

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
James W. Parham Central Office Complex
MAY 23, 2019 – Minutes

The Greene County Board of Education met in regular session Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., at the James W. Parham Central Office Complex.

Chairman Rick Tipton called the meeting to order and noted that all Board members were present. Chairman Tipton introduced student Board member, Madison Warner from West Greene High School. Michelle Holt led the pledge of allegiance to the Flag and Minnie Banks led the Invocation.

III. Presentations & Celebrations

- **Attendance Award April – Students** – Glenwood Elementary 97.9% - Student from Glenwood available to accept certificate.
- **Attendance Award April – Teachers** – Baileyton Elementary 97.4% - No one from Baileyton was available to accept certificate.
- Sophie Bowman and Tristan McMurry, 5th graders at Doak, were chosen for the **TN Treble Honor Choir**-the only 2 students in all of Greeneville or Greene County- (Submitted by Jodie Carter, Music Specialist) available to accept certificate
- **Art Recognition:** Mary Ladd - 4th grade Doak Elementary - Rebecca Tyler; Nick Harrison – 10th grade - SGHS - Colleen Bowman; Malachi Shipley – 4th grade Camp Creek Elementary – Brenda Lindamood; Audrey Crawford - 9th CDHS - Carolyn Ayers; Lylli Sopha - 4th grade Mosheim Elementary - Beth Goodell; Abby Davis - 5th grade McDonald Elementary – Caroline Blanks; Neyland Cutshall – 2nd grade Baileyton Elementary – Leia Brown; Harley Davidson – 8th grade CDMS - Pam Foister; José Peñaloza 10th grade – WGHS - David Nuñez; Taryn Metcalf – 9th grade NGHS - Sherry Hensley.
Student Board Member: Madison Warner gave out certificates to the students
- The following students received **State Recognition for their 7TH Grade ACT scores**
DeBusk: Collin Keasling; Glenwood: John Jones; Mosheim: Rosella Smelcer

Chairman Rick Tipton PULLED Item E4 Approval of Contracts-Ballad Health Telemed Contract

Mr. McLain added that Attorney Roger Woolsey was reviewing the contract and it would be brought back at the next Board meeting.

II. Approve Agenda including Consent Agenda and Addendum

On motion Made by Nathan Brown Seconded by Brian Wilhoit
Vote: 7 – 0

- A. Approval of Monthly Financial Report. (IV-A)
- B. Approval of Regular and/or Called Board meeting minutes. (IV-B)
- C. Approval of Field Trip Requests. (IV-C)
- D. Approval of Grants. (IV-D)
 - 1. School to Work Grant.
- E. Approval of Contracts. (IV-E)
 - 1. Grace Rehab-Occupational Therapy Contract 2019-2020
 - 2. Grace Rehab-Physical Therapy Contract 2019-2020
 - 3. Curlee Contract 2019-2020
 - 4. *Ballad Health-Telehealth Contract 2019-2020 (PULLED STILL WITH ATTORNEY)***

III. Reports, Hearings, and Communications

GCEA Representative – Rhonda Lankford, GCEA President: Wanted to thank the Board for a productive school year, signing the resolution to stand against vouchers and working on the inaugural MOU between Greene County School Professional Employees and GCEA being voted on this evening.

Budget Monitoring Report - Mary Lou Finley – Sales Tax is up 1.49%; Revenues are at 88%; Expenditures are at 70%; Diesel is up over last year \$.20; price is going down slightly

Personnel Report Dr. Bill Ripley-gave an update on personnel for the month.(see May 23,, 2019, Board Agenda, Item V-C2-Attachment, Greene County Schools Personnel Update May 23, 2019, on our website at www.greenek12.org)

Food Service Report - Dustin Burnette – Successful 3rd year and grateful to be part of it; NGHS new café is now open and going well; April Surplus \$17,024; YTD \$172,262.11. New contract should be available for approval at the next Board meeting.

Director’s Report – David McLain gave a list of the following meetings and events: Graduations all went very well; Attended FFA Banquet, Art Shows, Awards Banquets and Proms; it is a very busy time of year with ending the school year and preparing for a new one; Cut scores are in; Congratulations to all students and employees who received honors this year; IReady data showing improvement in K-2 and hard work to improve post-secondary;

Transportation Report-George Frye–Volks Wagon settlement turned in across the state and Mr. McLain had given him permission to apply for the grant to help pay for newer model buses that are good for the environment. An elaborate grant proposal was turned in and we were

notified today that it was approved to buy 12 new buses with 50% cost over the next two years; first six buses will be propane powered (\$273,000) and the next year they will be going back to purchasing diesel powered buses. Only seven districts in East Tennessee received the grant.

