

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes

September 26, 2013

The Greene County Board of Education met in regular session Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 5:00 p.m., at the James W. Parham Central School Office Building.

Board members present were: Chairman Roger Jones, Vice-Chairman Nathan Brown, Kathy Austin, Kathy Crawford, Tom Cobble, and Deborah Johnson. NGHS Student Board member, Adam Foshie was also present. Rex Hopson was absent.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present. Kathy Crawford led the pledge to the flag and Vice-Chairman Nathan Brown led the invocation.

On motion by Crawford; second by Cobble, and with Crawford's recommendation to pull Agenda Item J to go back to the bid committee for further discussion, the board approved the agenda items and addendum. The remaining Consent Agenda items were also approved with the exception of the following contracts: VIII-D1, D5 and D6 which were moved on the agenda under New Business for discussion and possible action to VII-L, M and N, respectively. Austin also requested that item VII-F 1.702-Evaluation of School be pulled or moved to the Board Retreat Agenda for further discussions. Chairman Jones stated that the above changes would be made to the agenda and asked for a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda. On Motion by Crawford, second by Cobble and with no further discussions, the amended consent agenda was approved.

Mr. Jones and the Board congratulated and recognized all of the students listed on the Board Agenda for receiving awards or participating in National History Day and Scoring Perfect scores on State Testing in 2012-2013.

Mr. Jones thanked Greene L.E.A.F. our Educational Foundation for refreshments before the Board meeting. He recognized Ms. Darlene McLeish, Executive Director of the foundation, who thanked the Board for all they do.

GCEA representative, Stephanie Johnson handed out the GCEA Newsletter to the Board and requested a meeting regarding the Differentiated pay and requested to have a GCEA representative on the team. Dr. Kirk responded that she would be happy to meet with them and there would be a GCEA representative on the team.

Mary Lou Woolsey gave a brief update on the budget and discussed the reasons for seeing some of the line items in the hole. She explained that when working without a budget to being the year, it is difficult for personnel to see how much money they have and most have been corrected with blanket purchase order amounts being reduced. One of the larger purchase order deficits was one that should have been a federal purchase order and it too has been corrected. There is one last line that has a deficit and that is due to the fact that we had to buy toilet paper for the system that was higher this year and the will be corrected with a budget adjustment in December. On the Monitoring Report, Sales Tax is up 2.3% over last year, other state funds is also up which is a Grant of \$465,000 that is on the agenda for

approval tonight. Expenditures are higher in the Classified lines due to the fact that we started school a week late which threw their pay roles back and also the insurance lines are higher because the classified insurance came out at different times. Electricity is down \$49,000 over last year. Diesel is doing okay for this year as well. Mrs. Johnson asked about a line item on page 8 showing \$108,575 for textbooks and wanted to know if that was to purchase books and if they were in the schools. Dr. Kirk responded that they were and it was the Kindergarten portion for reading and that we had used part of the money from last year to buy a good portion of the textbooks and what we couldn't buy we purchased out of this year. Mrs. Johnson also had a questions on page 4 regarding contributions and gifts. She specifically mentioned an anonymous donation of \$5,500. She stated that taking anonymous donations should be unacceptable. Private anonymous money to a public education system that does not benefit the children of the system, leave lots of room to question the motive behind the gift. Our Code of Ethics 1.106 that states that and that this donation was given by an undisclosed person or persons and it was used to purchase furniture for the central office and a lot of the furniture that was there was put into storage and would like to see the furniture returned and the money go back into the general fund and be used for the highest priority needs that would benefit the whole system.

The personnel report was given by Mr. Bill Ripley and copies made available to the Board through Drop box. He noted that there were a few interim positions that had been filled and that all positions have been filled at this time. Mrs. Austin asked if the pupil-teacher ratio was still okay and Dr. Kirk responded that it was. Mr. Ripley stated that he had put an enrollment report in the mailboxes of the Board and that it is accurate up to the first 20 day period. She then asked how this compared to our numbers last year and Mr. Ripley said that this number leaves us at around 30 less than last year.

