

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes

October 23, 2014

The Greene County Board of Education met in regular session Thursday, October 23, at 4:30 p.m., at the Greene Technology Center.

Board members present were: Chairman Rick Tipton, Vice-Chairman Nathan Brown, Kathy Austin, Tom Cobble, Michelle Holt, Clark Justis and Brian Wilhoit.

Chairman Tipton called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone present and noted that all Board Member were in attendance. Student Board Member, Heidi Armstrong from CDHS led the pledge to the flag and Student Board Member, Jared Casteel from SGHS led the invocation.

III. PRESENTATIONS & CELEBRATIONS

Students who competed in the 2013-2014 National History Day were recognized. Cody Allen, Tanner Cheek, Dalton Ramsey, Matthew Smyth (Mosheim Middle School); Shelby Standridge, Kaelynn Stewart, Lyndsey Cutshaw, Hannah Stewart, Nicole Gruber, Celina Menard, & Chelsey Price (SGHS).

South Greene High School was recognized for being a Reward School for 2013-2014, which is their third consecutive year to receive this recognition.

REQUEST TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

Deborah Johnson spoke to the Board and voiced her opinion about the Board's decision to send all Board Members to the TSBA Annual Convention.

Judith Sexton read a prepared statement regarding her opinion on Common Core.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA INCLUDING CONSENT AGENDA AND ADDENDUM

Approve the Agenda, Consent Agenda and Addendum

On motion by Clark Justis, seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 7 – 0 Passed

V. REPORTS, HEARINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

GCEA Report - Beth Catron, GCEA President, gave a brief update of GCEA upcoming events.

Budget Report – Budget Director, Mary Lou Woolsey gave a brief update on the budget stating that Sales Tax is up 5.7%. Revenues are down from last year due the Technology Grant that was received last year. Expenditures are up from last year and stated one reason was the textbooks were ordered at the beginning of the year this year and last year they were ordered at the end of the year. She noted that salary lines were up due to step and degree increases and that the insurance lines were up due to at 5.7% increase in insurance last January. She gave last year's unassigned fund balance as \$2,868,000 and this year it is at \$3,249,000 which is up \$381,000.

Personnel Report - Mr. Bill Ripley gave a brief personnel update for the month. (See October 2014 Board Agenda, Item V-C2-Attachment, Greene County Schools Personnel Update October, 2014 on our website at www.greenek12.org) He also gave a handout to the Board showing salary comparisons to surrounding counties and a report showing Home School trends in this area.

Director of Schools, Dr. Vicki Kirk, addressed the following items in her report:

Director's Report – Greene County BOE Meeting ~ October 23, 2014

School News

I have made twenty-one school visits since our last board meeting. These visits are a great way to see the good things going on in our schools. Our teachers and students are working very hard. I have watched RTI in action in many of our schools. On one visit I was escorted by a third grader who talked to me about what was going on throughout the building and took me to almost every classroom. It is rewarding to have time to visit with teachers and students.

I have made it my goal to have visited each school at least three times by Thanksgiving. I am focusing on one portion of the administrator rubric each time I visit. The principals and I have found that this focuses our conversation, and even though the visits aren't long (usually about 2 to 2 ½ hours) we cover a lot of ground. This new rubric is very rigorous, but it has deepened our discussions around important issues. It has also allowed me to collect information on support needed by the principals and by schools. I bring that back to our Central Team for discussion. Some examples of support we have provided or are working on include the following: assistance with refining RTI schedules, intervention materials for RTI, enrichment materials for RTI, and analyzing online programs for effectiveness.

We have also had meetings with all four quads (groups of feeder school principals with the high school principal). These have also been productive meetings. The topics we covered included the following: 1) data (what is being tracked, how it's shared, RTI decision making, board goal targets), 2) curriculum monitoring (examining lesson plans, sharing and deliberating about student work, rubric and task analysis were shared), 3) Skyward update & questions, 4) discussion of computers that will be coming off line, 5) energy, 6) PE/physical activity, 7) board goal drafts.

