

**GOOCHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY WORKSHOP
March 22, 2011
Goochland High School**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Ivan O. Mattox, Sr., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Present were:

Ivan O. Mattox, Sr., Chairman
Mr. Maxwell G. Cisne
Mr. Raymond A. Miller
Dr. Linda A. Underwood, Superintendent

Absent:

James L. Haskell, Vice Chairman
Mr. Andrew A. Meng, III

Also attending were:

Peter M. Gretz, Assistant Superintendent
Tom DeWeerd, Director of Secondary Education
Francie Ball, Principal, Goochland High School
Dianna Gordon, Principal, Randolph Elementary School
Stacey Austin, Principal, Goochland Elementary School
Ernie McLeod, Director of Finance
Andrea Erard, Legal Counsel
Diane Bennett, School Board Clerk

The Media was represented by:

Ken Odor, *The Goochland Gazette*

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Dr. Underwood presented additions/deletions/changes to agenda.

STATEMENT BY MR. MATTOX:

Out of respect for fellow citizens and the business of the School Board, we ask that citizens demonstrate courtesy to the public in attendance, speakers, and the Board. If discussions are necessary, please step out of the room. If it is necessary to stretch your legs, please step out of the room. We want everyone to be able to focus on the business of the meeting with as few unnecessary distractions as possible. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- John Wright spoke regarding Apple computer lease. He said he assumes we have not received bids from outside contractors other than Apple. He sees a four-year lease in excess of \$400,000 per year and he hopes there is language that leaves a caveat for budget approval. He said it would be wise to solicit bids from other vendors other than Apple with this being a significant portion of the budget. He would like to see these things considered in the future.

- Jane Christie said there are alternative ways to save money without cutting positions or student programs. She understands that Goochland County and Goochland Schools are paying employer and employee portions of VRS and the County is holding \$850,000 toward the shortfall. She said the County and Schools can't afford to keep paying the contributions. She said if Goochland Schools changed the policy this would save around \$600,000 in the proposed budget. She feels this needs to be addressed. Another way is in vacant high level positions, moving principals and still meeting SOQ, not filling the elementary director position, and not hiring a math specialist. She believes if the schools make a good faith effort they would have more support from community and Board of Supervisors.
- Michael McDermott spoke regarding transparency and agenda accuracy stating he was disappointed the meeting started late and without a quorum and considering amount on agenda that there are only three Board members present. He said he continues to see action items on the workshop agenda. He said there was the mention of side conversations but the public is no different from members of Board and he sees side conversations among Board members. He said the side conversations are taking place because of bomb shells dropped. He echoed Mr. Wright's comments about the Apple lease, how sizeable it is, and there were no other bids. He wondered why the School Board isn't trying to get separate lease proposals. He has a problem that the public is not getting the information considering the technology.
- Adeeb Hamzey said there are issues that have him concerned such as the lack of bidding for the Apple computer lease. He asked that the Board explain the position with Apple computers in that business position tells him that anything above a certain amount must go to bidding. He asked that the Board provide some explanation.

ACTION ITEMS:

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

David Blanchard and Ron Bargatze presented information regarding the health insurance renewal. It is a Schools' contract and the County is a subsidiary so it requires School Board approval for the Board of Supervisors to act.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to accept the health insurance renewal as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

CTE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Dr. Underwood presented a request for supplemental appropriation request in the amount of \$5,298.22 for SY 2010-2011 state equipment expenditures reimbursement. Funding became available from the state for CTE equipment. Mr. DeWeerd has sent in all of the paperwork. Dr. Underwood recommended approval request for supplemental appropriation.

Mr. Cisne made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the CTE Supplemental Appropriation as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPLE COMPUTERS LEASE

A new lease with Apple Computers was presented for approval. Tom DeWeerd explained that staff continued to work with Apple Computers. This lease is \$50,000 less than it has been in the last four years. He said we received three bids and CCA was the best price. He further stated we are sole source with Apple and have been since 1996.

We have a self-servicing account. Sean Campbell does repairs and we get paid for warranty work.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to approve the Apple Computers Lease as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CORE VALUES/BELIEFS

Dr. Underwood presented Core Values/Beliefs for approval and stated that staff made a recommendation for one change. The Board discussed the changes. The Core Values and Beliefs are as follows:

Core Values and Beliefs

1. We believe education is more than test scores and graduation rates. While such performance measures are extremely important, we place high value on our students being prepared for life whether that be work, higher education, or whatever pursuit they choose. We want our students to learn to think logically and creatively and to embrace life-long learning as an essential value. We want our students to leave this school system prepared for options and opportunities that may come their way.

