

Board of Education
Work and Executive Session Minutes
January 13, 2020, 5:30 P.M.
Gilmer County, Georgia

Gilmer County Board of Education

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mr. Watkins.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ronald Watkins (Vice-Chair), Jim Parmer, Tom Ocobock and Doug Pritchett

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Bramlett (Chairman)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Shanna Downs, Lauree Pierce, Trina Penland, Charles Walker, April Smith, Lottie Mitchell, Misti Foster, Mike Bushey, Carla Foley, Hollie Kiker, Chelsi Gibbs, Julie Chancey, Jill Chadwick, Katrina Kingsley, Stuart Sheriff, Bob Sosebee, Linda Waters, Nicole Pike, Jessica Chastain, Dana Penland, Stephanie Burnette, Lindy Patterson, Kim Cagle and Emily Plumley

VISITORS PRESENT: Robbie Bills, Emily Carnes, David Settle, Amber Davenport and Herman Clark.

Dr. Downs recommended approval for the Work Session agenda as presented. Motion by Mr. Pritchett and second by Mr. Ocobock to approve the Work Session agenda. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

The Invocation was led by Shane Duggan from New Hope Baptist Church.

The Pledge was given by the first grade classes of Ellijay Elementary School.

Presentations and Recognitions:

- a. Veterans Day Poster and Essay: Ms. Kim Cagle, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services recognized the winners for the 2019 Veterans Day Poster and Essay contest. Ms. Cagle invited the principals from each school up to present the awards. The awards are as follows: Mountain View Elementary; Mattie Jones and Adleigh Wingate both were poster winners. Clear Creek Middle; Aurora Berber and Avery Mosley both were essay winners. Gilmer High; Vicki Bailey, Alex Grantham and Logan Fox all were essay winners.
- b. Spelling Bee: Ms. Kim Cagle, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, presented awards to students who placed in the 2019-2020 Gilmer County GAE Sponsored Scripps Spelling Bee. Hali Hice was runner-up to Clara Hensley who took first place.

- c. AEMC Washington Youth Tour: Ms. Cagle recognized Rianna Henderson as the 2019-2020 AEMC Washington Youth Tour Representative.
- d. Christmas Card Contest: Ms. Cagle also presented an award to Parker Settel who placed third in the 2019 Piedmont Hospital Christmas Card Contest.

Consent Items:

Dr. Downs noted to the Board that the following Consent Items will be proposed for approval at the Regular Session on Thursday January 16, 2020:

- Board Minutes:
 - December 16, 2019, Work and Executive Session
 - December 19, 2019, Regular Session
- Out of State/Overnight Field Trips:
 - Academic Field Trips: (See Attachment)
 - Student Activities/Athletic-Based Field Trips: (See Attachment)
 - Fund Raising Request (None)

Superintendent's Report:

1. Academic Achievement:

- a. PBIS at CCES: Ms. Stephanie Burnette, Principal and Ms. Jessica Chastain, Assistant Principal spoke to the Board regarding Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) at Clear Creek Elementary School (CCES). Ms. Burnette and Ms. Chastain along with members of the PBIS Committee and students presented the Board with an interactive view on how PBIS is implemented at CCES.
- b. 2019-2020 Title I Reward School: Dr. Downs congratulated Clear Creek Elementary formally Ellijay Primary for being named as a Rewards School for the 2019-2020 school year. Dr. Downs explained that to earn this honor, the school is among the top 5% when ranked according to their rate of CCRPI single score improvement from the previous year to current year.