I toured the Greene Technology Center with Representative Roe and his staff while they were here in town.

Meetings with Community Partners

Education & Workforce Development – I will be co-chairing this committee with Cal Doty, VP for Human Resources at DTR. This initial meeting was well attended. We covered the work toward goals that had been set at a summit in late 2011. Many significant goals have been accomplished. We are working now to establish a mission for our work and to establish some sub-committees to accomplish our next set of goals.

tnAchieves – This board, set by the County Mayor, oversees recruitment and training for mentor volunteers. These mentors will assist students who have signed up for TNPromise to meet the requirements and deadlines in order that they will successfully enter a community college or TCAT this fall. I also attended the training for mentors as I have signed up to be a mentor. We are closing in on the goal for Greene County. Just about a week ago we were 64 volunteers short of what was needed. I received a report today that shows us down to needing 20. If we exceed

our goal, that would be great because I am sure they have underestimated the number of seniors we will have signed up.

School-based Medical Clinics – Valerie Walters and I met with a representative of “Integrated Care Professionals” and Noah Roark from Laughlin Hospital. Integrated Care Professionals provides tele-med services to regional schools. They are running successfully in Kingsport and Carter County among other locations. This idea has merit, and we will be bringing a presentation to you about it in the near future.

United Way Board

P-16 Council – As a part of our work with Education and Workforce Development, Cal Doty and I sat on a panel with the P-16 Council in Morristown. The panel discussion was about needs of industry and what schools (K-12 and post-secondary) can do to help meet those needs.

Manufacturers’ Meeting – I presented information about Common Core to the Manufacturer’s Council. I was joined by Etta Clark, VP of Global Public Affairs and Policy for Eastman Chemical. Larry Kelton also came to present a short math lesson highlighting the standards. We also discussed TNPromise with the group.

TCAT Accreditation Dinner – I attended the accreditation dinner for the TCAT Morristown. Their accreditation team from across the nation was here to do a site visit, and partners were invited to attend the dinner to show their support for the TCAT’s work.

HUF Grand Opening – I attended the grand opening for HUF. The plant tour was fascinating. I learned quite a lot about plastic injection molding, painting parts and assembly. They have an extremely high tech facility that was impressive.

Greene County Partnership – I attended the membership breakfast at Tusculum College. During the announcements period I made a plea for mentors for TNPromise. Several folks signed up after the meeting.

County Commission & Local Government Meetings

Education Committee – We reviewed the board goals, a budget overview with a focus on revenue and capital improvements and needs with the committee. They were quite positive and seem to have some progressive ideas for education.

Insurance Committee of the County Commission – I sit on this committee by virtue of my position.

County Commission Meeting

Parents/Teachers/Students

GCEA – I meet monthly with representatives from GCEA to discuss questions or concerns they may have.

Student Board Members – Mr. Tipton and I had breakfast with the student board members. They were delightful and full of energy. I look forward to meeting with them this year to gain perspective on their views of education in Greene County.

Date	Event	Notes
09.26.14	Three school visits	
09.29.14	Met with staff member Central Team Meeting	
09.30.14	Two school visits Education & Workforce Development Education Committee	
10.01.14	Three school visits Quad Meeting – West Side Met with GCEA	
10.02.14	Three school visits	
10.03.14	Breakfast with student board members TN Achieves Meeting Quad Meeting – North Side Sick Bank Meeting	
10.06.14	Three school visits Lunch Meeting: Telemed Clinics Teacher Advisory Council Young Life Dinner	Evening Event
10.07.14	Three school visits Quad Meeting – East Side Board Workshop	
10.08.14	United Way Board Meeting Three school visits	
10.09.14	P-16 Council Tour of GTC with Congressman Roe	

