

**GOOCHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2007  
GOOCHLAND HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. James L. Haskell, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Present were:**

James L. Haskell, Chairman  
Mr. Raymond A. Miller  
Mr. Ivan O. Mattox, Sr.  
Dr. Frank E. Morgan, Superintendent

**Absent:**

Mr. Andrew A. Meng, III, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Maxwell G. Cisne

**Also attending were:**

Linda A. Underwood, Assistant Superintendent  
Jon Bennett, Principal, Goochland High School  
James Hopkins, Principal, Byrd Elementary School  
John Mayo, Principal, Goochland Middle School  
Stacey Austin, Principal, Randolph Elementary School  
Dianna Gordon, Principal, Goochland Elementary School  
Thomas DeWeerd, Director of Secondary Education  
Ellen Guidry, Director of Elementary Education  
Saa'dia J. W. Talbert, Director of Finance  
Betty Thurston, Supervisor of Transportation  
Andrea Erard, Esquire, Legal Counsel

**The Media was represented by:**

Simon Owens, *The Goochland Courier*  
Brad Franklin, *The Goochland Gazette*

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lee Bobbio, a student at Goochland High School.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Dr. Morgan provided a Personnel Addendum to the Board.

**RECOGNITION**

Dr. Morgan and Mr. Haskell presented certificates of recognition to the following individuals:

**County Spelling Bee Participants:**

**Byrd Elementary School**

Madison Wright

**Goochland Elementary School**

Jesse Longest

**Randolph Elementary School**

Emma Roby

**Goochland Middle School**

Mary Wilcox

**Goochland High School**

Maggie Stanley

Carrie Mills

Rick Ramsey of Luck Stone for sponsorship of the Robotics Team.

Patti Cook of the FIRST Robotics Competition for sponsorship and support of the Robotics Team.

**Robotics Team Members:**

Lee Bobbio

Sean DeArras

Brandon Huggins

Kevin Alliason

Sarah Wood

Corey Salon

Taylor Williams

Kelsey Bowles

**FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- Wendy Hobbs spoke regarding the budget and proposed transportation changes to reduce costs. She asked the Board to consider children waiting in the dark for buses, children crossing roads in the dark to get on buses, and cars on rural roads. She also asked the Board to consider more assembly programs in schools during Black History Month to accompany in-class activities.
- Maye Higgs, Co-Chairman of Bus Drivers Advisory Committee, spoke on behalf of the Transportation Department in support of the original proposed budget that included increased driver salaries and replacement of buses.
- Edgar Smith, Co-Chairman of Bus Drivers Advisory Committee, spoke on behalf of the Transportation Department supporting the proposed budget and asked the Board to not reduce the proposed salary increases for bus drivers.

- Margaret Payne, President of Goochland Elementary School PTA, spoke in support of maintaining gifted programs and computer lab assistants in the budget.
- Kim Gentry, President of GEA, spoke in support of the original proposed budget including salary increases for teachers, aides, and bus drivers, and proposed growth teaching positions.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS**

- The recognition and ring ceremony for the state champion GHS football team will be Friday, March 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Morgan asked that a Board member speak on the Board's behalf at the ceremony.
- The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Visiting Team will be in Goochland on March 26-28, 2007.
- The Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Regional Dinner is scheduled for March 28, 2007 in Prince George County.
- The Chamber Budget Forum is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS auditorium. Dr. Morgan will be one of the panelists.
- The Board of Supervisors Public Hearing on the Budget is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
- The next regular monthly workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex Conference Room. Dr. Morgan proposed changing the workshop time to 5:00 p.m. in order to allow the Board members to attend the Board of Supervisors Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. All Board members present were in agreement.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

MINUTES

BILLS/PAYROLL

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval:  
 February 15, 2007 regular meeting minutes, February 27, 2007 workshop minutes, bills and payroll for February, and Personnel Actions.

#### **Appointments:**

Eric Albright, GHS, Instructional Assistant  
 Geraldine Capps, GMS, Instructional Assistant  
 Sonia Rosenberg, Part-time ESL Resource Teacher

#### **Resignations:**

Hali Emminger, GMS, Art  
 Nicolas Guerlet, GHS, French/Spanish  
 Joanna Hickman, GHS, Technology

Mary Knick, GHS, Math  
Carrie Purgason, RES, FAPT Instructional Assistant  
Kathleen Welsh, GHS, Technology

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox, to approve the Consent Items as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2007-08 CALENDAR**

Dr. Morgan reviewed the calendar proposals presented to the Board on February 27, 2007. These proposals were developed by a Calendar Committee that included a teacher and parent from each school. The Committee recommended a 2007-08 Calendar that includes opening school one week before Labor Day. The Committee also recommended that the first day of the 2008-09 school year be two weeks before Labor Day. Dr. Morgan further recommended to the Board that these two issues be handled separately and that the Board only receive public feedback at this meeting.