Dr. Lamons gave a brief data report from last years' TCAP and EOC exams. The report gave details about the growth of students compared to the State Standards. A copy of the report was made available to the Board to show were Greene County students scored and their progress from previous years. Dr. Lamons stated that this information would also be covered in more detail at the Board Retreat.

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

School News

School is well underway. Many schools have conducted open houses, and some have had their Literacy Days and/or Nights. Sports are in full swing. Our schools are busy and productive places.

I have attended three literacy events in the district, and they were all well-attended and successful. These events are meant to promote reading with students and parents and to help families know how they can support reading at home. Spending time reading is crucial to children's acquisition of language and vocabulary and can boost student achievement. It also promotes healthy parent-child interaction.

I have begun principal observations, and although they are time-consuming, I do enjoy this time. It is time that I can spend one-on-one with our fine school leaders and listen to them talk about the important work they are doing. I cannot express how fortunate we are in Greene County to have the quality of school-level leadership we have.

Teachers and students are fully engaged in the teaching and learning process, and we have just completed our first administration of new unit tests. These tests are designed to help teachers determine which students are mastering material and who may still be struggling – which standards are mastered by most or all students and which ones may need to be re-taught. These assessments are great instructional tools for the teachers, and they are learning how to use them to guide the instructional process. One of my core beliefs about classroom instruction is that better use of assessments will make us better teachers, and our teachers are making good use of assessments to better teach their students.

Miscellaneous Meetings

Education & Workforce Development – This committee is part of the Greene County Partnership. We are currently working to establish a new working mission and vision but have been focused during the past year on establishing some adult coursework in career technical education through the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (formerly Tennessee Technology Center).

Mentoring Meeting – Members of the United Way Board, Wendy Peay and I met with Reverend Randy Hensley from Johnson City. Rev. Hensley operates an afterschool program, Coalition 4 Kids. This program is an impressive non-profit, faith-based effort that is seeing tremendous success in Johnson City.

United Way Kick-off Luncheon – During the kick-off for United Way, the promotional video for this year's campaign was debuted. I was pleased to see that our Family Resource Center was featured as one of two main agencies on the video. Mrs. Alicia Ricker and some of our principals and faculty spoke about the service this agency provides to students and their families. Because of United Way's support of the Family Resource Center, they are now able to serve all of our schools in some capacity. We are most grateful to the United Way for their contribution that benefits students and families in crisis and who are in most need.

TN LEAD

This grant-funded program is underway. Principals from Greene and Unicoi Counties have had initial training and have begun to meet in their Leader Results Teams. There are five teams: two focused on effective use of data; two focused on professional learning, feedback and support and one that is focused on developing a strong culture for teaching and learning.

TOSS Conference

The State Department of Education and TOSS collaborate each year to provide a conference for superintendents across the State. This year, at the banquet on Sunday evening, we were addressed by Governor Haslam. The Commissioner of Education gave a State of the State address on Monday morning. Among the highlights:

- Across the State the trend is up –above the national norm line – for Explore and PLAN. This is very encouraging as it bodes well for ACT scores in the future.

- Math results were very good across the State on TCAP with more than 90,000 more students scoring at or above proficiency.
- TELL survey results show increases in almost every question; scores were up in every category, and the aggregate was better than in other states.
- Training for teachers this summer by the State on Common Core was quite successful.

There was a panel discussion on differentiated pay, and districts are developing a better understanding of what is required.

There was a presentation on consolidated planning and monitoring. Tennessee is moving toward one monitoring system for all federal and grant funds. This is in an effort to insure that districts work is focused and that all funds are directed toward the primary goals of the system. We also received information on Response to Intervention, administrator evaluation, common assessments, use of data and closing the achievement gap. The conference was very worthwhile.

