

MINUTES OF MEETING  
August 7, 2012

The regular meeting of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held at the Whitfield County Central Office on August 7, 2012. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Bill Worley

Board Member Rodney Lock was absent.

Also present were the following staff members:

Danny Hayes     Audrey Williams  
Richard Schoen   Judy Gilreath  
Eric Beavers     Ron Hale  
Carolyn Weaver

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Alex Pace, upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at Eastside Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

Mr. Fordham asked everyone to observe a moment of silent reflection.

**Inspiration**

Alex Pace then gave the inspiration. He talked about the Viking Camp that he attended during the summer at Eastside Elementary and the fun activities that he participated in.

**Hearing of Individuals**

None

**Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Mr. Hayes recommended that an amendment be made to the agenda. Under Consent Agenda Items add item F, Purchase Order over \$25,000. He said this would change attachment numbers to 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, and 2.6. The superintendent recommended the board approve the Consent Agenda items listed below: Gary Brock moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Approval of Minutes – July 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting,

Adoption of Agenda – August 7, 2012

School Fundraising Requests

Name of Group or Sponsor

Activity or Request

CCHS Girls Basketball  
 CCHS General Athletics  
 NHS Boys Basketball  
 NHS Athletics  
 NHS Swim Team  
 NHS Volleyball  
 SHS Cross Country  
 SHS Cross Country  
 SHS Southeast Fast Pitch  
 SHS Basketball  
 SHS Cross Country  
 SHS Cross Country  
 NHM 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 NHM Art Club/8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 VPM School Store  
 VPM Various  
 VPM  
 VPM Band and Chorus  
 VPM  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 NWM Softball  
 AES PTO  
 EES School Wide  
 EES ESS  
 EES School Wide  
 VES Kindergarten

Basketball tournament for elementary and middle played at CCHS  
 Sell Raffle Tickets at Falcon/Titans and home football games  
 Clothing Sales  
 Money Give Away  
 Booster Club to sale different items  
 Cookie Dough, T-shirt, and Flip-Flop Sales  
 Run-a-Thon  
 Spirit Gear Sales  
 BBQ Lunch Fundraiser  
 Sell Sweet Frozen Yogurt at sporting events  
 Bake Sale Days  
 Sell candy  
 Multiple Fundraisers, dance, candy, and beef stick sales  
 Catalog Sale for Mixed Bags Totes  
 Sell school spirit items  
 School dances  
 Sell Sweet Spot Frozen Yogurt at school events  
 World's Finest Chocolate Candy Sale  
 Fall Community Festival  
 Sell pencils and erasers to students  
 Cookie Dough Sales  
 Pancake Breakfast at Longhorn  
 Sell NWMS Throws  
 Sell Spirit Shirts  
 Golf Tournament at Indian Trace  
 Concessions off Campus at Varnell  
 Candy Sales  
 Fall Carnival  
 Sell tacos and other food at Kids' Day Event  
 Staff Jeans Days twice a month  
 Popcorn and Juice Sales each Friday  
 Sell T-shirts

#### Overnight Field Trip Request

<u>Name of Group or Sponsor</u>	<u>Activity or Request</u>	<u>Date for Request</u>
North Whitfield Middle 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teambuilding	Aug. 27-28, 2012

#### Yearly Memorandum of Understanding

Pioneer Head Start Collaborative Agreement

#### Purchase Order over \$25,000

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dell Computer Corporation	Servers and Licenses for new Finance/HR Software	\$48,765.03

#### **System Reports**

Audrey Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning/Assessment and Accountability asked Caroline Woodason to share the following information about Pre-Kindergarten and Dee Goodwin to talk about Standard Base Report Cards.

#### **Demographics**

- 240 pre-kindergarten students served in 11 classrooms at nine schools
- One pre-k class at Cedar Ridge Elementary is now full inclusion – Caroline explained "**Full Inclusion**" places a special education teacher as a full partner in a classroom with a general education teacher. The general education teacher is the teacher of record, and is responsible for the child, even though the child may have an IEP. At this time we have four adults supporting students funded by Title I and Bright from the Start.
- Approximately 75 children on waiting list
- Caroline stated that it is a revolving door for funding of salaries for Pre-K. She said that we need something consistent. Last year we had 7 out of 11 new teachers. This year we have 9 new teachers. She is concerned that they have instability.