2. We are committed to high quality and excellence in whatever programs and services we offer; we have high expectations of our employees, our students, and ourselves as a School Board;

3. As a School Board we are committed to transparency in our decision-making process; we expect to be held accountable for good stewardship of the resources made available to the school division in the effective and efficient delivery of programs and services and invite accountability in that regard;

4. We believe that the schools alone are not responsible for student learning, that the parents, the teachers, the students and the community at large share responsibility in providing opportunities and expecting results;

5. We are committed to providing a clean, safe, secure, and healthy environment and services for our personnel and students;

6. The impact of our decisions on the lives of students is our first priority;

7. We are committed to optimizing the opportunities for ALL students with the resources we have available;

8. We believe programs that prevent failure are preferable to those that remediate but are committed to doing everything in our power to optimize life options for all of our students;

9. We believe that the early focus on basic skills pays dividends in broadening options for later learning.

10. We are committed to meeting all compliance-based requirements but our efforts are designed to greatly exceed those expectations.

11. Finally, we are committed to continuous improvement in all that we do.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to approve the Core Values/Beliefs as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

VISION STATEMENT REVIEW

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding revisions to the Vision Statement.

SY 2010-2011 CALENDAR REVIEW/ADJUSTMENT

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the status of the SY 2010-2011 calendar. She explained that all of the built-in make-up days had been used. Three make-up days could not be used (November 24, December 20, and December 21) as it

was too late to use those days. She stated the principals have made adjustments in pacing guides to account for the missed days. Dr. Underwood recommended that the last day of school for students be June 3, 2011 and the last day for teachers be June 6, 2011. There was a consensus of the School Board members that June 3, 2011 be the last day of school for students and June 6, 2011 be the last day for teachers.

SCHEDULE FOR ADVANCED DISTRICT ACCREDITATION

Pete Gretz presented information regarding the schedule for accreditation for next year. He said the schools will seek re-accreditation through AdvancED (formerly SACS-CASI).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Dr. Underwood presented the February 28, 2011 financial update.

COSTS/SAVINGS OF POTENTIAL ADJUSTMENTS TO FY 2011-2012 BUDGET

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the costs/savings of potential adjustments to the FY 2011-2012 Budget. She stated the difference is \$1,186,323.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE AUDIT REVIEW

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the School Food Service Audit Review. She stated there were two areas in which we were not in compliance. One was a posting that was not in the media and Mrs. Landrum took care of that. The other one was that Mrs. Landrum was not submitting financial reports timely, but it was because we were not getting our financial information from the county in a timely manner.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AUDIT REVIEW

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the Special Education Audit Review. She stated the auditors were here week before last. In the exit interview they were very complimentary of all records reviewed. They are preparing their written report and there were no violations. They were most pleased with subjective information.

Dr. Underwood also stated there was a third federal report for the audit of stimulus funds. The auditors visited in February and went through all of paperwork of monies spent in stimulus funds. The auditor then goes through it and will submit report. They were complimentary that we were organized and had what they were looking for.

Dr. Underwood said she will share both reports when she receives them.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL ADDENDUM

The following Personnel Action was presented for approval:

Supplemental Appointments:

Middle School Baseball: Dave Falconer
Middle School Girls Soccer: Molly Lennarz

Mr. Cisne made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the Personnel Action as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

FACILITIES STUDY

At the March 8, 2011 meeting a study was suggested to look at how we use facilities, cost effectiveness, problematic results, and to come up with cost analysis of whether it is cost effective to have two elementary schools versus three. Further the administration would then do an analysis of the educational program to see how it would be impacted.

Dr. Underwood recommended Facilities Committee already in place start with this study. She asked for direction from the Board as to whether she should convene the Facilities Committee. Mr. Mattox said he thinks that is a good start. Mr. Cisne and Mr. Miller agreed.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Section § 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the discussion or consideration of a student disciplinary matter because discussion in open meeting would disclose information from a student scholastic record. The motion was approved unanimously.

END CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Cisne 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. Cisne, to certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

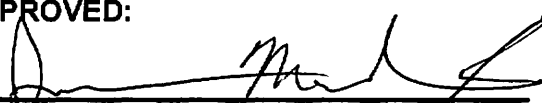
ACTION ITEM

Mr. Cisne made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to continue the case of student no. 12-10 pending the submission of the results of four consecutive monthly drug tests to the superintendent. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

APPROVED:



Signature

4/12/11

Date

APPROVED:



Signature

4/12/11

Date