

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, January 27, 2011**

The Cumberland County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, January 27, 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.

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

**ABSENT:** None

**COUNSEL:** Mr. Earl Patton

- 1 **Call to Order:** (See above)
- 2 **Welcome to Visitors:** (See above)
- 3 **Tribute to Jerry Patton:** A beautiful video presentation of Mr. Jerry Patton's life was shown. Mr. Patton had worked for the Board of Education in the maintenance department for many years and passed away suddenly about two weeks ago. His wife, Glenna, has worked in the Special Education Program for many years. His family was present for the memorial. He will be greatly missed.
- 4 **Moment of Silence:** Chairman Schlafer asked us to remember the Patton family during our moment of silence.
- 5 **Pledge to Flag:** Janeway led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 6 **Special Recognition: Jake Campbell, Pleasant Hill Elementary Spelling Bee Champion**

Ms. Huff introduced Jake and stated that he is a model student and works very hard. He is the son of Jerry and Michelle Campbell. Ms. Huff introduced the spelling bee coordinator, Ms. Jacqueline Smith, to tell about what is next for Jake. Ms. Smith stated that he will be competing in March at Knoxville at the Regional Spelling Bee. Jake won first place in his 6<sup>th</sup> grade; 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade; and now he has gotten 1<sup>st</sup> place this year. Jake stated that he thinks the reason he can spell so well is that he reads and studies a lot, especially the etymology of words. He stated that he is grateful for being able to represent his school by winning 1<sup>st</sup> place.

- 7     **Roll Call:** (See above)
- 8     **\*Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2010:** (See Exhibit #2) Davis made and Bowman seconded a motion to approve the 12-16-10 minutes as presented.  
**VOICE VOTE:**                 Davis (mover-yes)  
                                       Bowman (seconder-yes)  
                                       All ayes  
**MOTION:**                       **Carried unanimously**
- 9     **\*Approval of Agenda:** (See Exhibit #1) Janeway made and Bowman seconded a motion to approve the agenda as per Exhibit #1.  
**VOICE VOTE:**                 Janeway (mover-yes)  
                                       Bowman (seconder-yes)  
                                       All ayes  
**MOTION:**                       **Carried unanimously**
- 10    **Community Comments:** (None)
- 11    **Recognition of County-wide Light Switch Winners presented by Nancy McBee, Trane Representative:** Mr. Owen Nevadar and Nancy McBee, IRANE Reps, were present to award the winners of the county-wide light switch competition. This competition was implemented as a way to get people to turn the lights off when they leave a room. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Pineview winner is Mark Austin Morris. He received a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond for his sticker. Kristopher George Kade Cole, CCHS 9<sup>th</sup> grade student, won the competition for his age group. Ms. Graham represented Kristopher. He also won a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond. The stickers will be mass-produced and a sticker will be put on every light switch in our schools, as well as all other BOE buildings. Pictures were made of Mark and his parents for the newspaper; Ms. VanWinkle will get a picture of Kristopher for the paper.
- 12    **\*Commitment to Graduate Program presented by Lisa Spain:** (See Exhibit #3) Ms. Beth Mahaffey and Ms. Lisa Spain were present to tell about the Josten Renaissance Program. In 2010, the third Josten Renaissance was held at Fairfield Glade Resort. Ms. Spain, who flew in from Houston, Texas to visit our meeting tonight, talked about the Dissertation Program, a research-based program – All About Education - started by Jostens. The main focus of the program is getting students to graduate. She stated that if approved, the Cumberland County school system will be the very first county to embrace this program in grades K-12, and this program exists all over the world. A visual of a diploma will be displayed in every school. There are also lime green bracelets which are a visual reminder that the wearer is “all about learning”. There are 450,000 bracelets in existence now and many more will be produced. Four years of data has been collected from the research which shows that the program is effective. There has been an increase in graduation numbers in schools where the program has been implemented. Jostens will provide everything pertaining to the program for every school without any cost whatsoever to the schools. After a recommendation from Ms. VanWinkle, Davis made and Brewer seconded a motion to adopt the program for all Cumberland County schools. In discussion, Ms. VanWinkle

stated that our communities will be asked to make a commitment to help put up posters that have catchy phrases printed on them regarding the ten reasons to graduate - "We Support Our Schools"; "No Empty Seats", and others. Ms. Spain stated that they will be telling other cities about our school system, since we will be a "pilot" or "model" school because we are the first school system to put this program in all grades – K-12.

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

**MOTION:** Carried unanimously

**13 School Board Reports**

**A. TLN Report:** Parliamentarian Brewer stated that ICAP scores are being determined by Boards of Education at this time, to determine what percentage of ICAP grades will be factored into the students' grades. From what she has been told, the state is requiring this policy; therefore, the state is going to have to make the ICAP scores available a lot sooner than they have in the past in order for the schools to prepare for the tests.

