

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 24, 2011**

The Cumberland County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, February 24, 2011 in the Central Office Board Room, where the meeting was called to order by Chairman Schlafer at the approximate hour of 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting, with a special welcome to the Boy Scouts that are working on their Citizenship Merit Badges.

INSPIRATIONAL: Video of Tom Herbert, "Man with no Hands."

PRESENT: Schlafer, Tollett, Bowman
Janeway, Hyder, Davis
Brewer, Blalock,
Timson (CCEA Rep)
Janow (CCHS Rep)
Wallace (SMHS Rep)

ABSENT: Randolph

COUNSEL: Mr. Earl Patton

1 **Call to Order:** (See above)

2 **Welcome to Visitors:** (See above)

3 **Moment of Silence**

4 **Pledge to Flag:** Brewer led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 **Special Recognition:** CCHS Valedictorian: John Garland
CCHS Salutatorian: Anthony Scott
SMHS Valedictorian: Kendra Carey
SMHS Salutatorian: Katherine French

These students were recognized and commended for their achievements in academics; each of them will graduate summa cum laude. Chairman Schlafer told these students that they are very outstanding students, and everyone is very proud of what they have accomplished in the classroom and also in extracurricular activities. They were awarded certificates by Ms. VanWinkle.

B. New Principal: Ms. VanWinkle introduced Mr. Eddie Nunnley, new Phoenix School principal. Mr. Nunnely worked in our school system before for eleven or twelve years. She also welcomed his wife, Jane, back to Cumberland County.

6 **Roll Call:** (See above)

7 ***Approval of Minutes of January 27, 2011:** (See Exhibit #2) Davis made and Bowman seconded a motion to approve the 2-27-11 minutes with the following correction: Page 3, Item #13, A - School Board Reports,

change "Parliamentarian Brewer" to "TLN Representative Brewer."

VOICE VOTE: Davis (mover-yes)
Bowman (seconder-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried **unanimously**

8 ***Approval of Agenda:** (See Exhibit #1) Brewer made and Hyder seconded a motion to approve the Agenda as per Exhibit #1.

VOICE VOTE: Brewer (mover-yes)
Hyder (seconder-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried **unanimously**

9 **Community Comments:** (None)

10 **School Board Reports**

A. TLN Report: Brewer reported that there is a lot going on in Nashville. Tenure is being studied. The Education Sub-Committee is addressing "elected versus appointed directors of schools", although it is delayed in committee at this time. Budgets and cuts are being discussed for Education. Chairman Schlafer, DOS VanWinkle, Janeway, and Bowman attended the TSBA Day on the Hill. A huge crowd was there, and Janeway stated that this is the first time we've ever had a representative to sit at the table with our group – Representative Cameron Sexton was very hospitable. Chairman Schlafer addressed Ms. Timson, CCEA Rep, and asked her to relay this message to all the teachers in Cumberland County: "Regardless of what happens, everyone sitting at this table is supportive of teachers, and we want to do the very best we can for you with or without... whatever. We are committed, and I think our track record shows that we want you to have the best working conditions that you can have; we want you to have the best materials we can give you; the best salary we can give you; the best benefits we can give you." He further stated that this is an uncertain time and that this Board stands behind the teachers. Ms. Timson stated that she was able to attend the Day on the Hill for teachers, and she was proud to be able to say that she has a Board that listens to its teachers. She is on the phone and emails every day advising our Representatives and Senators about what is good and what is bad for Cumberland County Schools and all schools.

11 **Legal Report**

A. Pending litigation meeting: Mr. Patton asked board members to meet for a short time immediately following the meeting tonight.

B. Dodd Case: Mr. Patton reported that there is a Motion for Summary Judgment to be heard on March 25th, 2011. He has reviewed the motion and it focuses on the "Foreseeability" issue.

C. Custody Issues: Mr. Patton stated that custody issues are a problem in our school system. In reviewing the policy that is in place on "Release during School Hours (6.208)" it is scheduled to be reviewed in April.

Also, "Child Custody/Parental Access (6.209)" will be reviewed in April. He would like to discuss these two policies with the Policy Committee when they are reviewed. He feels that all schools should have a certified copy of an order regarding residential parents/visitation, et cetera.

12 Director of Schools Report

A. Report on Progress of Energy Efficient Schools Initiative: Mr. Steve Smith reported that the building automation system was completed at Homestead this week and work is underway for this system at North. Training is being conducted on the BAS system with Jason in Maintenance. To correct nuisance alarms of the boilers at CCHS, the gas company came in and adjusted the gas pressure down due to the removal of the two large boilers.

Control designs were completed for SMHS, North, Brown and South. Parts are being ordered for these schools and a crew will be starting the work soon.

