

GOOCHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

MAY 11, 2010

GOOCHLAND HIGH SCHOOL

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Maxwell G. Cisne, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were:

Maxwell G. Cisne, Chairman
Ivan O. Mattox, Sr., Vice Chairman
Mr. James L. Haskell
Mr. Andrew A. Meng, III
Mr. Raymond A. Miller
Dr. Linda A. Underwood, Superintendent

Also attending were:

Peter M. Gretz, Assistant Superintendent
Lynne Venter, Director of Finance and Operations
Betty Thurston, Supervisor of Transportation
Lisa Landrum, Supervisor of Nutrition
Sonny Turner, Supervisor of Maintenance
Tom DeWeerd, Director of Secondary Education
Debra Beasley, Director of Special Education and Student Services
Francie Ball, Principal, Goochland High School
Johnette Burdette, Principal, Goochland Middle School
Dianna Gordon, Principal, Goochland Elementary School
Stacey Austin, Principal, Randolph Elementary School
Andrea Erard, Legal Counsel

The Media was represented by:

Ken Odor, *The Goochland Gazette*

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Gus Payne, a 4th Grader at Byrd Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Dr. Underwood presented additions/changes to the agenda.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Underwood and Mr. Cisne presented certificates of recognition to the following:

- Lisa Landrum for School Nutrition Week. Certificates were given out earlier in the week to all nutrition staff at the schools.
- VSBA Art Contest Participants: Hunter McKinney, Dylan Short, and Haley Herrmann, who was the first place winner.

- Science Fair Participants: Katie Gentry, Gus Payne, Travis Short, Faith Gerdes, Helena Trevor, Lauron Creasey, Kaitlyn Hawk Riley Powers, and John King.
- Marti Van Epps for School Nurses Day. Molly Hawkins, Mazie Rowe, and Chris Finn were not present, but also received certificates.
- Special Olympics Participants: Colin Browder, Rachele Hope, Moira Schwerdtfeger, Sam Parrish, Jamal Mickey, Anna Montaperto, James Hope, Hayley Pinkston, and Lauren Stokes.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Jo D. Hosken spoke as the chairman of GEPA, and asked that the School Board not eliminate teaching positions, but eliminate administrative positions. She asked that the School Board retain teaching positions, put administrators who are former teachers back in teaching positions until the school system is in a better financial situation, requested that a count for the number of teacher positions at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year and the number of those lost through attrition and/or termination be emailed or posted to the blog, and asked that the total number of administrative positions lost either through attrition or termination for the same period be emailed or posted to the blog, including positions held. She stated that GEPA has twice before presented alternate budgets that demonstrate that this budget can be cut without double bus runs or loss of teaching staff. Ms. Hosken asked that the School Board look for other solutions before taking one teaching position.
- Jane Christie said there has been talk of elimination of the gifted center and returning children to their home schools. She asked if there will be a gifted center in Goochland County next year, and if so will it be grades 3-5, or grades 4-5. She further stated that under Dr. Underwood the gifted center has been eroded long before the budget cuts and that the website lists the gifted center as the "annex". She stated the children need time for transition, and if the intention is to eliminate the gifted center, parents need to know how GCPS plans to provide the gifted students with a full day of gifted instruction to address their educational needs. She stated the gifted center provides the most cost effective way to do it and that the center-based elementary program is a core program. She further stated that they categorically reject the Superintendent's decision to move this program away from the best practices method. If Dr. Underwood plans to phase out the gifted center, Ms. Christie stated they insist the School Board take a public vote of this change of policy. She stated the gifted center does not need to be a casualty in this cycle, but if the School Board makes that choice their needs to be accountability for that decision.
- John Wright spoke as parent and representative of GEPA. Mr. Wright stated they have talked until they are "blue in the face". They have expressed what the public would like to see or prioritized in this budget: teachers are the last resort; programs are last resort. Mr. Wright stated teachers and students need resources in order to effectively do their jobs. He feels there are a number of proposed cuts that are in conflict with proposed budget and fears they will see

more of the same types of things. He implored the School Board to hear what has been said.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

- Regular Monthly Workshop-Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex Conference Room
- Teacher Appreciation Week is this week. The schools each did various things to show appreciation to the teachers.
- Graduation is June 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Gochland High School.