**14 Legal Report**

**A.** Mr. Patton stated that there have been on major developments in any pending litigation. There has been a new lawsuit filed by the parents of a student concerning a weight-lifting accident. Counsel has been assigned to that case and Mr. Patton has been in contact with that counselor.

**15 Director of Schools Report**

**A. Report on Progress of Energy Efficient Schools Initiative:** Mr. Steve Smith, maintenance director, gave a report, stating that lighting and water work is underway at some of the schools. Pineview windows are complete. Vending machine work is being done. The remainder of work that has to be done mainly has to do with heat and air. All HVAC units at CCHS will be changed. All the principals are very pleased with the work and the way it has been done.

**B. Cumberland County Schools State Report Card:** (See Exhibit #4) Ms. VanWinkle introduced Ms. Rebecca Wood to give a report on the Cumberland County Schools report card. Ms. Wood did a power point presentation that was very detailed and helpful regarding every grade level in the county. She explained how the benchmarks have changed since 2002 when the reading proficiency was at 73%. That number has increased every year and the goal is to be at 100%. The state has decided that the school systems of the State of Tennessee need to have a more rigorous curriculum and an assessment that shows that students have really mastered the content - not just barely but truly mastered it. Therefore, the standards and tests are now tougher than ever before. She explained the reasoning for and the way the re-calculation of the benchmarks was done. In discussion, Chairman Schlafer reiterated what Parliamentarian Brewer had said – these test results must be available sooner so that students will have more time to study for these tests, even though the reason for getting the numbers so late this year is because of the new standards and new tests. He thinks the test results should be gotten at the beginning of the school year so plans can be made and instruction can go forward in the areas that need it the most. Further discussion was had at the close of the presentation.

**C. \*Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between CCBOE and CCEA:** (See Exhibit #5) Ms. VanWinkle stated that back in the spring, she presented a 3% increase in salary for teachers on the local pay scale. She stated that that 3% increase for all teachers in our system would have cost \$12,628.94. This was changed to a 6% increase, which would have cost about \$25,257.00, and \$26,000.00 was put in the budget to cover this. However, the CCEA made the decision to change the way this was paid to the teachers – according to their level of education and years of teaching. She made it plain that that 6% was only on their local supplement and not on their total salary. After discussion, Blalock made and Davis seconded a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as per Exhibit #5. In discussion, Brewer expressed the opinion that it is shameful to have to vote on a \$63.00 a year increase – not per week or per month, but per year – for our teachers. Our teachers’ salaries rank 127<sup>th</sup> out of 136 school systems in the state.

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

**MOTION:** Carried unanimously

**C. Review of 2010-2011 School Calendar:** (See Exhibit #6) Ms. VanWinkle reminded everyone that last year the decision was made that if more than 13 days were missed for snow this year, the spring break would be used to make those days up. However, she feels that the board should be included in making that decision at this time. Today makes the 17<sup>th</sup> day of school missed due to snow and dangerous road conditions. Three days of Staff Development are being taken for make-up, but that still leaves four days to be made up. Presidents’ Day, which is February 21<sup>st</sup>, could be taken for a make-up day. Other options from the State Attendance Guidelines are: reduce time scheduled for spring break; extend the school year but not going beyond June 30<sup>th</sup>; scheduling classes on Saturdays; or adding additional time to the end of the day. If 30 minutes were added to the day, it would take 13 days to make up one school day; if 43 minutes were added to the day, it would take 9 days to make up one school day. The Guidelines state that adding extra time at the end of the day should be considered only as a last resort. After discussion, Blalock expressed his opinion that the days should be taken from spring break (as per the decision that was made last year). Tyler Janow, CCHS representative, stated he thinks, from a student’s perspective, that he will benefit more by extending the school day than by taking away the days he would have to give up for spring break. Ms. VanWinkle recommended that time be added to the school day in order to get more instruction time in before TCAP tests. (The tests will start about 52 days from now). Janeway expressed the opinion that the children will not benefit much by extending their classes by five or ten minutes; he thinks every Saturday or every other Saturday should be made a school day to make up the time instead of adding nine (9) or thirteen (13) days to make up one day. Mr. McAnally stated that it costs about \$2,000.00 a day for fuel to run the buses, but they have not run on snow days; therefore, it would not add any additional costs for fuel by going on Saturdays. At this point, Hyder made and Brewer seconded a motion to have school on President’s Day.