Louis wanted to know if the 75 children on the waiting list was all for WCS and wanted to know if we had added a new Pre-K. She told him that they were all for our system and we had not added a new Pre-K. She said because we provide transportation it is harder for private programs to fill slots.

Dee Goodwin explained the Standard Base Report Card.

- Standards-based reports used in early grades
- Helps parents understand exactly where their children excel or need support
- Report cards revised to reflect Common Core standards

The board thanked Caroline and Dee for their presentations.

## **Financial Reports**

### General Funds and Capital Project Funds

Ron Hale, chief financial officer, presented the General Funds as of July 31, 2012 and the Capital Projects report as of June 30, 2012. Superintendent Hayes recommended the board approve the reports as presented. Gary Brock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0. The financial reports are a part of these minutes.

Ron told the board that he is working on the FY13 Budget Book. The goal of this book is the following:

- More details
- Defines challenges
- More transparency
- To be published on website

Ron said that this would give the community more information. Louis asked Ron when he would have it ready. Ron told him it would be ready at the next board meeting.

## **Superintendent's Reports**

### Teaching & Learning

Ben Hunt, principal at Eastside Elementary, talked about the Summer Viking Camp at Eastside. He said this camp was designed by teachers who were concerned about the instructional loss many students experience in the summer. This camp would provide extra hands-on opportunities that are exciting and engaging. Providing these educational activities are fun for the students and helps keep them ready for the next school year. Teachers and volunteers donate three weeks of their summer to work with these children. The camp is free. Through donations from volunteers and area business partners they were able to raise \$7,700 to pay for the camp. They work with about 50 students a day broken up into groups of 5. Eastside teacher, Hugo Torres, explained the design of the camp. He said that they had 15 teacher volunteers. They had 45 minutes of instruction by two EES teachers and one DSC student teacher and 45 minutes in the computer lab on Compass Learning. They had 1 ½ hours of hands-on learning experiences and a weekly field trip. Eastside teacher, Lisleni Pace, talked about the different activities they did and the different field trips. She said they did pottery, cooking, and building robots and toolboxes with help from Home Depot. They learned about the ecosystems and even dissecting frogs. A couple of the field trips were to Los Pablos to eat lunch and the Lookouts Game in Chattanooga. Mr. Hunt said that there was a lot of community support and teachers giving up time. He thanked the board for their support and hopes the camp will be an ongoing activity during the summer for Eastside.

## Introduction of Literacy Trainers and Coaches

Dee Goodwin, Coordinator for Teaching and Learning, introduced the new Literacy Trainers, Coaches, and Host Teachers for the Literacy Initiative.

### Literacy Trainers and Host Teachers

Amy Allen – Ashley Carroll - Antioch Elementary (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)  
Sunshine Narramore – Christa Robertson - Eastside Elementary (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)

### Literacy Coaches and Host Teachers:

Teresa Hensley – Alice Oliver – Antioch Elementary (Kindergarten)  
Jennifer Thurman – Shonna McClure – Cedar Ridge Elementary (Kindergarten)  
Shauna Ownbey – Jenna Bailey – Dawnville Elementary (Kindergarten)  
Gena Welsh – Renee Haught – Dug Gap Elementary (Kindergarten)  
Charise Smith – Valerie Dunn – Eastside Elementary (Kindergarten)  
Alesa Smith – Kim Hart – Valley Point Elementary (Kindergarten)

Ben Hunt, principal at Eastside Elementary, and Sheri Travisano, principal at Dawnville Elementary, talked about their trip to the Literacy Collaborative Workshop in Boston. Ben told the board that in one of their sessions he watched a video that interviewed 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who had gone through 9 years of the Literacy Initiative. Mr. Hunt was so impressed with the conversation that they were having. He said it was a wonderful experience and was so excited to have this at his school. Mrs. Travisano stated that this helps pull everything together. Problem solving helps with student achievement, helps to improve teacher expertise, and builds school communities reading on grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She thanked the board for their commitment to this program. Louis said this is good but we have to establish guidelines and benchmark data. He said that we have to see some results. The community will want to see this if we want to continue to commit this process. Mr. Hayes said that he appreciates the hard work and time that these teachers have committed to this program.

### LBOE Professional Learning Approval Vote

At this time, Caroline Woodason asked that we table the Professional Learning discussion and vote for the board. She stated that Louis and Mr. Hayes will be attending the Superintendent's Networking meeting in Atlanta on August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and will decide after that meeting. Mr. Hayes said that this meeting is for Superintendents and Board Chairs with the same visions and beliefs in their districts.