CONSENT ITEMS **PERSONNEL ACTIONS** **MINUTES** **BILLS/PAYROLL**

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval:
April 13, 2010 regular meeting minutes, April 27, 2010 workshop minutes, Bills and Payroll for April, and Personnel Actions.

Approval for Move from Probationary to Continuing Contract:

Eric Albright
Beatriz Cantor
Elizabeth Curfman
Kimberly Daniels
Jermelle Dandridge
Hannah DeFore

Brett Derrico
Sherrill Kauffman
Susanna Launder
Elizabeth Meiller
James Neuffer
Bridget Parker

Stacey Rainbolt
Emily Ray
Elizabeth Routson
Amanda Tolson
Rachel Wiggins
Jessica Zorger

Approval for Continuing Contract:

Jennifer Abbott
Betsy Alvis
Elizabeth Alvis
Carla Armstrong
Linda Arnette
Kimberly Austin
Stacey Austin
Kim Bachmann
Leona Barnes
Debra Beasley
Jamieson Beatty
Kimberly Berry
Catherine Biggs
Melissa Black
Deborah Blackburn

Jennifer Bocrie
Amy Bowles
Allison Brook
Patrick Brook
Jan Brown
Lisa Brown
Amanda Brownson
Johnette Burdette
Kelly Burton
Andrea Cachina
Sean Campbell
Thomas Case
Jennifer Casteel
Graham Chapman
Jodi Chewning

Christin Ciminelli
Beverly Cooley
Oliver Courtney
Deborah Cross
Gretchen Curreri
Linda Davidson
Leslie Deitterick
Thomas DeWeerd
Donna Dickerson
Mary Kay Dinger
Kristy Dodd
Jillian Edwards
Elane Ellis
Barbara Evans
Wesley Farkas

Cary Farr
Elizabeth Ferguson
Edith Flaig
Connie Foreman
Elizabeth Fowler
Joe Fowler
Kristian Fulton
Kent Gall
Anteal Gargiulo
Elizabeth Gentry
Dianna Gordon
Patrick Gordon
Bryan Gordon
Kimberly Gragnani
Thomas Gutzmer
Karen Hall
Jayne Hancock
Karen Harden
Julia Harper
Cora Harris
Glenda Hawk
Sandra Hebbe
John Hendron
Amy Henneberger
Teresa Hood
James Hopkins
Bethany Hughes
Bradley Jackson
Cindi Jackson
Henry Jones
Rhonda Kass

Maryanne Kennelly
Anne Keo
Elizabeth Kuhns
Kristin Larsen
Nancy Lewis
Carolyn Long
Darlene Martin
Tina McCay
James McKenzie
Beth McKenzie-Mohr
Karen McTamey
Addie Minns
Bruce Montgomery
Stacy Mott
Wendy Murray
Karen Neylan
Deanna Nichols
Sarah Nicholson
Diana Nixon
Julia Norris
Terri Nunes
Diane O'Connell
Deborah Parker
Zoe Parrish
Joyce Pechan
Patricia Randolph
Tiffany Ray
Ann Rohrer
Karen Scott
Michael Simons
Zarina Singh

Matthew Singleton
Heather Slater
Carole Smith
Kamesha Smith
Patricia Smith
Deborah Solyan
Jamie-Ellen Spessard
Amy Spoonhower
Bert Stanley
Melanie Stegner
Adrian Stevens
Karren Streagle
Daniel Summitt
James Sykes
Kimberley Talley
Tina Taylor
Renae Townsend
Joni Truscott
David Tual
Melanie Vaughan
Susan Vaughan
Rebecca Wallace
Carol Washburn
Roberta Watson
Kimberly Watts
Marianne Whisler
Heather Wilckens
Sandra Wilcox
Nancy Wilmink
Matthew Wilson
Margaret Yurick

Approval for Probationary Contract:

Kathlyn Albert
Megan Ash
Kelly Ayling
Frances Ball
Krystle Battistelli
Sarah Bay
Kelli Bratton
Nicole Carter
Matt Covington
Grace Creasey
Brenda Davis
Margaret Dickerson
Megan Donovan
John Driscoll
Douglas Getter
Peter Gretz

Blair Grigg
Laura Hatcher
Takara Higgs
Amy Holzbach
William James
Michael Jarvis
Khadijah Johnson
Sara Jones
Sandra Kasch
Laura Kassner
Shelliotte Lawson
Alison Lehman
Elizabeth Ligon
Amanda Lingor
Stephanie Mask
Renee Mayo

Steven McAlpin
Leah McGowan
Lisa Melton
Kimberly Otte
Christina Owens
Melissa Petersen
Amie Potter
Rebecca Raab
Courtney Rodgers
Douglas Rohrer
Joshua Rooke
Brian Ross
Amy Scheetz
Barry Smith
Gemma Smith
Amanda Steeley

Michael Tomlin
Jennifer Waggener

Annelise Ware
Meredith Wilkinson

Erin Yearout-Patton

Supplemental Appointment:

Kimberly Berry, Junior Class Sponsor

Resignation:

Sandra Hinchman, GHS, Spanish
Shannon Miller, BES, Special Education

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

ACTION ITEMS:

2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN

Dr. Underwood presented the 2010-2011 Special Education Plan, stating that functionally there are no changes. There was an increase in Special Education funding and a slight decrease in preschool funding. Dr. Underwood recommended approval as presented.

Mr. Haskell made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Special Education Plan as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

GRIEVANCE ISSUES (April 13, 2010)

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the grievance issue heard by the School Board on April 13, 2010. The School Board must affirm the decision of the Superintendent with respect to the performance evaluation and contract status of EE-1-10 and to grant the request by EE-1-10 with respect to his/her personnel file. Dr. Underwood presented the necessary document for signature.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Haskell, to affirm the decision of the Superintendent with respect to the performance evaluation and contract status of EE-1-10 and to grant the request by EE-1-10 with respect to his/her personnel file. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2010-2011 BUDGET: SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Underwood presented her proposed recommendations for the additional budget cuts. The recommendations were as follows:

- Facilities: \$65,000
- Transportation: \$13,000 by reducing number of bus stops in subdivisions and dead-end roads
- Operations and Maintenance: \$48,000
- Additional reduction in electricity
- Director of Elementary Education and Title I - critical functions reassigned to four existing staff
- Human Resources Specialist - critical functions reassigned to eight existing staff

- Research and Information Services - responsibilities eliminated or assigned to eight existing staff
- Procedural Due Process Specialist position eliminated - responsibilities reassigned to school psychologist (with increase in contract days-secondary special education supervisor); Increase existing part-time school psychologist contract (.5 to .75); Eliminate additional days for 1.75 psychologists
- Revise elementary gifted program from center-based to school-based; assign one Enrichment Resource Teacher to each elementary school
- Reduce one elementary classroom teacher

Dr. Underwood also recommended the following "put-backs:"

- Special education transportation
- Additional days: secondary special education supervisor/school psychologist, county enrichment specialist, testing coordinator
- Add-back days: leave coordinator, CO clerical
- Replacement capital - operations and maintenance

Mr. Haskell asked that Dr. Underwood include more information regarding the change in categories. The presentation will be posted to Dr. Underwood's blog.

GOOCHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ODOR

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the odor at Goochland Elementary School, stating the odor has been around for approximately 50 years. Sonny Turner was present and explained the measures he and his staff have taken over the years to fix the problem. The School Board discussed the matter.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox, that Mr. Turner send out a request for a proposal from professionals to determine the cause of the odor problem. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

- John Wright stated he appreciates the fact that a presentation was made but sorry it wasn't made like the Board of Supervisors' presentation in that people couldn't see or hear. Mr. Wright questioned the \$180,000 for technology that Dr. Underwood mentioned in her presentation, in that Dr. Underwood stated it was \$26,000 per school which means there were 6 schools included in that number. Mr. Wright stated that would mean the specialty center would be counted as a school. Considering the fact that there is no longer a preschool initiative or Tender Tots program and there is no longer the gifted center, would the schools still qualify to receive the \$26k?