2. Parent and Community Engagement:

- a. Cannery Report: Mr. Mike Bushey, Young Farmer teacher, shared the annual Cannery Report with the Board. The cannery operated 45 days in the summer of 2019 and was operational 105 days of the year. The number of units canned were 17,610 and 220 units were prepared for freezing. Number of bushels shelled were 26 and the percentage of "Homegrown" products processed are 82%. No meat was processed this year and the total number of visits to the cannery was 1,709. There were also 433 students provided with food processing center instructions this year. The Gilmer County Cannery is one of Georgia's top 2 performing cannery's.
- b. Department of Public Health School Based Flu Vaccines: Ms. Krystal Sumner with the Gilmer County Health Department spoke to the Board regarding school based vaccines. Ms. Sumner explained that the school based

flu vaccines help parents who wish to but are unable to make arrangements for their children to receive a flu vaccine. The program is 100% voluntary and only students whose parents have done the proper paperwork will receive a vaccine. A permission slip will be sent home to parents to authorize the health department to administer the vaccine. Parents are able to fill in any insurance information, if no insurance is available there is an option for a “free vaccine”. Ms. Sumner noted the success rate in other counties that have adopted the program. Dr. Downs added that a recommendation for approval to adopt the school based program will be made at the Regular Session, Thursday January 16, 2020.

3. **High Performing Culture and Workforce: Personnel:** Dr. Downs explained that personnel will be discussed in Executive Session and administrators will be recommended for renewal this month so they may recommend certified staffing next month. This will allow all administrators to renew staff members earlier and begin to fill the districts need with quality staff before the candidate pool shrinks.
4. **Operational Effectiveness:**
 - a. Compliance/Policy (First Reading): The following policies were presented for first reading in order to comply with recent changes in the law and/or GSBA recommendations to update the current wording:
 - Policy AFC Emergency Closings
 - Policy CMA Administrative Rules
 - Policy DFK Gifts and Bequests
 - Policy GCRA (1) Drug Screening of Bus Drivers
 - Policy GCRG Classified Personnel Leaves
And Absences

Dr. Downs explained that these policies will be posted on the GCSS Website for public review and comment before a second reading at the Board of Education Work Session on January 13, 2020. Subject to feedback and public deliberations, these will be voted upon at the Regular Session on January 16, 2020.

- a. Compliance/Policy (Second Reading): Policies presented for first readings in September and have been posted on the GCSS website for public comment and also sent to GSBA for legal counsel review.
 - Policy IEDA Unstructured Break Time
 - Policy IFBC Media Programs
 - Policy IFBG Internet Acceptable Use
 - Policy JBCCA Student Assignment to Schools
 - Policy IDFA Gender Equity in Sports

The policies have been on the district website since the meeting in September and have been submitted to GSBA legal counsel for review. The policies received no

public comment. Dr. Downs noted that policies are set for approval at the Regular Session January 16, 2020.

5. Fiscal Accountability:

- a. Purchasing Policy Expenditures and Approvals – January 2020: Expenditures and Approvals were presented for informational purposes only and exempt from Board approval.
- b. Nutrition:
 - i. School Nutrition Report – November 2019: Ms. Linda Waters, Director of School Nutrition, presented the School Nutrition Report for November 2019 to the Board.
 - ii. Student Participation Report – November 2019: Ms. Linda Waters, Director of School Nutrition, presented the School Participation Report for November 2019 to the Board.
- c. Budget Update:
 - i. FY2020 Financial Summary – November 2019 Ms. Penland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY 2020 Financial Summary- November 2019 to the Board.
 - ii. 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures – January 2020: Ms. Penland, Chief Financial Officer, also presented the Board the 2015 ESPLOST Expenditures for January 2020.

Superintendent's Announcements/Comments:

- Dr. Downs announced that Thursday January 16, 2020 Ignite Grant presentations will be held at ETC studios and Gilmer Schools has three finalists this year, Ms. Katie Mayfield from EES, Ms. Jessica Hensley from CCMS and Mr. Taylor Johnstone from GHS.

Public Participation: None

Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Ocobock and second by Mr. Parmer to enter Executive Session for Real Estate, Personnel, School Safety Plans and Litigation. Motion carried. All voted Yes. Attorney Herman Clark also attended the Executive Session.

Motion by Mr. Pritchett and second by Mr. Parmer to exit Executive Session. Motion Carried. All voted Yes.

Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Ocobock and second by Mr. Pritchett all voted Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Shanna Downs, Ed.D., Superintendent

Mr. Bramlett, Chairman

Submitted by: _____
Emily Plumley, Board Clerk