### Career, Technical, Agricultural Education (CTAE) Consolidated Application

Mr. Fleming shared information about the Career, Technical, Agricultural Education Consolidated Application. He said one of the changes was that the budget had been adjusted. This explains how the dollars are used. He said that there had been a decrease as there was through the whole state of Georgia. He said that it would help cost as we go to the new Standards. He said that it would help purchase equipment for the Advanced Manufacturing Lab. He said the application would help purchase new computers for the Southeast engineering program. Louis asked Tim if textbooks are the only way to teach Homeland Security. Tim said yes. Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Career, Technical, Agricultural Education Consolidated Application as presented. Gary Brock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

### Operations

#### Maintenance - Current

- Routine work with getting school started
- HVAC Difficulties
  - Pleasant Grove Elementary
  - Tunnel Hill Elementary

#### Maintenance – Next 30 days

- Waiting on DOE response to STEM lab renovation application

#### Transportation – Current

- Bus Routing
  - Constant adjustments
  - Special needs routing in progress

Mr. Schoen stated that the transportation portal is not ready. They met with schools on how to access the parent portal but it is not ready. He said that there is a problem on our server. He said that schools can access but parents can't.

- Transportation Portal should be on line by Monday

Mr. Schoen said that they are working long hours and that it should be ready to go on Monday.

- Narrow banding still in process
  - Should be complete on south end in next 30 days

#### Transportation - Next 30 Days

- Continue to fine-tune bus routes
- Begin addition of fleet maintenance application to our transportation software. Mr. Schoen said we would be able to electronically keep repairs on buses and know when inspections are due.
- Begin research/study relating to bus purchases for fiscal 2013. Mr. Schoen stated that the state is fully funding the cost of a basic bus. What we add would make the cost higher and we would pay the difference. Mr. Hayes asked if we pay for the video cameras that are added to the buses. Mr. Schoen said we do but when we rotate a bus out we move that equipment to a new bus.

Mr. Schoen told the board that at Eastbrook Middle there had been enough saved to demo the old building and add a new gym and ball fields. If we leave the gym we can add 1 ball field. If we demo and not add gym we could build two ball fields. In the next year Mr. Schoen said they would like to meet with the architect to start the design on the new gym and start construction in 2013. We could talk with Recreation Department about purchasing the gym. The money that we have available is part of previous ESPLOST. Louis said that we should start having conversation with Recreation Department to see if they have an interest. We need to know what the wants and needs of the community are.

#### Support Services

Judy Gilreath, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services presented the following:

##### Special Education

- Interviewing prospective teachers
- Project SEARCH – Dr. Gilreath said that this program has placed 70% of the students who have graduated from Project SEARCH in full time jobs. This is a great program.
- New Pre-K Inclusion Class

##### Safety and Security

- Completing installation of elementary school cameras
- Planning training for bus drivers and other employees to recognize and care for students who may have a diabetic crisis. Dr. Gilreath said the law requires two people to be trained.
- Schools are completing their Emergency Operation Plans
- Planning for active shooter training at former Eastbrook Middle School – this is done by law enforcement
- Preparing training for mandatory child abuse reporting
- 

##### Technology

- Moving Crossroads
- Destiny – software for Media Centers
- Eastbrook Middle School technology
- Opening schools
- Installation and training for on-line learning in all grades

#### Student Services

- Completion of handbooks & notices
- Update, printing, distribution of information for schools
- On-line credit
- Student Services
- Registration of out-of-zone & tuition students 2012-13 term – Dr. Gilreath reported that not all of the students registering were new. Some have just changed schools. June/July of 2011 at this time we registered 377. June/July of 2012 we have registered 662. 206 have applied for out of district. We have placed most of those. We have 19 on a waiting list. At this time we have 46 tuition students.
- Policy & procedure updates
- Notification system –ParentLink – Dr. Gilreath said that this is a good tool as long as it is not abused. The contract comes up for renewal in December. At that time we will put out for bids.

#### School Nutrition

- Setting up food vendors
- Revamp all menus to meet new federal guidelines – Dr. Gilreath said that they are requiring more whole grains and less fats.
- Beautification of cafeterias – Dr. Gilreath stated that food service had set aside money to upgrade cafeterias.