Core Leadership Council

Topics discussed at this meeting included the following:

- CRA and Writing Data
- Materials and Resources – Selection, Development and Deployment
- Consolidated Monitoring
- Monitoring for Instructional Change
- Process of Formative Assessment (Summit to be Held)
- LEAD Conference
- Core Leadership Courses

Senate Education Committee Hearings

I attended, with two of our board members, the Senate Education Committee Hearings. I attended as an advocate for the Common Core State Standards and associated assessments that Tennessee is promoting. There were a number of superintendents and other educators there in that capacity as well. I was asked to lead a press conference that preceded the opening of the hearings there at Legislative Plaza. The text of my remarks at the press conference is attached to the end of this report as is a news report on the hearings from the Tennessean.

The first day of the hearings was spent reading the standards into the record. This was a bit tedious but necessary as the standards themselves demonstrate the fact that they are simply standards – the same as other standards we have used in the past, but more rigorous and more focused. On the second day of the hearings, the committee heard testimony both pro and con. Those testifying were as follows:

- -Opening the Hearings – Mr. Kevin Huffman, Commissioner of Education
- -Testifying on Data – Ms. Jane Robbins, American Principles Project
- -Testifying on the Tennessee Story – Ms. Jamie Woodson, President and CEO of SCORE
- -Testifying on Cost – Mr. Ted Rebarber

- -Higher Education and Assessment – Dr. Candice McQueen, Dean of the College of Education, Lipscomb University
- -Common Core Overview – Ms. Joy Pullman, Heartland Institute
- -Testifying on Standards – Mr. Mike Petrilli, Executive Vice President of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute
- -Testifying on Georgia Senate Bill 167 – Senator William Ligon
- -Testifying on Preparing Tennessee’s Workforce – Mr. Pitt Hyde III, Autozone Founder
- -Testifying on Assessments – Ms. Peg Luksik
- -Testifying on the Teacher’s Perspective – Ms. Casie Jones
- -Testifying on Standards – Ms. Adurey Buffington
- -Testifying on the Military Perspective – Lt. Col. Eric Goslowski, Director of J-9
- -Testifying on the Insider’s View – Mr. Jerry Lowery, Assistant Principal at White County High School
- -Testifying on the District Leader’s Perspective – Mr. Clint Satterfield, Director of Trousdale County Schools

I stand convinced after speaking with the teachers who were present at the press conference and hearing the testimony, that Tennessee’s Common Core State Standards are very good for Tennessee’s children. They are rigorous and focused, and they provide a good foundation for a strong education.

As always, I am proud to serve this school system and this community. In light of the events at South Greene High School this week, I would like to take a moment to reflect on our schools. We have come to know in today’s society that if someone intends to do ill, and they don’t care what happens to them, there is little that can be done to stop it. This is part of the risk, I suppose of living in a society that values freedom and liberty. I will tell you that the feeling I came away from South Greene with this week was not one of fear. The school is well-run, safe and a good place for students. The incident was contained and controlled very, very quickly. All of the students were respectful of faculty members’ directives immediately. There was no wide-spread panic. The detectives commented on this to me later. They were very complimentary of the students, faculty and staff at South Greene, and I would like to take this opportunity to publically thank and commend Dr. Bowman and her staff as well as the students of South Greene. They took care of the situation – and they are taking care of one another. The next morning, there was a “See You at the Pole” event that was an opportunity for prayer, and it was very well attended. Following that, Dr. Bowman held a brief assembly where the faculty and a student who was instrumental in containing the situation were recognized. The student body was positive and respectful. Mr. Phillips, who had been to the hospital, communicated the injured student’s status and relayed some requests from him. He requested that students forgive because he had already forgiven, and he asked for no visitors. Students did send cards to him via Mr. Phillips later in the day.

While an incident like this is tragic and very regrettable, and we are always looking to improve safety and security, we will carry on. Dr. Bowman asked students at the conclusion of the assembly if they were ready to move on, and they answered in the affirmative. We must join them in that sentiment.