	Quad Meeting – South Side	
	Parent Advisory Council	Evening Event
10.10.14	Manufacturer’s Meeting Central Team	
10.13.14	TCAT Accreditation Dinner	Evening Event
10.14.14	HUF Grand Opening	
10.15.14	Insurance Committee tnAchieves Training	
10.19.14	Speaker – Mt. Zion Children’s Sabbath	
10.20.14	Met with parent County Commission Meeting Board Goal Workshop	
10.21.14	GCP Membership Breakfast Superintendents’ Study Council	
10.22.14	Breakfast with High School Principals Leadership Team Policy Committee Meeting	
10.23.14	One school visit Photo to receive Greene LEAF donation (Greeneville Federal) Photo with Holston Home to recognize their Cross Country Course Board Meeting Joint Board Meeting	

Teacher Advisory – I had my first quarterly meeting with the Teacher Advisory Council. It was well attended and quite positive and helpful to me. We have made a number of changes in the past year based on teacher recommendations.

Parent Advisory – I had my first quarterly meeting with the Parent Advisory Council. These parents were very positive and inquisitive. It was a pleasure to meet with them. We have started talking about an issue they are all interested in, and I think it will develop into a board goal for 2015-2016.

Miscellaneous

LEAP Grant – I have worked together with Jerry Ayers, Linda Stroud, Denise Brown and Manny Moore to establish the foundation for a grant proposal that partners our four districts (Greeneville, Greene County, Cocke County and Unicoi County) with the TCAT Elizabethton, the TCAT Morristown and several industry partners. We have submitted intent to submit letter, and the final proposal will be due in November. These grants are grants the governor and the department of labor are funding to provide needed training for regional industry. We hope to improve our technology and equipment for advanced manufacturing in welding, machine tool and industrial electricity. If funded, the grant will bring the programs at high schools in Unicoi and Cocke Counties and the Greene Technology Center to a level needed to provide high-quality programming on site by the TCATs. This will also, naturally, enhance the quality of the 9-12 programs in these facilities. The grants are highly competitive and will be funded up to \$1 million for each successful application. We will work hard and then hope for the best.

Literacy Grant – Kristi Wallin is planning to submit a federal grant for literacy (intervention materials, books, bookmobile (?)). This is just in the early planning stages, but we will let you know if we determine we can submit and provide details of the proposal.

Capturing Kids Hearts – Fourteen representatives from Greene County are attending Capturing Kids Hearts in Knoxville thanks to their generous scholarship program. Each registration was valued at \$1000, so this was a \$14,000 value. This program is intended to develop positive relationships in schools among faculty, among students and between faculty and students. We will report on this to you at your next meeting.

Education First – Education First is a research organization that is performing research on behalf of the Gates Foundation across the nation to identify best and promising practices in professional learning. We are one of five districts in the country to be visited, and they will be with us on October 27th and 28th. We are excited to share the good things we are doing here in Greene County.

Superintendents' Study Council – We receive updates on State initiatives and the i3 Grant at these meetings. We also take time to share information and collaborate around ideas to help one another.

Meetings and Workshops

I have attended the following meetings and workshops:

Upcoming Dates

October 27	LEAD Conference
November 4-7	Online & Blended Learning Conference
November 15 & 16	TSBA
November 26-28	Central Office Closed – Thanksgiving
December 7-10	Learning Forward Conference, Nashville

Other

V-F1-Discuss deadline for adding agenda items for Board meetings, meeting times for Board Workshops and Called meetings - Kathy Austin requested that all Board members discuss the best time for the majority of the Board to hold meetings. Several Board members agreed that having meetings after normal business hours worked better for their schedules. Chairman Tipton noted that for Committee meetings we could adjust the times to accommodate other's schedules when it is possible. The Board and Dr. Kirk agreed that for Workshops and Retreats it does work better to have split shorter meetings rather than all day or long meetings.

V-F2-Discuss Board Retreats – Kathy Austin asked to clarify for new members that the Board Retreat is held in June and is not the same as a Workshop.