Dr. Gilreath presented the following:

- First Reading of Change in Board Policy JGCD: Medication
- First Reading of Change in Board Policy JBCD: Non-Resident Students, Descriptor Code
- First Reading to Rescind Board Policy EBD: Heating and Lighting
- First Reading to Rescind Board Policy DH: Bonded Employees

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the First Reading of the Board Policies as presented. Gary Brock moved approval and Louis Fordham seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Evidentiary Panel Members as presented. Louis Fordham moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

#### **Approval of Personnel Changes**

##### Personnel Recommendations

Superintendent Hayes recommended the board approve the personnel actions as discussed in executive session to include certified personnel changes, resignations, retirements, new hire, and other personnel changes. The superintendent also recommended the board approve support personnel recommendations, resignations, retirements, and other support personnel changes in this action. Louis Fordham moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 4-0.

#### **Previous Business**

Second Reading of Board Policy IFBG: Internet Acceptable Use

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Second Reading of the Board Policy as presented. Bill Worley moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

Recommendation for Benefit Broker/Consultant Services to Totem Solutions

Mr. Hayes recommended the board approve the Benefit Broker/Consultant Services with Totem Solutions as presented. Louis Fordham moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 4-0.

## **New Business**

### **Discuss Work Session Meetings/Place of meetings and Dates**

Mr. Hayes asked the board for discussion on where they want the remainder of the work sessions to be held. Mr. Hayes said that the schools always enjoyed the board coming to their schools. It gave them an opportunity to see the great things that they are doing. Mr. Barton said that he prefers to meet at the Central Office. Gary Brock said that he likes going to the schools to see the students and visit classrooms to see the great things they are doing. Mr. Hayes asked the principals who were in attendance. Sheri Travisano, principal at Dawnville Elementary, said that they enjoy the board coming. She said that she thinks it is good for the schools. It gives us the opportunity to showcase our school. Tami Dodd, principal at Antioch Elementary, said that we love for the board to come to our school. Tim Fleming, CEO of NWGCCA, said he would love for the board to see the STEM Labs at the middle schools. Ben Hunt, principal at Eastside Elementary, said that the kids love for the board to come to their school. Louis agreed with Mr. Barton. He said that they miss a lot of time from work. The meetings are not as accessible to the public. He stated that you really don't get to see that much of the school. Louis told Mr. Hayes that they would get together and look at the calendar.

### **First Reading of Extended Leave Policy GBRI**

Mr. Hayes stated that they wanted to add to the policy for employees who have a catastrophic illness and must have an extended leave of absence without pay, not to extend one year, would offer insurance that they would have to pay at the same rate. Superintendent Hayes recommended the board approve the First Reading of the Board Policy as presented. Gary Brock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

## **Board Member Reports**

Each board member called on for reports, comments or questions

Louis stated that they are very grateful for the passing of the ESPLOST. He stated that the Falcons and the Titans game was outstanding. Mr. Hayes said that it went really well. He has gotten a lot of positive feedback from it. He said that Mr. Schoen and his staff did a great job helping to get it all together. He said that it really showcased our schools and community. He was told that even Arthur Blank was bragging on the event.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

---

Secretary

---

Chairman

MINUTES OF WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 27, 2012

A work session of the Whitfield County Board of Education was held on Monday, August 27, 2012 at Whitfield County Board of Education. Board Chairman Louis Fordham called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Bill Worley

Board Member Rodney Lock was absent.

Also present were the following staff members:

Danny Hayes     Richard Schoen  
Judy Gilreath     Audrey Williams  
Carolyn Weaver   Ron Hale  
Eric Beavers

Also present:

A list of the public in attendance is a part of the backup minutes.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Westside Elementary student Madison Boyd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

Mr. Fordham asked everyone to observe a moment of silent reflection.

**Student Inspirations**

Madison told the board that Westside Elementary has a Student Leadership Academy. Through this Leadership Academy students learn what a leader is. Before a student is chosen for the academy they must complete and turn in an application and participate in a teacher-led interview. The following students have completed the Westside Elementary Student Leadership Academy: Madison Boyd, Callen Nealey, Giselle Contrí, Maddie Gibbs, Garrett Threadgill, Amy Aguilera, Savannah Wheeler, Baleigh Grigsby. Now they would like to share some characteristics of a good leader.

L is for listen. A leader takes time to listen; takes time to care.

E is for expand. A leader never stops learning.

