

The Pickens County Board of Education met on March 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at Gordo High School (630 4th Street NW, Gordo, AL). Nick Tolstick, Annie Jackson, Michael Hinton and Debbie Holley were present. LaSonja Richardson arrived at 9:20 a.m. Others present were Superintendent Jamie Chapman, Vanessa Anthony, Jennifer Shirley, Alesia Williams, Anissa Ball and Board Attorney Ray Ward.

1. **MEETING OPENED:**

Chairman Nick Tolstick welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that a moment of silence be observed.

2. **APPROVE AGENDA:**

On a motion by Annie Jackson, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the additions, *III.E. Career Fair, III.F. Fatal Decision III.G. AASB Meeting, IV.B. Landlord Letter of Consent.*

3. **APPROVE MINUTES:**

On a motion by Debbie Holley, seconded by Michael Hinton the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2016 meeting.

4. **APPROVE PAYROLL:**

On a motion by Michael Hinton, seconded by Annie Jackson the Board unanimously approved the February payroll as presented by CSFO Jennifer Shirley.

5. **COMMUNITY GROUPS:** None

6. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

On a motion by Debbie Holley, seconded by Michael Hinton the Board unanimously approved the financial statement as presented by CSFO, Jennifer Shirley for the month of February and the cash balances as follows:

General Fund	\$2,645,497.87
QZAB	105,581.91
Capital	790,256.95
Capital CD	344,325.11
Debt Service Fund	82,971.25
CNP Balance	321,515.98
Federal Programs	66,487.98
Local Schools	668,778.36

7. **WHOLE BOARD TRAINING REQUIREMENT:**

Mr. Chapman informed the Board that the workshop to satisfy their whole board training requirement has been scheduled. Mr. Lynn Smith will conduct the training on Strategic Planning at the Central Office on April 18th from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

8. **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:**

Mr. Vanessa Anthony introduced Ms. Carol Pinkerton with American Behavioral who gave a proposal for an employee assistance program. Ms Pinkerton explained to the Board the program would provide a full service, easily accessible and proactive EAP program for our employees. Some of the plans features, she addressed are; marital/family problems, emotional difficulties, work related problems, financial stressors, and alcohol and other dependency assessments. Ms. Pinkerton also explained that the plan gave administrators access to private manager support center to assist them with employee issues. Mr. Chapman told the Board he felt this program would be a great benefit to all our employees. He asked the Board to study the proposal over the next month and that he planned to bring a recommendation at the next meeting to offer this service as a benefit to our employees next school year.

9. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

Mr. Chapman informed the Board that the House approved the education budget and it included a 4% pay raise for all employees that made less than \$75,000.00 and a 2% raise for employees that made over \$75,000.00. He also told the Board that the Prep Bill (tenure reform bill) was continuing to change and we would just need to keep a watch on that bill. Other news Mr. Chapman shared with the Board was Dr. Bice, State Superintendents announcement of his retirement as of March 31, 2016.

10. **CAREER FAIR:**

Mr. Chan Mullenix spoke to the Board about the Career Fair that was held on March 10th at the Career Center and Service Center in Carrollton. He told the Board that they focused the Career Fair on the 9th and 10th grade students from each high school and that 45 business and industry representatives were involved this year. Mr. Mullenix also shared a video "The Entitlement Creed" that they have been showing the students.

11. **FATAL DECISION:**

Mr. Chapman reported that the 2nd annual Fatal Decision program was held at Pickens County High School on March 15, 2016 and that approximately 500 students participated. He thanked Ms. Ball and Mrs. Lavender for their hard work and dedication in making this happen for our students. Ms. Ball told the Board that the day started with a car crash simulation with participation from students, police departments, ambulance service and air evac teams. Following that they had several speakers which included the District Attorney, Juvenile Probation Officer, ABC Board, Judge Bailey and Mrs.