Minnie Banks Discussion - We are responsible to educate our children and to be good stewards with the tax-payers' money; we are elected by the community to do this and took oath to honor this and stated she is trying to do this; concerned with the academic data and we need to work on that; plans for the schools – all of the communities are upset with the plan we currently have and moving forward with the rest of the plan she feels the communities didn't fully understand what the Board had voted on; we need to think about spending \$144,727, 200.00 to build 2 high schools and we have not purchased land; someone on the steering committee gave her the totals from the papers that were given to the communities. Chairman Tipton stated that those numbers were from the old plan that was voted down. Nathan Brown added that he too was confused by those numbers and the new plan was voted on to close the two schools and to move forward with changing the middle school configuration the next year and in the year 2025-26 hopefully be able to build by that time and noted that more decisions would have to be made moving forward. Ms. Banks stated that Cooperative Strategies' plan had shown they felt that most of the problems could be resolved with zoning and noted we have worked on the re-zoning and in 2020 we are going to start hauling kids to other schools and feels that in all fairness to our kids, until we have land purchased and have this more planned out, we should leave them where they are and not move them around; until we do get land bought and see if we can get more support; our census is going down and there is need for consolidation and we need to make a more informed decision; gave totals for renovations to West Pines versus CDMS and said we need to look at these programs. We have spent all this money on West Pines and now we have closed it and are going to have to spend more money on CDMS to keep it going; she said she felt it would be better to keep West Pines open instead of spending more money on CDMS until we can get new middle schools built; Nathan Brown said that every year we have to spend money on our buildings to keep them up and noted that the new plan voted on by the Board does not have any new middle schools being built and just had them moving into different buildings; Chairman Tipton noted that the first plan did have middle schools being built but that is gone and everything from the Steering Committee is gone since that was voted down; Ms. Banks asked how much it is going to cost us in the future and said we need to figure this out before we move on to the next part of the plan and start moving the children back and forth; Mr. Brown responded that we don't have the cost on future plans and feels that the 6-8 environment will work better for the kids and noted that the teachers he has talked to are excited about it; Ms. Banks felt that it would be costly to move the kids all over the county and that we needed to figure this out before we disrupt the kids; she also felt that the K-8 feeder schools do better; Mr. Brown stated that there are numbers that show support both ways and also stated that this plan will take planning and noted that the high schools would take money and may never come in the future; Brian Wilhoit stated that K-8 vs 6-8 is not the only driver for scores and noted that we have a lot of work to do and a lot of areas; Dr. Cindy Bowman noted that we are showing ACT growth scores in all areas and our achievement is coming up as well.

IV. Old Business

A. Approve Policies on Second Reading: (VI-A)

On motion Made by Tom Cobble Seconded by Michelle Holt

Vote: 7 – 0

- 5.203 Recommendations and File Transfers-Adopt new policy
- 5.300 Short Term Leaves of Absence-Adopt new policy
- 5.304 Long Term Leaves of Absence for Professional Personnel-Update cross reference
- 5.306 Military Leave-Update legal references
- 5.307 Physical Assault Leave-Update legal references and cross references
- 5.400 Health Examinations/Communicable Diseases-Update name, cross references
- 5.401 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)-Update content, legal ref, cross ref
- 5.402 Hepatitis B (HBV)-Update content and cross reference
- 5.403 Drug & Alcohol Testing for Employees-Update cross reference
- 5.501 Complaints and Grievances-Update date and content
- 5.600 Staff Rights & Responsibilities-Update content, legal references, and cross references
- 5.601 Conflict of Interest-Update cross references
- 5.602 Staff Time Schedules-Update procedure references
- 5.603 Staff Meetings-Update cross reference
- 5.605 Staff Gifts and Solicitations-Update cross references
- 5.606 Political Activities-Update cross references
- 5.608 Tutoring for Pay-Adopt new policy
- 5.610 Staff-Student Relations-Update content, legal reference, and cross references
- 5.611 Ethics-Update content and cross reference
- 5.700 Interim Employees-Update content, legal references and cross references
- 5.701 Substitute Teachers-Update content, legal ref, cross ref, and procedure ref
- 5.702 Student Teachers-Update content
- 5.802 Qualifications and Duties of the Director of Schools-content, legal ref, cross ref
- 6.4052 Opioid Antagonist-Adopt new policy

V. New Business

A. Approve Policies on First Reading. (VII-A)

- *No Policies on First Reading for May 2019.*

B. Approve Procedures. (VII-B)

- *No Procedures for May 2019.*

C. Approve Granting Tenure to Qualifying Teachers. (VII-C)

On motion Made by Clark Justis Seconded by Tom Cobble

Vote: 7 – 0

D. Approve Summer Athletic Camps to attend and host. (VII-D)

On motion Made by Michelle Holt Seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 7 – 0

E. Approve HVAC Bid-. (VII-E)

On motion Made by Clark Justis Seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 7 – 0