A is for accountability. A leader sets a good example.

D is for dependable. A leader is trustworthy and honest.

E is for excellence. A leader must strive to do their best in whatever they do.

R is for respect. Respect is an action. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

They then shared a song that their group wrote and performed as a part of the Student Leadership Academy.

**School Reports**

**Westside Elementary**

Tracy Mardis, principal of Westside Elementary, said that Westside Elementary is down in enrollment. Usually they average about 745 students. This year they are at 645. They are down about 100 students and we do not know why. He stated that the staff at Westside strives to build relationships with students so that learning is meaningful, engaging, and based on student's needs. Tracy stated that 81% of our students are



Caucasian, 12% are Hispanic, and the remaining 7% of our students are a combination of Asian and African-American. 13% receive Special Ed Services. 10% are served through Alpha. 31% of our students receive EIP services. Tracy gave the following percentages for CRCT:

Met or exceeded

<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>
2010 – 94%	88%
2011 – 96%	90%
2012 – 96%	86%

Students with disabilities met or exceeded:

<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>
2010 – 83%	63%
2011 – 92%	63%
2012 – 85%	68%

Tracy said that we feel like we must be providing the right accommodations.

Tracy Mardis then provided the following MAP Data:

Scored at Proficiency

<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>
2011 – 94%	87%
2012 – 91%	84%

He stated that MAP testing started today. He said that they work very hard to build student and community relationships. Mr. Mardis then introduced the following teachers to talk about their transition to CCGPS.

- Greg Boos – 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher stated that with the new CCGPS we are all on a level playing field. These standards are not just for Whitfield County but for Georgia and the nation. Teachers will be challenged to find ways to help students that may not meet the standards the first time, but through collaboration with other teachers, not just in Whitfield County, but throughout the nation, by finding programs that others have used to make it work. We want to make sure that it works for Westside Elementary School. Teachers will present questions and let students build on their own ideas and answer for themselves.
- Theresa Thomas – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher stated that some standards have been shifted from grade to grade. Students will learn to master new technologies. Promethean Planet is a great resource that is used all over. She said that it helps teachers to create flip charts to create for your Who. Pinterest is an online pinboard that you are able to get ideas and to create and share your ideas. We want to make the activities rigorous and provide excellent learning experiences.
- Jon Lawrence – 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher stated that he has been teaching for 11 years and the collaboration and communication between teachers at each school, throughout the system, and throughout the country has been the buzz word. Students are now creating and sharing their own work and are able to communicate effectively.

Mr. Mardis praised the Olweus Bullying Program. They held an anti bullying pep rally. He said that the Bernhardt data showed students treat students with respect.

Mr. Mardis thanked the board for letting Westside Elementary share. The board thanked Mr. Mardis for his presentation.

### **School Council Report – Westside Elementary**

Ann Bearden, parent representative, said that parents are more involved in making school based decisions. We try to give different ideas to help better Westside Elementary and the community. Business partners are a big support to our community. She stated that the Westside Elementary Council supports this school's successes and accepts its challenges. She thanked the board for the opportunity to share.

### **North Whitfield Middle School**

Andrea Bradley, principal of North Whitfield Middle School, stated that NWM is a very large school. They have almost 900 students. We have a large Special Ed population. We have a large population of Free and Reduced Lunch. She said that their mean growth is projected by national norms. Andrea presented the board a copy of their RIT Growth data. She said the data is great, but how are we going to use it. She said that they have devised an Individual Learning Plan. The students make a goal so they have to understand what a MAP

score is. The teachers work very hard to design work for each students learning. Each student is given 40 extra minutes in their ability level. Every child gets this help. This is done through Compass Learning. Even though they have 900 students each student is getting time on the computer. This is done through a connections class. They also use them in their regular education classes too. They have used little money to help tutor students. They are using students through Lee University. They are using a connections class for Reading Remediation. Louis Fordham asked how the students are handling this. Andrea said they are doing fine with it. They understand that they are getting the help that they need. She said that the parents really appreciate it. Andrea said that the new CCGPS is going to make middle school students ready for more complex challenges such as the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be reading “The Hobbit”. “The Hatchet” that was read by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will now be read by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Andrea said the new CCGPS place emphasis on difficulty of what students read and the skill with which they read it. She said that he good thing about it is to make students better in critical thinking. Andrea’s job is to find the best teachers that she can. To challenge, support, and inspire them. Andrea said that Vanessa Paluszcyk came and worked with teachers on the active board. She said that she worked with them on Language Arts and Social Studies. Andrea said on the first day when the school opened they had twenty teachers there. She said that the new teachers are so excited. She said they talked about Coaching for Design. They talked about their weakness and strengths and how they can help one another. She said that compassion and engagement are qualities of a great teacher. Andrea said that she had to brag on one of her teachers. She said that he had taught a math lesson and then they had a test. They bombed the test. He took full responsibility for it. He went back and redesigned his lesson and fixed it. He said that the important thing is that they know it. Andrea thanked the board for the opportunity to share the great things that are happening at North Whitfield Middle School.

