

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE GALAX CITY SCHOOL BOARD HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE GALAX HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY. PRESENT: MR. RAYMOND E. KOHL, CHAIRMAN; DR. JAMES G. ADAMS, VICE-CHAIRMAN; F. STEWART MERDIAN, HELEN O. KYLE, W. LARRY SPANGLER, MEMBERS; BILL H. STURGILL, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT; REBECCA W. CARDWELL, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT; KARA D. GRAHAM, CLERK OF THE BOARD.

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

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS

Focus on Instruction – Galax Elementary School – PBIS Program

Darla Robbins, Beth Hodges, and April Gunn, teachers at Galax Elementary School, presented a video about the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) program that is being used this school year. The program teaches students appropriate behavior and establishes school-wide behavior expectations. Students earn Tide Tags as rewards for displaying positive behaviors such as being respectful, being responsible, and being helpful. Students place the tags that they earn on a lanyard and are allowed to wear their lanyard to school on Fridays.

Adam Jordan – Forensics State Champion

Adam Jordan, a senior at Galax High School, recently won first place in the VHSL Forensics competition for his monologue in the Serious Dramatic Interpretation category. His monologue was entitled “Dennis: An Original Masterpiece” and was about a boy with cerebral palsy and was based from Adam’s experience working with disabled individuals. Adam performed his monologue for the Board.

Community Participation

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE BY MRS. KYLE AND SECONDED BY MR. SPANGLER THAT THE CONSENT AGENDA BE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (Items on the consent agenda include minutes of the regular session held March 14, 2017, March payroll report, March electricity use report, March substitute report, March financial statement, April listing of bills.)

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

The following reports were given:

- Mr. Sturgill thanked the Galax Elementary School teachers and Adam Jordan for their presentations.
- The house on Academy Drive is under contract.
- Mr. Sturgill expressed his appreciation to all of the staff that has been working on the planning phases of GES renovation project and the turf project.
- Mr. Sturgill expressed his appreciation to Mr. Kohl and Dr. Adams for their work on the 2017-2018 School Operating Budget.
- Mr. Sturgill stated that the Davenport Group presented financial approaches for the funding of the Galax Elementary School Renovation Project at the April 10, 2017 meeting of the City Council. The Davenport Group is gathering information to determine the long term impact for the city.
- Mr. Sturgill stated that the division's health insurance plan has an option to be able to see a doctor by utilizing a smart phone app. Mr. Sturgill recently used this service and stated that it worked extremely well.
- Mr. Larry Spangler was reappointed by Galax City Council to serve an additional three-year term on the school board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approval of Special Education Plan for 2017-2018 School Year

MOTION MADE BY MRS. KYLE AND SECONDED BY DR. ADAMS THAT THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of VSBA Policy Updates

MOTION MADE BY MR. MERDIAN AND SECONDED BY MR. SPANGLER THAT THE VSBA POLICY UPDATES BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (A copy of the policy updates is attached to the minutes.)

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Overnight Trip(s)

MOTION MADE BY MRS. KYLE AND SECONDED BY DR. ADAMS THAT THE OVERNIGHT TRIPS BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The overnight trip(s) are as follows:

1. 21st Century – Virginia Aquarium, Virginia Beach, VA – May 19-20, 2017
51 Students, 5 Chaperones (S. Ramey, L. Iroler-Williams, J. Embree, C. Stanley, S. Truitt)
Transportation: Charter Bus
Projected Cost To: Student - \$0
 School - \$0
 Division - \$12,495.00 from 21st Century Grant

Approval of Perkins Plan for 2017-2018 School Year

MOTION MADE BY MR. SPANGLER AND SECONDED BY MR. MERDIAN THAT THE PERKINS PLAN FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Set Graduation Date/Graduation Speaker

Mr. Sturgill stated that the last day of school is scheduled for Friday, June 2, 2017 and that graduation will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017. Teachers and aides will have two workdays and two in-services days the following week. The year-end luncheon will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2017.

MOTION MADE BY DR. ADAMS AND SECONDED BY MRS. KYLE THAT THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL BE SET FOR JUNE 2, 2017 AND GRADUATION BE HELD ON JUNE 3, 2017 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The graduation speaker will be Mr. Stanley Meador. Mr. Meador is a 1992 graduate of Galax High School. He is an FBI agent and is currently the head special agent in the Wilmington, NC office of the FBI.

Approval of 2017-2018 School Operating Budget

Mr. Sturgill stated that the 2017-2018 School Operating Budget is a balanced budget with revenues and expenditures totaling \$15,583,931. The budget reflects a one percent salary increase for all employees. Mr. Sturgill stated that there will be five vacancies created by retirements, and two of those will not be filled.

MOTION MADE BY DR. ADAMS AND SECONDED BY MR. MERDIAN THAT THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (A copy of the budget is attached to the minutes.)