Meetings and Workshops

Date	Event	Notes
08.27.13	Superintendents' Study Council Education & Workforce Development Committee	
08.28.13	Supervisor & Support Staff Meeting Phone Conference TN DOE – TEAM Observations C Team – RTTT Evaluation Meeting	
08.29.13	TN Lead Training	
09.03.13	C Team Meeting Meeting on Mentoring	
09.06.13	Literacy Day at Camp Creek	
09.08.03 – 09.10.13	TOSS Conference	
09.10.13	Meeting – Roger Woolsey Chuckey Literacy Open House	Evening Meeting
09.12.13	United Way Kick-off Luncheon	
09.13.13 – 09.14.13	Core Leadership Council	
09.16.13	C Team Meeting – Deborah Johnson County Commission	Evening Meeting
09.17.13	Leadership Team Meeting – Personnel Issue BEST Program Open House	Evening Meeting
09.18.13	Insurance Committee (County Commission) Policy Committee Meeting	
09.19.13 – 09.20.13	Senate Education Committee Hearings	
09.23.13	C Team (Meeting with Joe T. Wood, Battelle for Kids TSBA Fall District Meeting	Evening Meeting
09.24.13	South Greene High School Glenwood Literacy Night	Evening Meeting
09.25.13	Observation: Cindy Bowman Meeting – TN Lead Grant Partners, Unicoi County Conference Call – PARCC Readiness	
09.26.13	Observation: Jennifer Teague Partnership Board Meeting	

Press Conference – CCSS

Nashville, TN 09.19.13

Welcome

Today and tomorrow are important days in Tennessee as our Senate Education Committee will examine a critical piece of Tennessee's work to prepare students for college and the workforce – Tennessee's Common Core State Standards.

As educators – teachers, principal and superintendents – and also as parents, we want to take this opportunity to make our voices heard on this important issue and speak on behalf of the

thousands of teachers who are implementing Common Core in their classrooms today, on behalf of the 136 superintendents in Tennessee and on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of public school parents who support their children. We support raising the bar in our classrooms. We support Tennessee's Common Core State Standards.

Many of us here today are also members of the Expect More Achieve More Coalition – a coalition of 314 organizations representing hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans who support higher standards in public education through Tennessee's Common Core State Standards.

I have been an educator for over 20 years. I am a member of TOSS, LIFT, The Core Leadership Council, The Governor's Council on Career and Technical Education and TEA. One thing these organizations have in common is that they have children at the center of their work.

It is because of the children that I support Tennessee's Common Core State Standards.

A long time ago I decided what I believed about education. And one thing I believe is that there is a body of knowledge and a set of skills that every educated person should know and be able to do. This body of knowledge and set of skills are standards. Standards are the foundation of our work.

If the standards are weak, then our educational system is weak. But if the standards are rigorous and focused and strong, then our system of education is strong. The Common Core State Standards are rigorous and focused and strong.

These standards protect us against the injustice of low expectations. Students will generally rise to the level of expectation that we set. If we set the bar low – then that's where they will achieve. But if we set the bar high, they will achieve at a high level.

There is power in this struggle. You all know what it is like to work at work worth doing – at something that is difficult, and then doing it well. It gives a sense of accomplishment that leads to confidence. This is what we want for our children.

The heart of our work is to prepare students for college and the workforce and to make Tennessee a great place in which to live and work. To do that we must have a strong public educational system, and to have a strong system of public education, we must have strong standards. That's why I believe in Tennessee's Common Core State Standards.

For Other items on the agenda, Mrs. Austin informed the Board that she too had attended the Common Core Hearings in Nashville and was very proud to see our government in action and that it was an equal opportunity for both sides to voice their interests and their concerns. There were some concerns about Common Core and PARCC assessment and the student data that might be involved. Mrs. Johnson agreed with Mrs. Austin's comments and stated that she hopes that Dr. Kirk will put together a presentation for the community because there are a lot of questions out there and would like to see this put on the agenda for the Board Retreat.