### **School Council Report – North Whitfield Middle School**

Bobbie Medlin parent representative has served on the North Whitfield School Council for two years. She said that it had been a great experience. She said that Andrea always tries to inform them on information about the school. She shared the AYP information with them. Tim Fleming, CEO of NWGCCA, came and spoke to the council and shared the great opportunities at their school for students and talked to them about the new STEM labs. Bobbie said that she served on the School Improvement Plan. She said that Angie Brown, Director of Food Service, did a presentation for the school council. Andrea explained the MAP data to the school council. The school council went and toured Coahulla Creek High. She said that as a parent she appreciates the website that they have at North Whitfield Middle because of the great information. She said that the Teacher Portfolios are great. She said that she appreciates the opportunity to come and speak to the board.

Mr. Hayes thanked Mrs. Medlin and Andrea for their presentation He then explained the Teacher Portfolios to the board.

### **System Reports**

#### Teaching and Learning

Superintendent Danny Hayes recommended the board approve the Overnight Field Trip listed below: Gary Brock moved approval and Bill Worley seconded. The board approved 4-0.

#### Overnight Field Trip Request

<u>Name of Group or Sponsor</u>	<u>Activity or Request</u>	<u>Date for Request</u>
Southeast High School/FFA-FHA	FFA Camp/Covington, GA	September 6-7, 2012

Dr. Audrey Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, shared with the board the Teaching and Learning team and what they are over as far as curriculum.

#### **Dr. Greg Bailey**

Science  
Gifted  
Fine Arts  
Media centers

#### **Mrs. Dee Goodwin**

English and language arts  
Early Intervention Program (EIP)  
Health and Physical Education  
Reading Recovery

Literacy

**Dr. Meg Baker**

Social Studies

English for Speakers of Other Languages

Foreign Language

Parent involvement

Title III & Title I

Literacy

Literacy

**Mrs. Caroline Woodason**

Math

Pre-kindergarten

Professional learning

Literacy

Last 30 Days – Aug. 2012

Dr. Bailey

Areas	Opportunities	Challenges
<b>Gifted Education</b>	• Designing future activities for Elementary Gifted→	• Implementation of the new Destiny Program (Much change but most is very positive) Biggest issue is transfer of technology records
<b>Media Centers</b>	Art Day, Lego League, Science Olympics, Genre Journeys, and Literary Day.	
<b>Art Education</b>	• Implementation of new Destiny Program→ August 20 date we went live---overall a great experience and it will only get better.	• Just meeting the needs of our schools with our limited staff---we do the best we can do!
<b>Science</b>	• Designing middle school art experiences.	• Curriculum issues with Odyssey Credit Recovery
<b>Online Learning</b>		

**Parent  
Involvement  
Coordinator**

Dr. Meg Baker

- Build relationships & present information about services (English, parenting, & computer literacy classes, as well as translation/interpretation) during school-level informational meetings with parents and with teachers
- Distribute color brochures (Eng/Span) of PIC services to WCS families
- Post color informational posters in schools about PIC services
- Ease parents/children transition into school through translation/interpretation services
- Present school-level and district-level information to parents by translating/interpreting @ various school *Open Houses*
- Schedule courses and plan for services, review policy, ethics, & procedures' handbook
- Increase computer literacy and plan computer literacy courses
- Logistics
- Limited time
- Limited personnel
- Learning curves
- Procuring translation & interpretation services in low-incidence languages:
  - Vietnamese
  - Chinese
  - Urdu
  - Arabic

**Social Studies**

- Identify school contacts
- Identify needs (data analysis) in relation to CCRPI
- Discuss needs with GA Dept of Ed. S.S. Program Director
- Design professional learning opportunities for teachers to build capacity
- Limited time
- Limited personnel
- Learning curve

## World Languages

- Identify new teachers
  - Identify students receiving foreign language credit in lieu of enrollment (native speakers)
  - Identify professional learning opportunities for teachers and creative ways to build capacity
  - Look at needs (data analysis) related to CCRPI
- Limited time
  - Limited personnel
  - Learning curve

Dee Goodwin and Caroline Woodason

Interviewed and selected 6 qualified teachers to be trained as literacy coaches as well as selecting 2 experienced and well respected Reading Recovery teachers to step into District Trainers-in-Training roles.

