

Yancey County Board of Education

Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2007

Opening:

Ms. Van Thomas, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Yancey County Board of Education to order at 6:00 P.M. on December 3, 2007, in the Board Office. Ms. Thomas welcomed all participants and led in prayer.

Present:

Ms. Van Thomas, Chair

Ms. Elaine Boone, Vice Chair

Dr. Iva Nell Buckner

Mr. Randy Banks

Mr. Jeremy Chandler

Dr. Thomas Little, Superintendent

Dr. Cheri Boone, Assistant Superintendent

Other interested parties

A. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

B. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the November 7, 2007 meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Chandler made that motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

C. Public Input

There was no response to the opportunity for public input.

D. Good News

1. Dr. Tom Little announced that PSAT scores for Yancey County were above the national average in all three academic areas.

2. Mr. Chad Ayers and members of the FFA presented information concerning the FFA State Dairy Competition where the FFA team, which consisted of five students, won 1st Place on November 15, 2007.

3. Dr. Tom Little presented the Bright Ideas grants recipients as follows: Ms. Kay Ball, Ms. Melanie Bennett, Ms. Sarah Delcourt, Ms. Patricia Thomas, and Ms. Angel Willis.

4. Dr. Tom Little announced that Yancey County Schools had received funding for an additional school nurse.

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E. Old Business

Dr. Little presented information concerning a proposal to implement an Alternative Learning Program or School. A meeting with the Yancey County Board of Commissioners along with the Yancey County Board of Education is scheduled for December 12, 2007, at 12 noon to discuss this issue as well as other issues of interest to both Boards.

F. New Business

1. Ms. Robbie Renfro introduced Mr. Dave Kerestes who presented the 2006-2007 Audit Report from Dixon-Hughes. His report included items of significant weakness and of material weakness. Some of the weaknesses included segregation of duties in the finance department, deposits/bank reconciliation/invoices/tickets accountability at the school levels, child nutrition information not locked in a filing cabinet, and purchase order discrepancies. Mr. Kerestes suggested training for Ms. Renfro to better prepare her in areas of financial reporting. Dr. Little posed some questions to Mr. Kerestes as to what happens if the significant or material weaknesses are ignored, what are the consequences if the same weaknesses occur again next year, can we get a copy of the report prior to the Board meeting, etc. Dr. Little also requested to be more involved in the audit process.

2. Ms. Tonda Gosnell from the Yancey County Health Department presented information concerning the Yancey County Student Based Health Centers. She informed the Board of some of the professional services offered by the Student Based Health Centers through a Nurse Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Dietitian, and Licensed Professional Counselors. The program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (60%), funds from the county, and space and utilities provided by the Yancey County Schools. She informed the Board that there are only 60 Student Health Centers across North Carolina and Yancey County has two of them. Ms. Gosnell explained that 90% of students will use the Student Health Centers during the school year. Ms. Van Thomas asked Ms. Gosnell what some of the needs of the Student Health Centers, to which Ms. Gosnell responded there was a need for a full time Nurse Practitioner.

3. Dr. Little presented the current financial statement and reported that Yancey County Schools was right on budget at this time.

4. Dr. Little presented the following field trip request:

• Field Trip Request – Bald Creek Elementary School, Washington, DC Tour, March 27-29, 2008

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the field trip request. Ms. Boone made the motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

5. Dr. Little presented the following revised policies for Board approval:

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- Revised Policy #1745/4027 – Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure for Students

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve Revised Policy #1745/4027. Mr. Banks made the motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- Revised Policy #1750/7220 – Grievance Procedure for Employees

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve Revised Policy #1750/7220. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- Revised Policy #1755/7237 – Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure for Employees

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve Revised Policy #1755/7237. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- Revised Policy #1756/4028/7238 – Anti-Hazing

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve Revised Policy #1756/4028/7238. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

6. Mr. Niles Howell presented the following maintenance report:

Bald Creek

- Re-built automatic water feed on boiler
- Installed a receptacle in the ceiling for LCD projector
- Water cooler repaired
- Installed flush valve on urinal
- Installed back flow preventer on boiler water supply

Bee Log

- Replaced steam trap on one steam line to reduce water hammer

Burnsville

- Winterized the field house
- Repaired heater in Mr. Cripps room
- Repaired loose tile in gym floor
- Replaced thermostat in one classroom
- Installed new gasket on the garbage disposal control box
- Repaired lunchroom outside door lock
- Replaced keyed three way in the hall

Cane River

- Painted new classrooms in old shop area
- Installed heaters in the new classrooms
- Installed fire alarm horn/strobe in new classroom and put another coat of paint on the walls
- Moved furniture to High School

