

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE GALAX CITY SCHOOL BOARD HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE GALAX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY. PRESENT: MR. RAYMOND E. KOHL, CHAIRMAN; DR. JAMES G. ADAMS, VICE-CHAIRMAN; F. STEWART MERDIAN, W. LARRY SPANGLER, MEMBERS; BILL H. STURGILL, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT; REBECCA W. CARDWELL, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT; KARA D. GRAHAM, CLERK OF THE BOARD. HELEN O. KYLE, MEMBER, WAS ABSENT.

School administrators in attendance were Bill Sutherland, Jeff Sharpe, Frances Turpin, Kristie Legg, Derrick Spence, Justin Iroler, and Matthew Cornett. Also in attendance were teachers, students, parents, and a member of the press.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING – 2017-2018 SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET

Mr. Kohl opened the public hearing for comments on the 2017-2018 School Operating Budget. No comments were received. Mr. Kohl closed the public hearing.

PRESENTATIONS

VSBA School Board Appreciation Month

Mr. Sturgill stated that February is Virginia School Board Appreciation Month. Mr. Sturgill presented Board members with a certificate of appreciation from VSBA.

VSBA School Board Clerk Appreciation Week

Mr. Sturgill stated that February 20-24, 2017 is VSBA School Board Clerk Appreciation Week. Kara Graham and Rebecca Cardwell each received a certificate of appreciation from VSBA.

Focus on Instruction – Galax High School – CTE

Mr. Bill Sutherland stated that February has been recognized by Governor McAuliffe as Career and Technical Month. Galax High School currently offers the following CTE programs:

- Business Education
- Business & Information Technology
- Family & Consumer Science
- Automotive Technology
- Engineering & Robotics
- Nursing
- Agriculture

Presentations were made by students in the various programs and refreshments were provided to the Board by the Family & Consumer Science program. Board members were also presented with a printout of their name in binary code that was created by students in the Business & Information Technology

class. Board members were also given customized cutting boards that students in the agriculture program created using the Shopbot machine.

Members of the JROTC programs were also present and presented the United States flag and the Virginia flag during the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of the meeting.

Community Participation

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE BY MR. SPANGLER AND SECONDED BY DR. ADAMS THAT THE CONSENT AGENDA BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (Items on the consent agenda include minutes of the regular session held January 10, 2017, January payroll report, January electricity report, January substitute report, January financial statement, February listing of bills.)

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

The following reports were given:

- Black History Month is being recognized at each school.
- The audit for FY2016 was presented to the Board for their review.
- Administrators have been reviewing the division's attendance policy. Changes may be made to the policy to improve the attendance rate.
- VSBA legislative update - - A bill has been introduced that would allow local school boards and superintendents to waive licensure requirements in the CTE curriculum area. If this bill passes, it would open the door to growth in the CTE area. There is also a bill that, if passed, would require public schools to offer AP classes to homeschool students. This would allow divisions to report partial ADM for the time that homeschool students are present for the AP classes.
- JROTC Promotion Banquet was held on January 31, 2017. Mr. Kohl was the guest speaker at the banquet.
- Recommendations for the graduation speaker are still being accepted.
- There was a joint meeting with Galax City Council on February 13, 2017 to discuss financing options for the renovation project at Galax Elementary School.
- The plans for the renovation of the football field at Galax High School should be finalized within the week. The plans will then be sent to the state for their approval. Once approval has been received from the state, the project will go out to bid.

- The Forensics Team placed third in the conference competition. Adam Jordan placed 1st in Serious Dramatic; Ashland Taylor and Victoria Bartlett placed 1st in Humorous Duo; Jacob Cox and Evan Nuckolls placed 2nd in Humorous Duo; and Linden Snyder placed 3rd in Poetry. These students will advance to the regional competition on March 4, 2017.
- The Southwest Virginia Governors School recently held its annual science fair. William Brannock won second place in Consumer Science for his project on *The Effects of Ambient Noise on the Ability to Distinguish Recording Quality*; Eleanor Ozer won second place in Environmental Science for her project on *The Bioremediation of Copper and Lead by Saccharomyces cerevisiae*; and Ben Whittle won third place in Medicine and Health Sciences for his project on *Self-Powering Insulin Cooler*.
- Mrs. Cardwell stated that the division is one of six school divisions in the state that have applied for the Rural Math Grant. The grant is part of the National Science Initiative that will collectively award \$3M over a four year period to the school divisions that are awarded the grant. One middle school and one high school algebra teacher will be trained in teaching algebra in a way that ties the skills to specific professions. The teachers will develop a library of 200 lesson plans along with a video library.
- Intersession will be held February 20-24, 2017.
- Galax Elementary School and Galax Middle School will offer three weeks of summer camp in July. A brochure with details about the camp will be sent home with students in March.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Overnight Trip(s)

MOTION MADE BY MR. MERDIAN AND SECONDED BY MR. SPANGLER THAT THE OVERNIGHT TRIPS BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The overnight trips are as follows:

1. Wrestling-Region 1A West – Castlewood High School – February 10-11, 2017
 9 Students, 3 Chaperones (K. Spurlin, M. Franklin, M. Spurlin)
 Transportation: School Bus
 Projected Cost To: Student - \$0
 School - \$1308.91 Meals & Lodging (Wrestling
 Boosters & GHS Athletics)
 Division – Transportation Expenses

(The Board was polled on February 6, 2017 regarding this trip)