Traveled to Lesley University in Boston to learn more about a comprehensive literacy framework and collaborate with peers on what this will look like in WCS

Ordered professional materials for literacy coaches and supplies for host classrooms

Met with literacy representatives from WCS and DPS to debrief on progress and challenges of literacy initiative to this point

Set dates for System Literacy Team training which will involve key leaders from all 13 schools

Updated Elementary &amp; Middle Handbook

Conducted training with AP's on EIP guidelines, instructional practices, and FTE procedures

Consulted with school representatives regarding EIP scheduling and instruction

Begin Literacy Team Training in order for each elementary school to start reflecting on their current beliefs and practices in regards to literacy

Support schools as they collect preliminary information necessary for FTE work in October

Facilitating four days of collaborative design for all Middle School math teachers

## Meeting the needs of teachers wanting assistance with Common C implementation

### Finding time to check on new EIP teachers and offer support

## Finding time to check on new teachers to Whitfield County

Keeping up with webinars, paperwork and other areas of job (Engli Language Arts, PE, Sex Education, writing, Reading Recovery, repor cards/progress reports,...)

Form curriculum committee to revise current standards-based report cards to reflect the new Common Core Georgia Performance Standards

Supporting new Pre K teachers through the Bright from the Start training process

Dr. Williams said that their schedules are very busy. She said that they all had helped with the Literacy testing. She wanted to let the board know that the Environmental Science will be up and coming. A brochure has been put together for ESOL. Mr. Hayes wanted the board to know that they are not on a 12 month contract. Mr. Hayes thanked them for the great job they do and the time that they give.

## Finance

Ron Hale presented to the board the 2012 Digest. He asked for discussion about the FY13Budget/2012 Millage Rate. He said that with any increase to the millage rate we will have to have three hearings for the public.

Louis Fordham said that the carpet industry saw where it looked like the economy was picking up. So the carpet industry started to build up their inventory again but the economy did not do what they thought it was going to do and now they have a lot of inventory to get rid of. Mr. Barton stated that he thinks we do not have a choice but to increase the millage rate. He said that teachers' salaries have already been cut and everyone has lost furlough days. Bill Worley said that we need to be as easy on the public as we can. He knows so many people whose jobs and salaries have been cut back. Many have even been laid off. Louis asked if we could advertise all three meetings at the same time. Mr. Hayes said that we could. Eric Beavers, Media Specialist, said that we would have to advertise the last meeting again 5 business days before the meeting.

Superintendent Danny Hayes recommended the board approve to advertise the hearings to discuss the increase of the millage rate 5 mills: Louis Fordham moved approval and Gary Brock seconded. The board approved 4-0.

### Operations

#### Maintenance

- HVAC issues
  - Work Orders
  - Dehumidification

Mr. Schoen, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, stated that HVAC usually has issues this time of year.

- Opening of Eastbrook Middle School – Mr. Schoen said that over all everything went good with the opening.
  - Defective student desks
  - Damage to VCT tile
  - Punch lists
  - Water hookup to field house

Mr. Schoen said that when they put the desk together and they started to move them the legs started breaking. The manufacture said it was a defect in the desk so they took the desk back and brought in tables for the students to use until they replaced the defective desk. In the process of removing the desk they damaged the VCT tile. Louis asked Mr. Schoen if a lot of damage was done to the tile. Mr. Schoen told Louis yes. He said that the manufacture is taking care of the tile.

