

The Macon County Board of Education held their regular scheduled meeting on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Macon County Schools Administrative Offices. Board Members Jim Breedlove, Tommy Cabe, Fred Goldsmith, Stephanie McCall and Melissa Evans were present as well as Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin and Board Attorney John Henning Jr.

Board Chairman Jim Breedlove called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the Macon County Board of Education.

Following a moment of silence, Vice-Chairman Tommy Cabe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote minutes from the regular scheduled meeting of January 28, 2019 as presented as well as minutes from the Special Called Meeting/Budget Work Session of February 13, 2019 as presented.

On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote to adopt the agenda as presented.

There were no *Recognitions* at this time.

Under the *Presentations* section, Union Academy Principal Diane Cotton, along with Union Academy Assistant Principal Devon Deal, spoke about afterschool activities that were available to Union Academy students. Activities discussed included Botvin LifeSkills, Habitudes, Molding Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL), First Alliance Church (FAC) Club, Angel Youth Night Out, WCU/SCC/NCWorks and After School Video Game Club.

Chairman Jim Breedlove opened the floor for *Public Comment*. (1) Stephanie Laseter, Macon County Support Our Schools Co-Organizer, addressed Board Members and stated that she was attending the meeting to offer support for Macon County Schools. Ms. Laseter also stated that she, and Co-Organizer Molly Phillips, are committed to Macon County Schools to see that needs are met, improvements are made and all students are academically ready. Ms. Laseter then stated that she and Ms. Phillips fully intend to encourage others to become involved and work hard for Macon County Schools. (2) John DeVille addressed Board Members regarding a Calendar Flexibility Resolution. The Calendar Flexibility Resolution would allow for academic alignment with community colleges and also allow Macon County Schools to begin classes earlier than August 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. DeVille explained that beginning school earlier would allow for more balanced semesters for our high school students and would result in testing before Christmas break. After much discussion, on a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Calendar Flexibility Resolution subject to review by Board Attorney John Henning Jr. and Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. Once the resolution is reviewed and signed, a copy will be sent to the Honorable Representative Kevin Corbin and the Honorable Senator Jim Davis for their sponsorship in Raleigh, NC (Exhibit "A").

On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board moved into executive session at 6:42 p.m. pursuant to **143-318.11.(a)(6)** *To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee* and **143-318.11.(a)(5)** *To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract* as well as **143-318.11.(a)(3)** *To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.*

On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board returned to open session at 6:54 p.m.

4) **Informational Items** were then discussed and presented for Board approval as follows:

There were no **Student Transfers** for Board approval at this time.

On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following **Overnight/Out-of-District Trip Requests** as presented:

- **Dawn Watson**, on behalf of East Franklin Elementary School, to accompany sixty-four (64) students to Rollins Planetarium, Young Harris, GA, February 14, 2019 to study the solar system. One (1) school day will be missed. *(The Board was previously polled on this trip request.)*
- **Cody Viar**, on behalf of Franklin High School Men's Tennis, to accompany 13 (13) students to Walhalla High School, Walhalla, SC, February 21, 2019 to compete in a scrimmage and to Rabun County High School, Rabun County, GA, February 27, 2019 to compete in the first match of the season. No school days will be missed. *(The Board was previously polled on this trip request.)*
- **Jennifer Love**, on behalf of Mountain View Intermediate School, to accompany twenty-five (25) students to Highlands Biological Station, Highlands, NC, February 15-16, 2019, March 8-9, 2019, April 26-27, 2019 to participate in an enrichment opportunity for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to learn more about astronomy, geology and life sciences. No school days will be missed. *(The Board was previously polled on this trip request.)*
- **Kellie Burton**, on behalf of Nantahala School, to accompany thirty-six (36) students to Rollins Planetarium, Young Harris, GA, March 1, 2019 to study the earth, moon and sun system. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Melisa Cabe**, on behalf of South Macon Elementary School, to accompany ninety (90) students to Rollins Planetarium, Young Harris, GA, March 6, 2019 to student the earth, sun, and moon system. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Sarae Thornton**, on behalf of Macon Middle School Fellowship of Christian Athletes, to accompany forty (40) students to Winter Jam, Atlanta, GA, March 16, 2019 to attend a Christian Concert Series. No school days will be missed.
- **Dina Picou**, on behalf of Franklin High School Math, to accompany ten to fifteen (10-15) students to Furman University, Greenville, SC, March 16, 2019 to compete in the Wylie Math Tournament. No school days will be missed.