V-F3-Discuss and vote on minutes of all meetings of the Board – Kathy Austin stated this has been an issue of concern for her and she wanted to give the new Board members a chance to vote on this issue. On Motion made by Kathy Austin, that the Board keep Minutes for all meetings of the Board, and with no second to her Motion, the Motion Failed.

Chairman Tipton stated that he has asked Dr. Kirk that this Policy be sent back to the Policy Committee for review and it will be reviewed at the November Policy Committee meeting.

The Board recessed into closed session with County Attorney, Roger Woolsey at 5:32 pm.

The Board reconvened at 6:15 pm.

V-F4-Discuss and vote on the Director's Evaluation that was delayed until new Board Members were elected - Kathy Austin stated that she was passing around a notebook for the Board to look at while they were discussing this item and that she has added documents from TCA and the Director's contract. She gave background information regarding the revision of the Director's Evaluation from previous Board and Committee meetings and went over the documents that were included in the notebook.

On Motion by Kathy Austin, to accept the Director's Evaluation as presented to the full Board by the Committee, seconded by Rick Tipton, the Motion Failed for Lack of Votes. Mr. Brown suggested that this item be reviewed and brought back to the Board. Mr. Tipton agreed.

Michelle Holt stated that she would not be able to vote on the information that was handed out until she was able to review it. Ms. Austin stated that this had been one of her concerns when the item was tabled that as a new Board member she would not have known how to begin to evaluate a director either. Clark Justis stated that he agreed with Ms. Holt and that he did not have enough information to vote on this item.

V-F5-Discuss the Technology Workshop offered at the TSBA Convention – Kathy Austin asked for Dr. Kirk's purpose and goal for recommending this workshop to the Board. Chairman Tipton responded that this had come from a recommendation from him and not Dr. Kirk. Dr. Kirk added that she had sent the email out for the Board's information. Mr. Tipton said that he had touched based with other Board members about their views on this and that the use of technology has also been discussed in previous months. He said he has asked what kind of expense we go through by using hard copies and the time it takes to make copies when we could be using technology to receive the documents in Dropbox. He added that he had personally called TSBA in Nashville to see what kind of training they were having and they confirmed it was an Apple representative doing the training. He said he checked to see what kind of iPad they would be getting and checked on the cost. He also spoke with our IT Coordinator, Jason Patrick to check on the cost of the iPad if we bought them ourselves and it was more than the training and the iPad. He said he then spoke with Dr. Kirk to be sure it was not coming out of the school budget and it was not. Nathan Brown added, in response to Ms.

Austin asking why Dr. Kirk sent out the email, that part of the reason was due to previous discussions he had had two years ago about going to the iPad for communication purposes and they still had not done that yet. He also stated that last year he had discussed wanting to see what the new Board members thought about switching the technology for easier access to materials. Brian Wilhoit stated that he too would rather have all of the information electronically instead of stacks of notebooks. Michelle Holt responded to the comment that they were being irresponsible by going to the Workshop and said that she did not feel that was the case when considering the cost of copies of materials for the Board over the course of her term as a Board member. Ms. Austin stated that this had been discussed two or three years ago and it was decided that it would be the Board's preference and she likes to have hard copies and that it was not unreasonable for her to get hard copies. She added that she did not feel they should say that every Board member has to do this. Ms. Holt stated that during her Board Orientation with Dr. Kirk that in her orientation book it states that all of the policies and procedures are paperless. Ms. Austin responded that Board member should have the right to get their information in the format they want it in and if there is a power grid failure they will want her copies. Mr. Brown responded that in years past the secretary has had to fax the materials to some, send emails to some and send texts to others and this way the secretary could do everything the same way and if a member wanted copies they could print it themselves. Ms. Austin said that she brought this up to express her concerns about the costs when the surveys done last year had some parents commenting that they did not have enough textbooks to take home or the proper textbooks to take home and also teachers saying they could not get workbooks because there was no money. Mr. Tipton added that he has vetted this thoroughly to be sure they are not taking money from textbooks. He said this money being used would not go to the schools anyway. Mr. Brown added that if we knew which teacher needed a workbook that we they needed to let Ms. Ellen know and she would take care of it. Mr. Tipton asked that Dr. Kirk send out an email to ask teachers specifically who needs textbooks.