- Begin conversation concerning demolition of old Eastbrook and future of gym
- STEM Labs – still waiting for response from DOE

#### Transportation

- First day of school
  - July 1 cutoff / software
    - Customer Service
    - Communication Issues
  - Work continues to refine routes
  - Upload of information from Infinite Campus
- Transportation Portal
- Development of manual quick finds
- Delay implementation of Fleet Management function
- Shortage of bus drivers
- Report again in May

Mr. Schoen said that the first day of school for transportation was not good. The software was not ready and it caused students to get to and from school late. Some students were never picked up at their bus stops. Mr. Schoen told the board that he takes full responsibility for it. He should have just stuck to the original July 1 cut-off date and just done things the old way when he saw things were not working. Mr. Schoen told the board that we also had 10 drivers out sick. This meant that we had sub drivers that did not know the routes. Mr. Schoen said that he thinks it is a good software. He feels like we did not receive the best customer service

when officials were trying to get it ready for school. Mr. Barton said that we have to get off of the table and tell them we need it right. Mike Ewton, Director for Transportation, said that the software is 95% corrected. He said that we had extra people helping with the phone calls and taking messages and we have tried to return every call. Mr. Barton wanted to know how late it was when the last student got home. Mr. Hayes said it was about 6:45. Mr. Schoen said that we will always have two ways to check routes, manual and portal. Louis asked Mr. Schoen if that did not defeat the purpose of the portal. Mr. Hayes said that he did not know if we would ever want to do away with the manual quick find. Louis wanted to know if we had ever seen this system fully working. Mr. Hayes said that he could not say he had. Mr. Barton wanted to know if a student needed to know what bus they were to ride they could ask. Mike Ewton told him yes. He then wanted to know if you can't say that in May then what will happen. Louis said that he rode a bus that day and he said that he is very thankful for our drivers. They face a lot of challenges. He told Mike that he knows that their people have put in a lot of hours and he just wants to tell them thank you. Gary Brock wanted to know how many drivers we were still short. Mr. Schoen told him 10.

### Support Services

Dr. Judy Gilreath, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, presented the following information:

#### Student Services

- State Data Conference – Dr. Gilreath said it was a great conference.
- Enrollment – 13, 271 as of today
- Confirming out-of-district students verifications
- Training Session for Administrators
- School Psychologist Position

#### Special Education

- Professional learning for all special education teachers in CCGPS.
- Postsecondary Outcomes Survey for students with disabilities who exited our system during the 2010-11 school year.
- ESS teaching and paraprofessional positions
- North Star Relocation
- Professional learning in improving math instruction Elementary level
- Update IEP's

#### Technology

- Opening schools
- New STEM labs

#### School Nutrition

- Currently completing applications for Free & Reduced Meals – We have 7167 Free and Reduced Applications
- New regulations for school lunch
  - changing products
  - writing bid specs for new products
  - working to have menus certified by DOE
- Continually updating technology used for School Nutrition Program
- Six Cents Certification – Angie Brown is doing this. We have to show that we are going by regulations

#### Safety & Security

- Receiving Emergency Operations Plans and preparing for submission to Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)
- Safety and security training for new Assistant Principals and Administrators
- Training and final installation of video surveillance systems at remaining elementary schools

Dr. Gilreath asked the board if they could give her some guidance on the number of Foreign Exchange students we should allow in our schools. She said that we have always taken them when asked. It does increase class size and a lot of them cannot speak proficient English. She and the principals think that they should limit it to one foreign exchange student per school and they should speak proficient English. Louis said that he thinks they should tell the board. He said that he thinks the schools need to make that decision. Judy needs to get with the school and they need to come up with the guidelines.

## **Review Board Agenda**

Monday, Sept. 10, 2012

### **Other Business**

Resolution 1162 – Charter Schools  
Constitutional Amendment

Resolution summary

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Georgia so as to clarify the authority of the state to establish state-wide education policy; to restate the authority of the General Assembly to create special schools; to delineate types of schools that the General Assembly may authorize and clarify funding authority; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

On the ballot

Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended to allow state or local approval of public charter schools upon the request of local communities?"

All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No."

If such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall become a part of the Constitution of this state.

Mr. Hayes wanted to bring this to the board's attention. He said this should be local control of charter schools. He said that the State Chamber is pushing it. Brian Anderson with our Chamber is not. This is something that we need to make our community aware and understand exactly what they are voting for. This will be on the ballot in November.

### **Executive Session**

The superintendent recommended the board move into executive session for the discussion of personnel. Bill Worley moved approval and Thomas Barton seconded. The board approved 4-0. The time was 3.02.

Present were the following board members:

Thomas Barton  
Gary Brock  
Louis Fordham  
Bill Worley

Board member Rodney Lock was absent.

There was no action taken.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

---

Chairman

---

Secretary