- **Tim Hawkins**, on behalf of Franklin High School Varsity Baseball, to accompany eighteen (18) students to Rabun Gap, GA, March 21, 2019 and to Rabun County, GA, April 15, 2019 to compete in out of state baseball games. No school days will be missed.
- **Buddy Huckabee**, on behalf of Franklin High School Band, to accompany forty (40) students to Carowinds and Winthrop Coliseum, Charlotte, NC, March 23-24, 2019 to attend the exhibition performance and have a fun day at Carowinds. No school days will be missed.
- **Saul Olvera**, on behalf of Macon Middle School Future Business Leaders of America, to accompany eleven (11) students to Greensboro, NC, March 24-27, 2019 to attend the Future Business Leaders of America State Conference. Three (3) school days will be missed.
- **Kyle Barrington**, on behalf of Franklin High School Carpentry, to accompany four (4) students to Raleigh, NC, March 24-30, 2019 to compete in a Skills Showcase and Job Fair. Two (2) school days will be missed.
- **Thomas Graham**, on behalf of Macon Middle School Band, to accompany thirty (30) students to Wonderworks, Pigeon Forge, TN, April 6, 2019 to study science and experience hands-on exhibits. No school days will be missed.
- **Shannon West**, on behalf of Nantahala School, to accompany thirteen (13) students to Orlando, FL April 8-13, 2019 for the annual junior/senior trip. Four (4) school days will be missed.
- **Gary Brown**, on behalf of Macon Early College, to accompany forty-four (44) students to Charleston, SC, April 12-14, 2019 to explore historical events and places in and around the Charleston area. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Kate Messer**, on behalf of Highlands School, to accompany twenty-six (26) students to Dollywood, Pigeon Forge, TN, May 22, 2019 for their annual 4<sup>th</sup> grade trip. One (1) school day will be missed.
- **Christy Barnett**, on behalf of Macon Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> grade, to accompany three-hundred (300) students to Six Flags, Atlanta, GA, May 29, 2019 for their end of year reward. No school days will be missed.
- **Sarae Thornton**, on behalf of Macon Middle School Fellowship of Christian Athletes, to accompany forty (40) students to Dollywood, Pigeon Forge, TN, June 3-5, 2019 to the annual FCA end of year planning trip.

On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following ***Fundraising Requests:***

- East Franklin Elementary Kindergarten to host a Rocking Rollie Pollie Day to help support Kindergarten Graduation.
- Iotla Valley Elementary School Student Lighthouse Team to host a Frogtown Market Day; Randi Howard's class to develop a Donors Choose to raise money for miscellaneous classroom supplies; Enrichment teachers to host a Heritage Day and sell t-shirts for the event.
- Macon Middle School Band to host a Talent Show; Tri-M Music Honor Society to sell chocolate candy bars; Fellowship of Christian Athletes to host a lock-in at the Fun Factory; PTO to host a Chic-Fil-A Day and a Fat Buddies Day.
- South Macon Elementary to sell smelly pencils known as Smencils as presented.

5) On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the following Section ***IV- Personnel Report*** as discussed in Closed Session:

a) The ***Resignation/Retirement*** of the following Personnel:

Certified/Non-Certified

- **Kelsey Parrish**, Spanish & Social Studies Teacher, Highlands School, **Resignation**, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year

School Nutrition

- **Donna Nash**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Request to be Removed from the School Nutrition Substitute List**, effective February 19, 2019
- **Brittany Bishop**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Request to be Removed from the School Nutrition Substitute List**, effective February 26, 2019

VIP

- **Taylor Rogers**, VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Resignation**, effective February 1, 2019
- **Jordan Rogers**, VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Resignation**, effective February 1, 2019
- **Carly Alexander**, VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Resignation**, effective February 1, 2019
- **Joseph Newsome**, VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Resignation**, effective February 1, 2019

Decline Employment

- **Patricia Risdale**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Decline Employment**, effective January 29, 2019

b) The Board approved the following ***New Personnel***:

Coaches

- **Shayna Bigazzi**, Assistant Coach (Volunteer), Varsity Girls Soccer, Highlands School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Courtney Garrett**, Assistant Coach (Volunteer), Middle School Track, Macon Middle School, effective February 26, 2019

Volunteer

- **Ruth Gibson**, Volunteer, Macon Middle School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Francine Ware**, Volunteer, South Macon Elementary School, effective February 26, 2019
- **H. William Walker Jr.**, Volunteer, Highlands School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Laura Walker**, Volunteer, Highlands School, effective February 26, 2019

c) The Board approved the following ***Change in Status***:

Certified/Non-Certified

- **Adam Tallent**, Physical Education Teacher, Mountain View Intermediate, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective February 4, 2019 (1 day total)
- **Brooke Waldroop**, Science Teacher, Mountain View Intermediate School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 23, 2019, February 1, 2019, February 6, 2019 ( ½ day), February 7, 2019 (3 ½ days total)
- **Jennifer Huckabee**, Music Teacher, Mountain View Intermediate School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 11, 2019, January 15, 2019, January 22, 2019, January 23, 2019 and February 4-6, 2019 (7 days total)

- **Caleb Parham**, Math/Science Teacher, Mountain View Intermediate School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 22, 2019, January 23, 2019 ( ½ day), and January 24, 2019 ( ½ day) (2 days total)
- **Renee Sanders**, Personal Care Assistant, Iotla Valley Elementary School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 3-4, 2019 (2 days total)
- **Alison Moffitt**, Exceptional Children's Teacher Assistant, Macon Middle School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective February 5, 2019 ( ½ day total)
- **Bonnie MacDonald**, Pre-K Teacher Assistant, Iotla Valley Elementary School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 29, 2019 ( 1 day total)
- **Robin Henry**, Teacher Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective March 29, 2019 through April 5, 2019 (6 days total)
- **Alicia Price**, Teacher Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 29, 2019 (1 day total)
- **Debra Lequire**, Personal Care Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, **Request for FMLA**, effective January 28, 2019 through April 22, 2019 (12 weeks total)
- **Philip Cope**, Language Arts Teacher, Macon Middle School, **Request for FMLA**, effective January 18, 2019 through January 25, 2019 (1 week total)
- **Brittany Bishop**, Non-Certified Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Change in Status**, to Interim Personal Care Assistant, Highlands School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Amy V. Anders**, EC Program Specialist (11-months), Macon County Schools, **Change in Status**, to Speech Language Pathologist (10-months), Macon County Schools, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year
- **Randi Howard**, Interim Elementary Teacher, Iotla Valley Elementary School, **Change in Status**, Elementary Teacher, Iotla Valley Elementary School, effective at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year
- **Buddy Huckabee**, Music Teacher, Franklin High School, **Request for Leave Without Pay**, effective January 22, 2019 ( ½ day), January 23-24, 2019 (2 ½ days total)

VIP

- **Rebecca Mayer**, VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Change in Status**, to VIP Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, effective February 12, 2019
- **Leah Newsome**, VIP Assistant, South Macon Elementary School, **Change in Status**, to VIP Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective February 12, 2019

School Nutrition

- **Sherry Ammons**, Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5.5 hour), Macon Middle School, **Change in Status**, to Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5 hour), Macon Middle School, effective January 29, 2019
- **Martha Passmore**, School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, **Change in Status**, to Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5.5 hour), Franklin High School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Rebecca Ward**, Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5 hour), Nantahala School, **Change in Status**, to Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5.5 hour), Nantahala School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Anna Walters**, Part-Time Food Service Assistant (5.5 hour), Franklin High School, **Change in Status**, to School Nutrition Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective February 25, 2019

