

October 13, 2011

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, October 13, 2011, at 7:00 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

Chair Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Easterwood led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Fincher, seconded by Long, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to include recognitions for the elementary social studies fair and approve the agenda as amended.

Tate Elementary School Teacher Eric Norris announced and recognized the elementary school kids that participated in the social studies fair and the overall winners of the fair.

Public Participant Lurline Argo discussed the decision by the school system for cancelling a part of the activities of Constitution Day for various reasons. Argo did say she felt like the students missed out on a good presentation about the Constitution.

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented the enrollment as 4,411 students, drop-outs as six students, and students missing 15 or more days as one. Pickens County Middle School received the banner for the highest monthly attendance of 97.09%.

Supervisor of Operations Rick Little presented an operations update, which included maintenance, transportation, and food service. Little reported that he and Dr. Desper met with Pickens County Commissioner Rob Jones and Jones referred Little to an Engineering Firm. This firm will provide signs, posts, a study of roads, and safety of school bus stops to Department of Transportation standards. The cost for this is approximately \$10,000 with the county and school system splitting the cost.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported the FY12 General Fund revenue as 9.90% and expenditures as 14.56%. Burgess reported the SPLOST III September revenue as \$353,476.18, interest as \$2,050.82, and balance as \$2,805,027.22.

Assistant Superintendent Tommy Qualls presented SAT information. The information contained SAT scores from surrounding area high schools and the number that had taken the tests.

Pickens County Middle School Principal Chris LeMieux spoke to the about recertifying his school as a Georgia Lighthouse School.

Hill City Elementary School Principal Carlton Wilson spoke to the board about the Feed the Family project. Wilson plans to feed approximately 1,500 people on Thanksgiving Day a fully prepared Thanksgiving Day feast. Fundraisers and donations will fund this event.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes for September 8th and called minutes for September 22nd and October 8, 2011.

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

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to give final approval to Policy DCL Fund Balance. (See attachments)

A motion was made by Fincher, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to give approval for PHS Principal Eddie McDonald to proceed with the application for a PHS Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC)

A motion was made by Lowe, seconded by Fincher, which passed on a 4-0 vote with Long abstaining from the vote to remove Elisa Long's name from the personnel recommendation list. Long abstained because Elisa Long is his spouse.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to approve personnel without Elisa Long's name as presented. (See attachments.)

Just prior to the vote above for personnel a motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Long, which passed unanimously to go into executive session at 8:07 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)).

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Lowe, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 8:48 p.m.

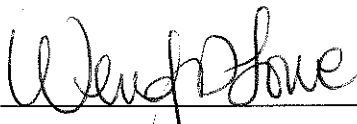
Chair Lowe reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Fincher, which passed on a 4-0 vote with Long abstaining to approve the resignation of Elisa Long as cheer coach for basketball. Long abstained from the vote because Elisa Long is his spouse. (See attachments.)


Board Comments:

- Easterwood said that he is very appreciative of the hard work put into making the school buildings and grounds looks great. Thanks to those for the great attendance and drop-out rates.
- Chair Lowe said thanks to Shelley Cantrell for getting children back in school.
- Trammel welcomed Rick Little back to the Pickens County School system.

A motion was made by Lowe, seconded by Fincher, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:52 p.m.



Wendy D. Lowe, Chair



Ben Desper, Secretary