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Clearmont

- Replaced radiator trap in the gym
- Repaired radiator leak in the gym
- Re-routed the cables for the plasma TV from principal's office to media center
- Installed insulation on steam pipe
- Reversed door vent in well house
- Replaced pipe in boiler room that was rusted out
- Installed back flow preventer for boiler

East Yancey

- Mounted TV stand in classroom
- Installed receptacles in Ms. Young's room
- Pulled phone line from office to ESL office
- Repaired urinal flush valve

Micaville

- Replaced radiator vent in kindergarten room
- Delivered divider from old bus garage
- Installed a KOP kit on pump
- Repaired kitchen screen door
- Repaired water cooler
- Repaired girls bathroom fixtures (changed battery)
- Installed back flow preventer on boiler
- Repaired flush valve in girls' restroom

Mountain Heritage

- Repaired steam line leak on the roof
- Caulked around the volley ball post
- Secured make up air vent in the gym that was stuck
- Worked on deep fryer that was reported to be heating unequally
- Changed two light ballasts
- Installed light covers in the kitchen
- Had gas meter installed for the habit building and fired gas heaters
- Repaired the urinal in boys locker room
- Installed new cook top and new ovens in FACS
- Repaired heat in Ms. Winters room (thermostat was off around 6 degrees and changed air filters)
- Serviced the heat in the boys locker rooms
- Moved furniture to CRMS

South Toe

- Repaired vacuum cleaner
- Installed back flow prevented for the boiler
- Repaired trap in girls restroom
- Reset five leaking water closets causing low water problem
- Installed new spray arm in kitchen

Central Office

- Installed new wall, door, and sliding window

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7. *Limited Claim Settlement Policy* – Mr. Donny Laws suggested this policy be presented as a 1st reading by the Board.

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the 1st reading of the *Limited Claim Settlement Policy*. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

G. Other

1. Dr. Little presented the Board with the *Dropout Prevention Assessment and Dropout Prevention Survey Results* prepared by Ms. Donna Banks and Ms. Kristin Buchanan.

2. Dr. Little presented the Board with the 4-H Narratives for November and the 4-H folder “*It’s All About Location: The Changing Rural Reality.*”

3. Dr. Little presented the Board with the *YCS December VISION*.

H. Closed Session

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion that the Board go into Closed Session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board. [N.C. G.S. § 143-318-11(a)(6)]. Mr. Banks made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

I. Return to Open Session

Ms. Thomas moved to go back into Open Session for the purpose of voting on personnel. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

J. Personnel

Dr. Little recommended the personnel list for Board approval as follows:

1. Retirement

- Grace Whitson – YCS Exceptional Children Director, effective February 1, 2008

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the retirement. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

2. Resignation

- James Cripps – Exceptional Children Teacher at Burnsville Elementary, effective January 4, 2008

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the resignation. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

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3. Employment

- *Debbie Phillips – 21st Century Community Learning Center After School Project Director*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve employment. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Pat Skinner – Interim Bus Driver at East Yancey Middle School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve employment. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Mitzie Williams – Bus Driver at Cane River Middle School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the employment. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Janette Solman – Bus Monitor at MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the employment. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Karen Higgins – Bus Monitor at Burnsville*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve employment. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Amy Voelker – Interim Biology Teacher at MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve employment. No motion was made for this approval.

4. Substitutes

- *Benoit Delcourt (Sub & Tutor) – EY, CR & MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Alana Davis – Any School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

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- *Kari Higgins – Any School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *April Palette – Any School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Pamela Butler – EY, CR & MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Lynn Walker – EY, CR & MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Melissa Hall – Any School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Lynn Fondaw (Sub & Tutor) – Any School*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Amy Voelker – MHHS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the substitute. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

5. Leave Request

- *Angela Beaver, Bus Driver at EYMS – Request Maternity Leave until August 2008*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the leave request. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

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6. Administrators' Contract Terms

- *Kevin Huskins, Assistant Principal at EYMS*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve a two-year contract. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- *Andrea Allen, Principal at Bee Log*

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve a two-year contract. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

K. Return to Closed Session:

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to go back into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing student issues under FERPA regulations [N.C. Gen. Stat§ 115C-319 through 321.2]. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

L. Return to Open Session:

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to come out of Closed Session and into Open Session for the purpose of adjournment. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

M. Adjournment:

Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Van Thomas, Chairperson

Elaine Boone, Vice Chairperson

Dr. Iva Nell Buckner

Jeremy Chandler

ATTEST:

Dr. Tom Little,
Superintendent

Randy Banks