The Board moved on to the next item on the agenda of approving Policy Manual revisions and recommendations on second reading. The revisions are listed below:

➤ **6.502 – Foreign Exchange Students**

- **6.309** – Zero Tolerance Offenses
- **5.307**– Physical Assault Leave
- **1.108** – Nepotism
- **3.202** – Emergency Preparedness Plan
- **6.316** – Suspension/Expulsion/Remand
- **5.305** – Family and Medical Leave
- **1.407** – School Board Records
- **1.407** – School Board Records – Exhibit A, B, C, D

Mrs. Austin stated that she would like to pull and vote on 1.407 separately. Mr. Jones stated that the vote would be for all of the policies on the list with the exception of 1.407. On motion by Crawford; second by Cobble the Policy Manual revisions were approved with the noted exception.

Mr. Jones then moved on to Policy Manual Revision 1.407 and asked for a motion to approve. On motion by Cobble, second by Brown and with a brief discussion by Mrs. Austin about this policy change and to voice her concern that the Greene County school district is the only school system in the state that will be adopting this part of the policy which she feels makes it more difficult for Board members to get timely information as well as more difficult for all citizens to obtain school information. Mrs. Johnson also stated that she wanted to bring up 1.407 Exhibit B, that there is a note at the end of the first paragraph that T.C.A. provides that unless other provisions in the law specifically requires a written request, a request to inspect public records may not be required in writing and you may look at the records for free. Question was called by Ms. Crawford. Mr. Jones stated that Question had been called and asked for a vote. 1.407 was approved. Mrs. Austin and Mrs. Johnson both voted no.

The Board, on Motion by Cobble; Second by Johnson, approved the Wiring of Chuckey-Doak High School's Agriculture Barn.

On motion by Crawford; second by Cobble, the Board approved the IDEA 619 (PreK) Discretionary Grant.

The Board on motion by Austin; second by Cobble, approval of the Extended Contract Proposal for 2013-2014 school year. Mrs. Johnson asked how many students would be participating and how many would get back and forth from the school to the program and if it is at school, how will they get back home? She also asked if this was open to all students or students who are below the grade level and will the teachers be certified in the area that they will be tutoring and how are the teachers selected to participate in the program? Dr. Lamons answered that the guidelines are set forth by the state and the same process that was followed last year. Teacher selection is done is that there are certain teachers that have to be selected first if they are career ladder teachers. Each school gets a sign in sheet and every teacher gets to display whether they are interested or not and then conversations are had with the principals to discuss the needs of that school. At the high school level there are buses that take children home after tutoring. Mrs. Johnson asked how the children in elementary school get home and Dr. Lamons stated that parents pick them up. Mrs. Johnson also asked if the Assessment Coach was part of this as well and Dr. Lamons responded that it was. Mrs. Johnson then asked Dr. Lamons if she was the Assessment Supervisor. Dr. Lamons answered that she was the Assessment Supervisor for the District and

that there has to be someone in charge of testing at each of the schools and that she has assessment meeting with those teachers and these coaches get paid a stipend to help them to facilitate the testing and to be sure we are in compliance with the state because she cannot be at each of the schools. Mrs. Johnson stated that she felt that we were focusing on children just being able to take a really good test and we are training them to take the test and not teaching them to gain the skills and the knowledge. Dr. Lamons responded that in the tutoring program and where ever it may be it is not test taking skills that are taught and they look at the students' strengths and weaknesses and what skill set they need to get to the next grade level. It focuses on the individual student needs. Mrs. Johnson wanted to know how often the students take the tests and Dr. Lamons responded that the only state mandated test that we take are the TCAP and the EOC and a state writing exam. Mrs. Austin asked Dr. Lamons about the PARCC pilot schools and wanted to know if they were taking the same amount of tests or are there more tests. Dr. Lamons responded that those tests would be administered after the TCAP and the reason they are taking them is so that Tennessee will be in the norm reference or otherwise we would have no say in the questions and norm and we need to have a voice in there.