- Charlotte Cerne opposed starting school either one or two weeks before Labor Day and supported starting school after Labor Day.
- Carolyn Elliott opposed starting school either one or two weeks before Labor Day and supported starting school after Labor Day.
- Wendy Hobbs opposed starting school either one or two weeks before Labor Day and supported starting school after Labor Day.
- Janice Graziosi opposed any pre-Labor Day start of school. She also spoke on behalf of other parents from whom she had received e-mails. Out of 40 e-mails she received, 29 were opposed to opening two weeks before Labor Day, 4 had no objection to the early start, and 2 expressed interest in year-round school.
- Margaret Payne opposed starting school two weeks before Labor Day, and stated that she had received numerous responses from other parents supporting the starting of school after Labor Day.
- Susan Doczi asked if there is the need for a public hearing annually regarding the pre-Labor Day start to school. She also asked whether the half-days for teachers were necessary or whether they could better use a full teacher work day. (Dr. Morgan indicated that he would seek direct teacher input on this issue through Teacher Advisory and the Goochland Education Association.)
- Larry Leabough opposed opening school two weeks before Labor Day, opposed any change in transportation schedules to reduce the budget, and recommended that the Board hire an independent auditing firm to review the budget and make recommendations as to cost reductions.
- Janice Graziosi spoke regarding the budget and asked the Board to give more consideration to the "kids in the middle."

- Janice Graziosi read an e-mail by Nancy Ashley (who was present but could not talk) opposing starting school before Labor Day

#### BYRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION

James Hopkins, Principal, presented the Byrd Elementary School Improvement Plan.

#### FY 2007-08 BUDGET UPDATE

Dr. Morgan presented an overview of the original \$26,123,695 budget request that was submitted to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors have proposed \$25,070,000 in funding, which will require budget cuts of \$1,053,695. Possible cuts could include competitiveness increases for bus drivers, funding for family health insurance at the same level as for county employees, materials and capital equipment needs, the proposed \$5.00 per day increase for substitute teachers, the proposed internship coordinator, the gifted summer school enrichment program, and the 9 buses required for growth and maintenance of 13-year replacement cycle. Dr. Morgan also indicated that the Board could change school starting and dismissal times to reduce transportation costs, reduce non-mandated programs in areas such as gifted education, and eliminate computer lab aides. He stated that if the County will provide additional assistance for the purchase of school buses, instructional programs and growth positions could be maintained. The Board will continue to discuss the budget on March 27, 2007.

#### ACTION ITEMS

##### PROPOSED 2007-08 CALENDAR

Dr. Morgan recommended the Board table action on the 2007-08 calendar to the March 27, 2007 workshop in order to compile more public comment. Dr. Morgan will send a letter home to parents with information on the calendar proposals and seek additional input, which would be presented to the Board on March 27, 2007.

##### RESOLUTION HONORING GHS FOOTBALL TEAM

Dr. Morgan presented a Resolution honoring the state championship GHS football team, which will be presented at the ceremony honoring the team on March 23, 2007.

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None.

#### SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

#### CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(2) for the discussion or consideration of a student disciplinary matter. The motion was approved unanimously.

**END CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller for the Board to come out of Closed Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox for approval of the Certification of Closed Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

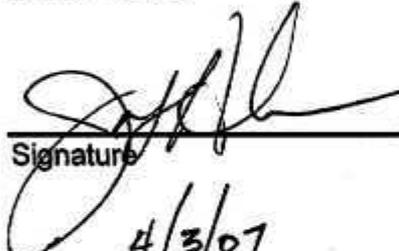
**ACTION ITEM**

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to long-term suspend student no. 11-06 through the end of the 2006-07 school year and to permit student no. 11-06 to participate in Project Return or Night GED during the term of his/her suspension. If student no. 11-06 is of good behavior and has good grades, in the discretion of the Superintendent, Student no. 11-06 may be readmitted to the regular school at the beginning of the fourth marking period.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 4/3/07

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 4/6/07