

January 12, 2012

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, January 12, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regularly scheduled monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and will receive per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Ervin Easterwood, Wendy D. Lowe, Dan Fincher, and Byron Long. School Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was in attendance.

Superintendent Desper called the meeting order at 6:03 p.m.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to nominate and elect chairperson and vice-chairperson at the February 9, 2012 meeting and for the current officers to stay on as they are until the February meeting.

Director of Operations Rick Little led the invocation and Assistant Superintendent Tommy Qualls led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Fincher, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to remove the nominations and approval of chairperson and vice-chairperson and approve the agenda as amended.

Recognitions:

- ✿ Transportation Director Bruce Godfrey presented the bus safety contest participants whom placed 1st and 2nd for 2011. These students were recognized and presented a certificate.
- ✿ Middle School and High School Principals and Band Directors recognized the students who were chosen for the All State Honor Band and for the UGA Honor Band. These students were recognized and presented with a certificate.

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented the enrollment as 4412 students, drop-outs as six students, and students missing 15 or more days as 64. Tate Elementary School received the banner for the highest monthly attendance of 97.11%. Qualls and Cantrell spoke of a new program that Sheriff Craig has implemented for some of the students that are currently incarcerated. These students are able to Skype from the county jail to Mountain Education

Center (MEC) for assistance from teachers and para-pros to allow them to work toward receiving their credits to get their high school diploma. It is currently a trial to see how it goes.

Supervisor of Operations Rick Little presented an operations update, which included maintenance, transportation, and food service.

Chief Financial Finance Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported the FY12 General Fund revenue as 60.67% and expenditures as 38.81%. Burgess reported the SPLOST III December revenue as \$328,567.13, interest as \$2,867.28, and balance as \$3,814,427.19. Burgess announced that Auditors will be joining us the last two weeks of January.

Desper announced that all of our schools excluding the high school (it is not a Title I school) are Georgia Title I Distinguished Schools. This means that all of our schools have continued to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) for three years or more.

Desper announced that a seminar for resiliency in children will be held on Friday, January 13th at 2:00 p.m. at the county administrative office. This seminar was provided by Collaborations and had a guest speaker from the Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) on behalf of the Pickens County Schools Special Education Department.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Long, which passed unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes for December 8th and called board meeting minutes from December 14th as presented.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to approve the surplus items presented as surplus.

A motion was made by Lowe, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to go into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)) and to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial

actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (OCGA 50-14-2)..

A motion was made by Lowe, seconded by Long, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 7:38 p.m.

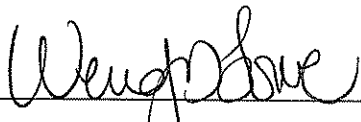
Chair Lowe reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to approve personnel as presented. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Easterwood commended Cantrell on the drop-out rate. He also said he appreciated Sheriff Craig for working with the students who are incarcerated to work toward their diploma through MEC. He also thanked everyone for the hard work they do for the school system.
- Vice-Chairperson Long seconded Easterwood's comments.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.



Wendy D. Lowe, Chair



Ben Desper, Secretary