F. Approve Out of State Trips. (VII-F)

On motion Made by Brian Wilhoit Seconded by Minnie Banks

Vote: 7 – 0

G. Approve Bus Bids. (VII-G)

On motion Made by Clark Justis Seconded by Michelle Holt

Vote: 7 – 0

H. Approve Pre-K Budget Amendment. (VII-H)

On motion Made by Michelle Holt Seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 7 – 0

I. Approve Technology Surplus Items. (VII-I)

On motion Made by Brian Wilhoit Seconded by Minnie Banks

Vote: 7 – 0

J. Approve Budget Resolution to Amend General Fund Budget. (VII-J) **WITHDRAW**

Chairman Rick Tipton noted that Mr. McLain had requested to Withdraw item VII-J from the agenda.

K. Approve Budget Resolution to Amend Capital Project Funds. (VII-K)

On motion Made by Tom Cobble Seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 7 – 0

L. Approve Coordinated School Health Budget Amendment. (VII-L)

On motion Made by Clark Justis Seconded by Michelle Holt

Vote: 7 – 0

M. Approve Save The Children Budget Amendment. (VII-M)

On motion Made by Nathan Brown Seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 7 – 0

N. Approve LEAPs Budget Amendment. (VII-N)

On motion Made by Brian Wilhoit Seconded by Minnie Banks

Vote: 7 – 0

O. Approve Title I-A Neglected Budget Amendment. (VII-O)

On motion Made by Nathan Brown Seconded by Michelle Holt

Vote: 7 – 0

P. Approve ESEA-IDEA Application. (VII-P)

On motion Made by Clark Justis Seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 7 – 0

Q. Approve 2019-2020 General Fund Budget. (VII-Q)

On motion Made by Nathan Brown Seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 7 – 0

David McLain noted that the budget is balanced. He added that we had lost a Mental Health Liaison from a Frontier Health grant so we did add the mental health liaison position back in the budget and the state requires us to add to the teacher salaries and step for certified employees since we are below the state average.

R. Approve 2019-2020 Capital Projects Budget. (VII-R)

On motion Made by Brian Wilhoit Seconded by Tom Cobble

Vote: 7 – 0

S. Approve 2019-2020 Food Service Budget. (VII-S)

On motion Made by Michelle Holt Seconded by Tom Cobble

Vote: 7 – 0

T. Approve Carl Perkins Budget Amendment. (VII-T)

On motion Made by Michelle Holt Seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 7 – 0

U. Approve MOU between Greene County Board of Education and Greene County Schools Professional Employees. (VII-U)

On motion Made by Tom Cobble Seconded by Clark Justis

Vote: 7 – 0

One item to add the word “*benefits*” in the last paragraph; Brian Wilhoit clarified that we have the ability to review annually from either side and Chairman Tipton stated that he was correct.

V. Discuss/Approve School Zoning. (VII-V)

On motion Made by Tom Cobble Seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 7 – 0

AMEND SCHOOL ZONES: Gap Creek and Jones Bridge Road

Assistant Director of Transportation, George Frye said that the zoning was going to be a continuing process for the next two years and there is a lot of work to be done, but we want to get it right. He shared a map with the Board to clarify some of the changes and noted that he had sought counsel from principals, board members and people in the community. We are continuing to look down the road in the future. He said they have already fixed the West Pines and Glenwood zones and would like to keep the other zones the way they are except for 2 bus zone areas so we would not have to move these kids again next year. (Gap Creek and Jones Bridge Road) These recommended changes would affect about 45 students. David McLain added that both schools do have the capacity to absorb the extra students. George Frye said he does not want to move students unless we have to and disrupt as few as possible. David McLain stated that the students of Glenwood and West Pines were given an opportunity to go visit their new schools and the feedback was great.

Tom Cobble made a statement that he appreciated the principals having an open house for the kids and letting them visit and thought that was a good idea. He said

any move that was done by closing Glenwood and West Pines was not done overnight and we have been discussing the future of the schools for over two years with Cooperative Strategies and he did not do it with ease. He said he had listened to a lot of people and teachers and noted that it was hard for us to compare ourselves with Greeneville when they get three thousand dollars more per student and every kid should have the same opportunity and the same quality of education. He said that he has been on the Board for seven years and anything he has done has not been to hurt or bring down education and said we need to be competitive with other systems to keep our teachers and feels we have become a training ground for teachers to move to other systems. Everything he has done has been done with much thought and he loves the Board, students, teachers, and every person that works for Greene County.

VI. Announcements

VII. Next regular meeting

- Date: June 27, 2019
- Time: 4:30 p.m.
- Place: Greene Technology Center

VIII. Adjournment: Chairman Rick Tipton adjourned the meeting with no further business at 6:41pm