**VOICE VOTE:** Hyder (mover-yes)  
Brewer (seconder-yes)  
8-ayes, Blalock-no

**MOTION:** Carried (8-yes, 1-no)

(Continued on Page 5)

At this point, Randolph made and Brewer seconded a motion to have Ms. VanWinkle talk to the principals about extending the school day by either thirty (30) minutes or forty-three (43) minutes; after having principals get in-put from their teachers and staff, if there is a substantial objection, then another meeting will be held for discussion and something different will be done. If a majority of the persons contacted is in favor of the motion to extend the school day by either thirty (30) or forty-three (43) minutes, the motion will be approved by the Executive Committee. If the extension is approved, spring break will be intact, weather permitting. (Ms. VanWinkle stated that the little children's schedules will not be changed; they will just have more time in their classes. The changes in schedules will be only to departmentalized classes). CCEA representative, Ms. Timson, stated that she has talked to several teachers and parents who are against extending the school day. Further discussion was had.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Randolph (mover-yes)  
Brewer (seconder-yes)  
Bowman (yes), Blalock (no)  
Davis (yes), Tollett (yes)  
Hyder (yes), Janeway (no)  
Chairman Schlafer (yes)

**MOTION:** Carried (7-yes, 2-no)

**D. FYI:** (See Exhibit #7)

**A. TSBA Day on the Hill:** Ms. VanWinkle stated that the Day on the Hill has been scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February; she passed around a sign-up sheet for signatures of those who plan to go.

**B. TSBA Law Seminar:** Ms. VanWinkle passed a sign-up sheet around for those who anticipate going to this seminar; she will take care of registration for everyone.

**10 School Board Committees**

**A. Attorney Contract Committee:** Blalock stated that the work on this contract is on-going.

**B. Safety Committee:** (See Exhibit #8) Davis stated that this committee met yesterday afternoon. Mr. Tim Claflin gave a report on the meeting with News Media Learning in regard to preventing work place harassment. This is an on-line course that can be done by all employees. A committee is being formed to address student bullying. The next meeting will be held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 o'clock at the Central Office. There will be a video presented on that date by a company called Correctional Services, Inc., an on-line training about understanding the prevention of bullying and harassment.

**C. Building and Grounds Committee:** Janeway stated that a meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>; the committee will meet at 7:00 a.m. to visit a school. Anyone wanting to go to the school can meet and leave at 7:00 a.m. on the bus from the Central Office.

(Continued on Page 6)

17 **Business Manager Report**

**A. December Monthly Financial Report:** (See Exhibit #9) Ms. Randol reported that Property Tax is at 48%, but much more is expected to come in in February. Local Option Sales Tax is holding its own. Revenues that come in regularly are at around 50% or just below. Total Revenues are at 48.2%. In Expenditures, she drew attention to Line 72310, Board of Education, which is at 50.56% due to worker's compensation insurance; Line 72710, Transportation, is at 53.64%, due to the purchase of buses.

**B. Sales Tax Report:** (See Exhibit #10) Ms. Randol reported that for this month, collections for January are at \$593,518.45, which puts us at \$27,408.51 above what was collected last year as of that date. If things continue as they are now, she feels that we will exceed our budget amount. (If this happens, it will be the first time in three years that we've been in the black with the budget.)

18 **\*Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of Field Trips:** (See Exhibit #11)

1. CCHS Track Team
2. North Cumberland Honors Trip
3. SMHS Beta Club

**B. Approval of Volunteers:** (See Exhibit #12)

1. CCHS
2. Homestead Elementary
3. Pleasant Hill Elementary

**C. Approval of Bus Specifications:** (See Exhibit #13)

**D. Approval of 1<sup>st</sup> Reading on Policies:** (See Exhibit #14)

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

Randolph made and Bowman seconded a motion to approve Item #18, Consent Agenda, as per Exhibits #11, 12, 13 and 14.

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

**MOTION:** Carried unanimously

19 **Old Business**

**A. School Board Appreciation Week:** Chairman Schlafer thanked all schools for the remembrances and gifts they provided for the board tonight, with a special thanks to North Cumberland Elementary for the delicious meal that was served.

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

(Minutes of 1-27-11 continued from Page 6)

(Two (2) tapes dated 1-27-11 are marked as Exhibit #15)

- 21 **Adjournment:** Bowman made and Hyder seconded a motion to adjourn.  
**VOICE VOTE:** All ayes  
**MOTION:** Carried unanimously

(WHEREUPON, the meeting was adjourned  
at the approximate hour of 8:15 p.m.)


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**Ms. Aarona VanWinkle**  
**Director of Schools**

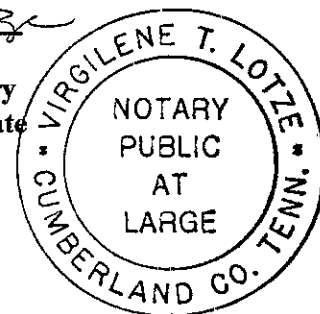
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**Mr. Dan Schlafer**  
**Chairman of the Board**

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  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.

  
**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