Mr. Wright further stated the Superintendent used percentages to demonstrate how administration has a greater percentage than that of what she called professional staff in schools – at 20% vs. 80% respectively. He said it is easier to get higher percentages in a smaller population than it is in a larger population.

Mr. Wright stated he feels percentages are often misleading, and it would be nice to know how many people left and how many people were there in the beginning.

Mr. Wright stated that in the presentation there was \$65,000 that was taken out of the facilities budget that was there as a holdover from the prior year. Later there was some discussion about how difficult the prior year was. He said this tells him that this \$65,000 was more important than some of the jobs that were previously taken in the budget and that this is an extremely telling thing and he finds it shameful. Mr. Wright stated he feels confident that GEPA will continue to closely monitor what is going on. He stated it has never stopped feeling like there are all kinds of "shenanigans" going on here and whether there are or not it's often difficult to tell because the information is really difficult to come by and specific information is impossible.

- Jane Christie said she trusts that all of the figures entailed will be made available to the public since they are available in the packet. She understands that 26 teaching positions have been eliminated, of which 13 were given reduction in force notices and 13 have been lost to attrition; only 4 high level administrative positions have been eliminated-3 of them were retired or resigned and their functions have been reallocated to other people. Ms. Christie asked why we are losing 26 teachers and only 4 high level administrative positions. She asked if the Director of Elementary Education position has been eliminated or just not counted because of a leave of absence. She would like to know how much is saved by the elimination of the gifted center, how this total cost is broken down. She also mentioned there were questions asked earlier by email, stating GEPA requires answers to those.
- Michael McDermott stated that in a smaller community why when people speak out repeatedly no one listens. He wants to know why the School Board can have PowerPoints in their packets and no one else has copies, asked why the big screen is not being used so the numbers can be seen. He asked why no high level administrative positions have been cut, stating he wants the cuts to be equitable. Mr. McDermott stated he felt the School Board spent more time talking about the odor problem at Goochland Elementary School than they did about the budget. Mr. McDermott feels the public needs to hear more about solutions and less about problems, more about consolidation, and asked what the School Board is going to do other than cut teachers.
- Kristin McNaron – secretary of GEPA stated she appreciates info that was in the PowerPoint, explaining she takes copious notes to get information out to parents from the meeting. Ms. McNaron stated she wrote as fast as she could and could not get it all down, nor could she see it. She asked that it be presented in a different way, suggesting it be put in the agenda packet before the meeting and/or published on line quickly. She thanked Mr. Haskell for asking for more detail in order to get some clarity. Regarding the odor at Goochland Elementary School, she explained that this topic came up at a Board of Supervisors meeting. She further explained that there was discussion at the Board of Supervisors meeting that there are space issues at Goochland Elementary and clear that there will not be a new school any time soon, but that in the meantime there are issues that need to be dealt with.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Meng made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(2) for the discussion or consideration of 3 student disciplinary matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in scholastic records.

END CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Meng 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. Haskell 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. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox, to long-term suspend student no. 10-09 for 364 days and to permit student no. 10-09 to receive educational services that are consistent with his/her IEP, which may include participating in Project Return if the student's conduct, attendance and achievement are appropriate. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEM

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Haskell, to long-term suspend student no. 11-09 for 364 days and to permit student no. 11-09 to receive educational services that are consistent with his/her IEP, which may include participating in Project Return if the student's conduct, attendance and achievement are appropriate. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEM

Mr. Meng made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Haskell, to long-term suspend student no. 12-09 for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year and to permit student no. 12-09 to receive educational services through Project Return if the student's conduct, attendance and achievement are appropriate. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

APPROVED:

Mr. Miller: Leslie
Signature

6/8/10
Date

APPROVED:

Diane W. Bennett
Signature

6/8/10
Date