The Board, on Motion by Brown; Second by Cobble, approved the Budget Resolution.

On Motion by Cobble; Second by Johnson, the Board approved the Volunteer Coaches.

The Board chose to discuss the approval of the Policy Manual Revisions and Recommendations separately and Mr. Jones stated that some of them needed a little more explanation. Dr. Kirk said that some of the policies are complex and she wanted to make sure the Board understands what has been done. Mr. Jones reminded the Board that 1.702 had been pulled for discussion at the Board Retreat.

Mr. Jones moved to the first policy for approval **1.401- Public Hearings** and asked Dr. Kirk if she would like to discuss. Dr. Kirk stated that this one was simple and that cross-references had been added at the bottom. On Motion by Cobble; Second by Brown, the Board approved the Policy 1.401.

Dr. Kirk reminded the Board that 1.702 was being skipped and that the next four on the list for approval are being deleted because they are obsolete as they refer to negotiation status and agents and we do not have a need for that as the law has changed. **5.900-5.904** will be handled with one motion. On motion by Austin, Second by Johnson the Board approved the items to be deleted.

6.200 Attendance-Dr. Kirk stated that this policy has been revised to comply with some changes in the law. On motion by Cobble, second by Brown 6.200 was approved by the Board. Mrs. Johnson asked where do we get the authority to revoke a state issued drivers license? Mr. Jones and Dr. Kirk both stated that it was the state law. Mrs. Johnson asked if they would send her the Annotated Code and Dr. Kirk stated that it was cited there in the policy and she would be glad to send it to her. Mrs. Johnson also addressed the cross-reference at the bottom of the policy 4.803 recognition of religious beliefs and wanted to know how that related to this. Dr. Kirk responded that you cannot be counted absent if you are absent for religious purposes.

6.204-Zone Changes - Dr. Kirk explained that is one is a little complicated and that we have zone changes policy and actually 6.204 in TSBA is titled Attendance of Non-Resident Students and we are recommending that we change 6.204 to be TSBA proposed policy Attendance of Non-Residence and retain lines 1-3 and substitute them for the section labeled proposed. We are not losing the zoning information but it is going in to another policy that is more appropriate. On motion by Cobble, second by Johnson, the Board approved 6.204.

6.205-Student Assignment-Dr. Kirk stated that this one is more appropriate for the zoning so this one is not changing and cross-references are added at the bottom but we are moving the zone information from 6.204 in to this 6.205. Mrs. Austin asked to clarify if any of the language had been changed and Dr. Kirk stated that it had not. On motion by Cobble, second by Johnson, the Board approved 6.205.

6.206-Transfers Within the System-Dr. Kirk explained that this was a new policy proposed by TSBA due to legal language changes and changes in the law and rather than just saying during the month of June which is what they recommended, we determined that it would be better to say beginning with Kindergarten registration and go through June each year. On motion by Austin, second by Brown, the Board approved 6.206.

The Board, on motion by Johnson, second by Austin, approved Policy Procedures Manual Revisions/Recommendations 1.104 Exhibit A-Nepotism Disclosure Form; 1.404 Exhibit A-Request to Appear before the Greene County Board of Education; and 1.802 Exhibit A-Greene County Schools Section 504 and ADA Discrimination Complaint Form.

On motion by Brown, second by Cobble, the Board approved the Safe Schools Electronic Application for Funding.

The Board on motion by Austin, second by Johnson, approved the Contract Agreement for Energy Grant.

On motion by Cobble, second by Crawford, the Out-of-State Field Trips were approved. Mrs. Johnson had a question about the Mosheim trip on how it will be funded and that is wasn't applicable. She expressed a concern for the students who would not be going and if it would be possible to see the criteria for who is going and who isn't. Dr. Kirk stated that what is meant by that is that you are not required to use BEP funds to fund trips that are not during the school day. Mr. Jones stated that if the trip is taken during the school trip that every child gets to go and most field trips that are outside the school day then there is fundraising and outside donations and some choose not to go. Mrs. Johnson wanted to request that the criteria for the trip be put on future trip requests.