The bad batch of ballasts from GE are still giving trouble, but they are being replaced by GE at no charge. Checking is being done to ensure that this is trouble that is caused by a "bad batch" of ballasts and nothing else.

Letters from students are on-line with comments about how wonderful it is to have good lighting in the school rooms.

B. Audit Report from Comptroller of the Treasury: (See Exhibit #3) Ms. VanWinkle stated that on Page 181 of the audit report, we will find that there were no findings in the Director of School's office, which is a compliment to the financial staff in the office. There were some findings in the Finance Director's office that must be addressed by the CCBOE. This is very hard to do when the Finance Office is all the way across town. There is discussion regarding moving the Finance Office to the Central Office. This would not mean that there would be any changes in anyone's status, but it would be so much easier for everyone if this could happen and could probably eliminate the findings found in the Finance Director's office.

Chairman Schlafer explained that auditors are paid to find things, and that is what a "finding" is – something that is not major. Having the school's office to have no "findings" is virtually unheard of. If an "exception" is found, that means a major violation, and we have none of those, either. Further discussion was had.

C. Contingency Plan for Make-up Snow Days: (See Exhibit #4) Ms. VanWinkle stated that since 45-minutes are being used for make-up instead of 43-minutes, she would like to change the date from March 28th to March 24th for completing the making up of snow days. If one more snow day is missed, there would still be enough time before TCAPS to make it up by extending the day. SMHS Rep Wallace stated that he likes the way the time is being made up; he does not have to worry about getting his homework at home. CCHS Rep Janow stated that he does not like it; he would not have liked any way it was done, but since it had to be done, he feels that extending the day is the best way to do the make-up. CCEA Rep Timson stated that she is exhausted by the end of the day, especially if staying for extra teaching, but she thinks it is good that more TCAP work is getting done. The principals that were present tonight

stated that they have noticed no more leaving early or attendance changes due to the extended time.

D. FYI: (See Exhibit #5) Ms. VanWinkle called attention to the IOSS report, which is more in depth than what has been received from ISBA because it is looking at all the educational issues that are on the table

13 **School Board Committees**

A. Attorney Contract Committee: Blalock reported that a meeting was had this month and another one is scheduled for March 9th at 4:30.

B. Safety Committee: Davis reported that this committee met yesterday. The program that is of interest was reviewed on line; it was very impressive. Ms. Lane (Coordinated School Health Program Director) stated that the committee wants to make sure it considers every option that is available. More options will be studied.

C. Building and Grounds Committee: (See Exhibit #6) Janeway reported that Pineview was toured on January 31st by this committee, along with Mr. Wilson and Ms. VanWinkle. He commended Ms. Allen and the whole staff and community for the excellent job in maintaining the school. He stated that it is so well-kept, you can hardly tell when you leave the old part of the building and enter the new part. He reported on the need for more space in the school, and recommended that the same layout be used for Pineview as is being used for Pleasant Hill (Exhibit #6) if and when improvements are made. There is about the same footage in the old gym at Pineview as at Pleasant Hill where the two-story addition is to be built. He further asked that the board consider tearing down the old gym at Pineview and replacing it with a building exactly like what is being done at Pleasant Hill (which would add at least eight classrooms) by adding this project to the Bakers Crossroads project. He thinks that due to the Tri-County Industrial Park that will be developed on top of Rockwood Mountain, there could very well be a big boom in students at Pineview, since it is the closest school to that site. Crab Orchard, which is also in that end of the county, is very limited with space. A Middle School concept was brought up by Brewer. Further discussion was had.

Ms. VanWinkle stated that the Building and Grounds Committee will leave from the Central Office in the morning, February 25th, to ride the bus to tour Pleasant Hill Elementary.

14 **Business Manager Report**

A. January Monthly Financial Report: (See Exhibit #7) Ms. Randol stated that Property Taxes are at 56.3%, which should increase greatly since the end of February is the due date for all property taxes. Prior year collections are at 113.9%. Revenues are at 57.3%; Expenditures are at exactly 50%. Ms. VanWinkle stated that we are using the Fund Balance for all the 700 series. Ms. Randol stated that the HVAC work at CCHS came in at a very good bid.

B. Sales Tax Report: Ms. Randol stated that she did not receive the sales tax numbers from the Trustee's office this month.

- 15 ***Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with CCEA:** (See Exhibit #8)
Ms. Timson reported that the teachers overwhelmingly voted to extend the school day by 45 minutes, but the contract states that teachers are to work 7-12 hours a day; therefore, this Memorandum of Understanding was developed to cover the Board in making the decision to extend the day. Bowman made and Davis seconded a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as per Exhibit #8.