The Board recessed to hold the Joint Board meeting at 6:37 pm.

The Board reconvened at 7:09 pm.

Chairman Tipton noted that Michelle Holt had to leave to return to work and would not be present for this portion of the meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Policies on 1st Reading

On motion made by Clark Justis, seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 6 – 0

- 1.407 – School Board Records
- 6.600 Student Records - Recommended

B. Approve Procedures

On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 6 – 0

- 1.107 Exhibit A – Conflict of Interest Statement
- 1.407 Exhibit E – Records Request
- 4.400 Citizen's Request to Inspect Instructional Materials
- 6.200 Exhibit B – K-8th Grade Attendance
- 6.200 Exhibit E – School Attendance Review Meeting Report
- 6.200 Exhibit F – Truancy Board Attendance Contract
- 6.600 Exhibit A – Record Release Authorization Form

- C. Approve IDEA 619 Preschool Budget 15:01 Amendment 2
On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Nathan Brown
Vote: 6 – 0

Kathy Austin asked to remind new Board member that this is the time they would need to read their Conflict of Interest statement before voting on the budget amendments.

Tom Cobble read a Conflict of Interest statement. Ms. Austin asked if Mr. Brown also needed to read a Conflict of Interest statement. Mr. Brown responded that he did not need to read a Conflict of Interest statement for this amendment as it does not pertain to him.

- D. Approve 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Title I, II, III & VI
On motion made by Clark Justis, seconded by Tom Cobble
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- E. Approve 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Carl Perkins
On motion made by Kathy Austin, seconded by Tom Cobble
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- F. Approve 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Race to the Top
On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Brian Wilhoit
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- G. Approve General Fund Budget Amendment
On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Brian Wilhoit
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- H. Approve S3 Grant for 2014-2015 School Year
On motion made by Brian Wilhoit, seconded by Tom Cobble
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- I. Approve Budget Resolution for Grants
On motion made by Clark Justis, seconded by Tom Cobble
Vote: 5 – 0
1-Abstain (Brown)
- J. Approve Food Service Civil Rights Policy and Procedures
On motion made by Nathan Brown, seconded by Brian Wilhoit
Vote: 6 – 0
- K. Approve Dr. Vicki Kirk as Purchasing Agent, Authorized Representative for E-RATE
On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Nathan Brown
Vote: 6 – 0

L. Approve Textbook Committee

On motion made by Tom Cobble, seconded by Clark Justis

Vote: 6 – 0

K-12 Math:

K-2: Enola Johnson
Marcey Compton
Carol Adams

3-5: Jordyn Ricker
Sherri Morgan
LeAnne Kirk

6-8: Virginia Myers
Brandy McAmis
Katie Jo Knight
Jennifer Roderick

9-12: Phillip Cutshaw
Lisa Coffee
Tavia Stroud
Amanda Gates
Anna Ricker

Kristi Waddle, Misty Mercer, Noelle Smith-Academic Coaches
Kristi Wallin-Curriculum Supervisor
Mark Norman-High school supervisor

M. Approve Volunteer Coaches

On motion made by Nathan Brown, seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 6 – 0

N. Approve Out-of-State Field Trips

On motion made by Nathan Brown, seconded by Brian Wilhoit

Vote: 6 – 0

O. Approve Board Goals

On motion made by Clark Justis, seconded by Nathan Brown

Vote: 6 – 0

Dr. Kirk noted that copies of the Board Goals were handed out at the Board Workshop.

Chairman Tipton announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. at the James W. Parham Central Office.

On Motion by Brian Wilhoit, Second by Kathy Austin, and with no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:26 p.m.