The Board then moved on to pick up the consent agenda contracts that were pulled and required further discussions. **VIII-D1 MOU Dual Credit Ag Courses** - on motion by Austin, second by Cobble the contract was approved. Mrs. Johnson wanted to point out on page 4 that data would be collected and she felt that had been a concern of others.

VIII-D5 Bus Advertising Agreement- on Motion by Austin, second by Johnson, the Board approved the contract. Mrs. Austin wanted to make a couple of comments about how the money would be used and that she wanted to see most of the money used toward purchasing buses and would like to see a clause added that allows this money to be used for school buses and break it down for athletics and band and to move the money back to use for buses if needed. Mrs. Austin requested that the procedures for this be moved to discuss at the Board Retreat.

VIII-D6 MOU with ETSU- on Motion by Brown, second by Austin, the Board approved the contract with ETSU. Mrs. Johnson voted no. Mrs. Johnson stated that she would like to have a discussion that would be community wide so that they could understand what this community program is. Dr. Kirk clarified that we have had a long standing relationship with ETSU and this is an excellent program which allows us to participate in Professional Development in Chemistry, Biology and Physical Science training. She also stated that it obligates us to nothing.

After a heartfelt speech, the Board Chairman, Roger Jones, announced his resignation effective after the October Board meeting. He and his wife will be moving to Knoxville to be with their daughter and other family members. He stated that his heroes are teachers and he is proud to say he is from Greene County and to be a part of this system. He thanked everyone for their support over the years. Mr. Nathan Brown responded to the announcement with much gratitude to Mr. Jones for all he has done for the children of Greene County. He presented Mr. Jones with a plaque for his service as Board Chairman. He stated that had respect and love for him for always standing up for what he believes in. Mr. Jones received a standing ovation from those in attendance. Dr. Kirk added that she had not know Mr. Jones well before she came to Greene County Schools and she wanted to let him know how much she appreciated how much he has respected and supported her. He has always had the very best interest at heart for the children with every decision that he has made and that he and his experience and expertise will be sorely missed by the Board.

Mr. Jones then moved on to the elections for Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Board Secretary. He asked for a motion to elect the Board Chairman. Mrs. Crawford made the motion to elect Mr. Nathan Brown. Mrs. Austin nominated Ms. Kathy Crawford and Ms. Crawford refused the nomination. Mr. Jones asked for any other nominations. Mr. Brown was unanimously elected as the new Board Chairman. Mr. Jones then asked for a motion for Vice-Chair. Mr. Cobble made the motion to elect Mrs. Kathy Crawford. Mr. Jones asked for any other nominations and with none being made, he asked for a motion to approve by acclamation. Mr. Brown made the motion and Mrs. Crawford was unanimously elected as the new Vice-Chairman. Mr. Jones then moved to the election of Board Secretary and asked for a motion for a nominee for Board Secretary. Mr. Cobble made the motion to elect Trenda Berney. Mr. Jones asked for any other nominees, with none being made and with a motion to approve by acclamation, Mrs. Berney was elected as Board Secretary. Mr. Jones congratulated all three on their new appointment.

On a request to appear before the Board, Ms. Judith Sexton read a statement regarding her views in opposition of Common Core.

Mr. Donald Burchnell who also requested to appear before the Board, made a brief speech regarding Apprenticeship Training and stated that he would love to help and be a part of getting an Apprenticeship started in Greene County.

Mr. George Carpenter appeared before the Board to address the K-12 Virtual Academy and express his views on the Tennessee Virtual Academy and the funding that it is taking out of the budgets of the school systems in Tennessee.

Mr. Jones thanked all of those who spoke to the Board and for all in attendance. Dr. Kirk made a brief statement regarding the Board Retreat coming up on October 22nd and that each of them would be receiving more information and an agenda for the retreat.

On motion by Mr. Jones, and with no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.