports. He explained that a Request for Proposals would be necessary for the testing services.

Mr. Kegley made a motion to form a committee to look at drug testing and to use information presented as a blueprint or guide to set up the Board's own drug testing and that the Board will have a list at the next board meeting; motion was seconded by Mr. Spivey, all members voting aye.

Superintendent Ferguson asked for a board member volunteer to serve on the committee. Mr. Kelly Spivey volunteered to serve.

**BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE:** Mr. Robert Sallee, Supervisor of Building Services, presented a Building Services Update that covered a few of the work orders of the past month. He reported that several man hours of the staff have been used in the current needs and preventative maintenance of boilers. Mr. Steve Sallee asked about a report on the entry systems for the schools. Mr. Robert Sallee explained that there have been some problems with the equipment received and that items have been ordered from another company.

Mr. Jason Smith, Director of Personnel & Student Services, commended Mr. Robert Sallee and the maintenance staff for the Gate City locker room project completed and commented on how really nice it looks. Mr. Sallee stated that he would pass that message along.

**PERFORMANCE CONTRACT UPDATE:** Superintendent Ferguson presented school board members a copy of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Performance Contract financing that was sent out this past Tuesday. He reported that the Board of Supervisors asked him and Mitzi Owens, Treasurer, to work with Sands Anderson PC in regard to financing for the Performance Contract and explained that Davenport & Company LLC is being used by them for the RFP process. He further reported that the due date for the proposals is two weeks from the fifth, November 19th. He stated that, hopefully, we will have some percentages to work with and see where it takes us from there, at that point in time.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mr. Sallee made a motion to enter into closed meeting at 7:20 p.m. to discuss head start personnel, teachers, teaching assistants, coaches, principals, and custodians as provided in Section 2.2-3711A (1) Code of Virginia, as amended; and, to consult with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probably litigation, as provided in Section 2.23711A (7) of the Code of Virginia, as amended; motion was seconded by Mr. Quillen, all members voting aye.

**RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING:** All members returned from closed meeting at 9:22 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Quillen, the Board returned to regular session and Mr. Sallee 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: James K. Jessee, Jeff Kegley, Gail McConnell, Bill Quillen, Steve Sallee, Kelly Spivey*

*Nays: None      ABSENT DURING VOTE: None      ABSENT DURING MEETING: None*

**RECOGNITION OF AWARD RECEIVED BY PROJECT LAKE FLEMING AND RECOGNITION OF SARAH BURKE, GATE CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER NAMED AS A 2014 MCGLOTHLIN AWARD SEMIFINALIST:**

Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, reminded the Board of the presentation at a previous meeting, *Project Lake Fleming*. He reported that the project won the Virginia Earth Team Partnership Award and will be recognized in Williamsburg in December. He also reported that the project is now up for national consideration.

Mr. Smith recognized that Ms. Sarah Burke, Gate City Middle School Teacher, was named as one of the semifinalists for the 2014 McGlothlin Award and wished her luck as she continues with the process.

**APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS:** On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Kegley, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the overnight field trip request received from the Hilton Elementary School 6<sup>th</sup> grade class social/educational trip (20 students & 6 chaperones) to Chattanooga, TN, on May 22-23, 2014 (Thursday & Friday).

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Spivey, all members voting aye, the Board approved the overnight field trip request received from Rye Cove High School band students (45 students, 1 sponsor & 7 chaperones) to the Spring Competition in Atlanta, GA, on April 23-27, 2014 (Wednesday – Sunday).

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of substitute teachers as follows:

Michelle Ashworth  
 Brandy Bishop  
 Ruth Bowen  
 Robyn Chapman  
 Casey Chavez  
 Judi Crabtree  
 Dana Darnell  
 Glenda Edens  
 Ann Fugate  
 Johnene Galloway  
 Susan Greene  
 Samantha Hartsock

Lorna Hensley  
 Cindy Herron  
 Margaret Kaylor  
 Kayla Kilgore  
 Deanna Melo  
 Ginger Quillin  
 Mary Beth Rhoton  
 Brad Taylor  
 April Thompson  
 Syble Trent  
 Martha Vermillion

**RESIGNATION:** On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Spivey, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation request of Ms. Lindsey Golden, teacher, effective October 18, 2013.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Kegley, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation request of Mr. Jeremy Francis, Academic Team Coach, effective October 21, 2013.

**EMPLOYMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Terry Fields, Gate City High School Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach, effective November 7, 2013.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Quillen, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Jamie Perry, Gate City High School Theatre Festival Coach, effective November 7, 2013.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Quillen, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. Brian McMurray, Gate City High School Volunteer Softball Coach, effective November 7, 2013.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Ms. Amy Dean, ABA Special Education Teacher, effective November 11, 2013.

**RETIREMENT:** On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. Kegley, seconded by Mr. Spivey, all members voting aye, the Board approved the retirement request of Mrs. Vilas Bowen, custodian, effective November 29, 2013.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel & Student Services, and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Kegley, all members voting aye, the Board approved the retirement request of Mrs. Donna Rudder, teacher, effective October 15, 2013.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Chairman Jessee expressed good luck to all teams participating in playoffs and stated he hopes they bring home wins.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Mr. Quillen, seconded by Mr. Spivey, all members voting aye, the Board adjourned at 9:30 p.m.