VOICE VOTE: Bowman (mover-yes)
Davis (seconder-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried unanimously

- 16 ***Approval of DOS Performance Evaluation Document:** (See Exhibit #9)
Chairman Schlafer stated that since 2003, TSBA has been employed to conduct the very important DOS evaluation process. Board members have had the evaluation instrument that will be used for about a week and should have had time to review it. He has given each board member a self-addressed and postage paid manila envelope containing the document; he asked each board member to fill it out as honestly and completely as possible and mail it back within two weeks of today. After a question from Bowman regarding new board members not having had a chance to have much experience at this, it was decided that this item will be re-visited at a later date when the full board feels comfortable doing the evaluation.

- 17 ***Approval of Grant Applications**

A. CTE Perkins Reserve Grant: (See Exhibit #10) Mr. Wilson stated that this grant is called "Going the Distance for Cumberland County" and its purpose is to increase the enrollment and graduation rates for non-traditional students. He explained how our students will be connected with students all over the world by computers. Ms. Josette Schlafer, CTE Lab Coordinator, has been the person who has done all the hard technical work on the project. Davis made and Bowman seconded a motion to approve the grant application as per Exhibit #10.

VOICE VOTE: Davis (mover-yes)
Bowman (seconder-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried unanimously

B. Readiness and Emergency Management Grant: (See Exhibit #11)
Mr. Clafin stated that this grant will be largely based on training for emergency situations in our schools. He explained what the grant will do and asked for approval to write the grant. Davis made and Janeway seconded a motion to approve the writing of the grant as per Exhibit #11.

VOICE VOTE: Davis (mover-yes)
Janeway (seconder-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried unanimously

- 18 ***Consent Agenda**

A. Approval of Field Trips: (See Exhibit #12)
1. CCHS Speech/Theater Arts

2. Pine View Elementary Jr. High Trip
3. SMHS Interact Club
- B. Approval of Volunteers: (See Exhibit #13)**
 1. CCHS
 2. Crab Orchard Elementary
 3. Pleasant Hill Elementary
 4. South Cumberland Elementary
 5. Martin Elementary
 6. SMHS
- C. Approval of Disposal of Surplus Property: (See Exhibit #14)**
- D. Approval of CCHS Resurfacing Specifications: (See Exhibit #15)**
- E. Approval of 2nd Reading on Policies: (See Exhibit #16)**
 1. 1.808 - Registered Sex Offenders
 2. 3.403 - Traffic and Parking Controls
 3. 4.201 - Basic Curriculum Program
 4. 4.203 - Advanced College Placement
 5. 4.204 - Summer School
 6. 4.209 - Alternative Credit Options
 7. 4.402 - Selection of Instructional Materials (Other than Textbooks)
 8. 4.502 - Parent/Family Involvement
 9. 4.5021 - Family Engagement
 10. 4.700 - Testing Programs
- F. Approval of 1st Reading on Policies: (See Exhibit #17)**
 1. 2.100 – Fiscal Management Goals
 2. 2.802 – Payroll Procedures
 3. 2.804 – Expenses and Reimbursements
 4. 2.8041 – Travel

Janeway made and Brewer seconded a motion to approve #18, Consent Agenda, as per Exhibits #12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.

VOICE VOTE: Bowman (mover-yes)
Brewer (second-yes)
All ayes

MOTION: Carried unanimously

19 **Old Business:** (None)

20 **Questions from Media:** (None)

Chairman Schlafer stated that a budget committee workshop will be held at 5:00 o'clock on March 24th (an hour earlier than the regular meeting). At that meeting salaries, wages and benefits and the costs of these items will be discussed for budget purposes.

(One (1) tape dated 02-24-11 is marked as Exhibit #18)

21 **Adjournment:** Tollett made and Hyder seconded a motion to adjourn.

VOICE VOTE: All ayes

MOTION: Carried unanimously

(Continued on Page #7)

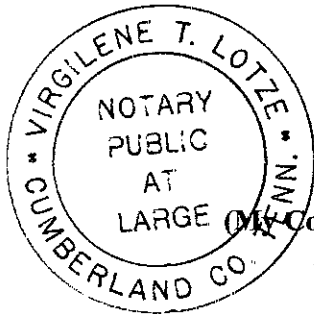
(Minutes of 2-24-11 continued from Page #6)

(WHEREUPON, the meeting was adjourned
at the approximate hour of 7:00 p.m.)

Ms. Aarona VanWinkle
Director of Schools

Mr. Dan Schlafer
Chairman of the Board

I, Virgie Lotze, do hereby certify that I reported the foregoing minutes
and that I delivered said minutes to the office of the Director of Schools
on March 3rd, 2011.



Virgie Lotze
Virgie Lotze
Court Reporter and Notary Public
at Large for the State of Tennessee

(My Commission expires 6-6-11)

22 * Indicates Board Approval Required