

**GOOCHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 25, 2007
ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

James L. Haskell, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Present were:

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

Also attending were:

Thomas DeWeerd, Director of Secondary Education
Betty Thurston, Supervisor of Transportation
Andrea Erard, Esquire, Legal Counsel

The Media was represented by:

Jaclyn O'Laughlin, *The Goochland Courier*

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Dr. Underwood added a Request for Religious Exemption to the Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Angela Carter, a Holland Hills resident and GCPS parent, spoke regarding the change in bus routes. She is concerned that the bus stop at Bulldog Lane and Steeple Chase is not safe for the children. She asked the Board to reconsider the decision to allow buses to use the private roads in the subdivision. She also stated that Holland Hills roads will be turned over the VDOT on October 1, 2007.

Kathleen Swink, a Holland Hills resident and GCPS parent, spoke regarding an issue with a bus driver. Ms. Swink was upset because the bus had returned a group of children to school and they were unable to contact parents to let them know where they were. She also spoke regarding the use of cell phones by students while on the buses. She asked the Board to reconsider the children's having cell phones on buses in order to contact parents in the event this situation of this type arises.

Judy Johnson, a GCPS parent, also spoke regarding the bus driver issue. She, too, was concerned about the fact that the children were returned to school without being able to contact parents.

Ethyl McLaughlin, a GCPS parent, spoke about the bus driver issue stating she had been behind the bus driver and witnessed the driver pulling out in front of other drivers and driving at excessive speeds. She also had an issue with pictures of the children being taken by other children with cell phones.

Arlene Schwartz, a GCPS parent, spoke about the bus driver issue stating the driver drives at excessive speeds and stops the bus abruptly if the children misbehave. She is concerned about the children's safety.

CONSENT ITEMS

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

The following Personnel Actions were presented for approval:

Appointments:

Connie P. McClung, Bus Driver
Deborah L. Moon, BES, Instructional Assistant
Doris J. Mullins, GHS/GMS, Cafeteria

Supplemental Appointments:

Kent Gall, Band Director
Kirby Goode, Color Guard
James Haynes, Percussion
Mike Winkler, Percussion

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Personnel Actions as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM:

VISION, MISSION, GOALS AND PRIORITIES

Dr. Underwood presented the 2007-2009 Vision, Mission, Goals and Priorities. The Board discussed changes to language regarding retaining teachers. Dr. Underwood will work on revisions and bring the changes back at the next Board workshop.

ACTION ITEM:

2007-2008 CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION

Dr. Underwood presented a summary of the consolidated application. The application shows a total of \$308,372.33 available from federal grants and summarizes the plan for use of these funds.

Mr. Cisne made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Consolidated Application as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Dr. Underwood presented an update on the Middle School/High School construction. There is still a long punch list of items that need to be completed. The Construction Committee will continue to meet every other Tuesday until all items are complete.

There will be approximately \$300,000 in contingency money available. Dr. Underwood asked the Board for approval to have the track and field completed at a cost of approximately \$80,000. The Board asked that this be deferred until the next Board meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

REGULATIONS FOR SCHOOL BUS ROUTES

Dr. Underwood presented proposed regulations for determination of bus routes and establishing a process to request an exception to the regulation. The Board discussed the regulation and requested language be added allowing the Board to revise the regulation at any time. Andrea Erard, legal counsel, added the appropriate language to the regulation.

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Regulation for School Bus Routes as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM:

ELECTRONIC COMMUNITY SURVEY

Dr. Underwood presented draft questions for the Electronic Community Survey. The survey is to be turned on the week of October 18, 2007. The Board discussed the questions and requested a few changes. Dr. Underwood will send a letter to the Board of Supervisors notifying them of the survey.

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Dr. Underwood presented information regarding the new elementary school. She spoke with Jim McCalla with Moseley Architects regarding three options for the elementary school. The cost was based on the Board being ready to send the job out to bid within the next six weeks. Mr. McCalla will go back and rework the plan, adding an approximate 8% increase to the figures, which will go to the School Board and the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Underwood will meet with Greg Wolfrey, the County Administrator, to discuss the new elementary school.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION

Dr. Underwood presented a request for religious exemption from compulsory attendance pursuant to Virginia Code Section 22.1-24(B) and asked the Board to review the request. The Board requested that Dr. Underwood notify the parent the request was not sufficient and instruct the parent to submit more information as required by the Virginia Code.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Central Garage meeting has been changed to November 7, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.
- Tom DeWeerd is to revise the technology plan and present it to the Board at the next workshop.
- Johnette Burdette, Principal of Goochland Middle School, will present the School Improvement Plan at the next Board meeting.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Cisne made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(2) for the discussion or consideration of two student disciplinary matters and pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1) for the discussion of the hiring of the Assistant Superintendent.

END CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne 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. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox, to long-term suspend student 1-07 through the end of the first nine weeks of the 2007-08 school year and to permit student 1-07 to participate in Project Return during the term of his/her suspension. Upon student 1-07's return to school, he or she shall be required to ride in the front seat of the bus until the end of the first semester of the 2007-08 school year.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to expel student 2-07 and to provide such educational services to student 2-07 consistent with his/her IEP so as to permit student 2-07 to meet his/her diploma requirements.

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cisne, to appoint Sarah Susbury as Assistant Superintendent effective November 5, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

APPROVED:



Signature

APPROVED:



Signature

10-9-07

Date

10 9-07

Date