Bus Driver

- **Bill Kimsey**, Full-Time Bus Route Driver, Macon Middle School, **Change in Status**, to Shared Route Bus Driver, effective February 9, 2019
- **Tom Cafarelli**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, **Change in Status**, to Shared Route Bus Driver, Mountain View Intermediate School, effective February 9, 2019

d) The Board approved the following ***Transfer of Personnel:***

School Nutrition

- **Christine Peterson**, Part-Time Food Service Assistant (4.5 hour), Franklin High School, **Transfer**, to Part-Time Food Service Assistant (4.5 hour), South Macon Elementary School, effective February 19, 2019

e) The Board approved the following ***Substitutes:***

Certified/Non-Certified

- **Minta Gibson**, Non-Certified Substitute, East Franklin Elementary School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Mary “Maggie” Rogers**, Student Intern, South Macon Elementary School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Mary Thompson**, Non-Certified Substitute, Franklin High School, effective February 13, 2019
- **Daisy Stillwell**, Student Intern, East Franklin Elementary School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Amy Strum**, Student Intern, South Macon Elementary School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Franklin Thompson**, Non-Certified Substitute, Franklin High School, effective February 26, 2019
- **Paul Bruce**, Student Intern, Macon Middle School, effective February 26, 2019

Bus Driver

- **Kathy Tippett**, EC Bus Substitute, Macon County Schools, effective February 26, 2019
- **Andrea Chalker**, Substitute/Activity Bus Driver, Macon County Schools, effective February 26, 2019

f) The ***Vacancies with Ongoing Interviews*** are as follows:

- Spanish & Social Studies Teacher, Highlands School
- School Psychologist, Macon County Schools
- Reading Specialist, South Macon Elementary School

g) There were no ***Recommended Renewals*** at this time.

h) There were no ***Miscellaneous Items*** at this time.

6) The following ***Policy*** items were presented for approval:

- On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Student Code of Conduct as presented by Board Attorney John Henning, Jr. This new Student Code of Conduct would be effective at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.

- 7) Under the ***Curriculum and Instruction*** items, (1) On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Stephanie McCall, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote for Highlands School to convert Friday, February 22, 2019 from a work day to a regular student day. (*The Board was previously polled on this request.*) (2) On a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the 2019-2020 school calendars for Highlands School and Nantahala School as presented (Exhibit “B”).
- 8) In the area of ***Buildings and Grounds***, (1) On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board approved by a 4-0 vote the Macon Early College Bus Use Request to use a Macon County Schools’ bus to transport Macon Early College students and chaperones to the Atlanta airport as presented. Board Chairman Jim Breedlove recused himself from this vote. (2) On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Fred Goldsmith, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Drake Water Line Easement and authorized Chairman Jim Breedlove and Superintendent Chris Baldwin to execute all paperwork as necessary (Exhibit “C”).
- 9) In the area of ***Business and Finance***, (1) On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Fund Redistribution for Franklin High School as presented by Finance Officer Angie Cook (Exhibit “D”). (2) On a motion made by Stephanie McCall and seconded by Tommy Cabe, the Board approved by a 5-0 vote the Anderson Smith & Wike PLLC Audit Contract as presented by Finance Officer Angie Cook. Ms. Cook made Board Members aware that there were no changes in the audit contract and the price had not increased. (3) Finance Officer Angie Cook gave Board Members an update on Current Expense and Capital Outlay. Ms. Cook explained that eight months of the budget had been completed and revenues were at 60%. To date, Medicaid money has not been received. Summer Edventure Camp has started collected funds for summer camp participants. Ms. Cook informed Board Members that she had attended a finance officer’s conference a week prior and finance officers were told not to expect a full state budget anytime soon. Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin referenced that the school system budget would need to be presented to County Commissioners by April 15, 2019, therefore another budget work session would be needed in the near future. Capital Outlay was then discussed. No approval would be necessary for capital outlay items at this time. Board Members will take time to further review the capital outlay list prior to approval.
- 10) Under the ***Board of Education Information***, Board Member Stephanie McCall gave an update on the Advanced Highlands Education Committee (AHEC). Recognition for AHEC will be forthcoming at the May 22, 2019 Board Meeting at Highlands School.
- 11) Under the ***Superintendent Information***, (1) Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin reminded Board Members of several important events throughout the district. (2) Dr. Baldwin then informed Board Members about a Union Academy incident that occurred involving a Union Academy parent bringing a firearm onto campus. Dr. Baldwin explained that the firearm was in the parent’s car and was seen by a staff member who notified the SRO. The SRO immediately confiscated the firearm. The Macon County Sheriff’s Department was notified and arrived on scene. Dr. Baldwin commended the Union Academy Staff, SRO, and Macon County Sheriff’s Department for their swift action in this incident. No students, staff or others individuals on campus were in immediate danger during this incident.

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(3) Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin and STEM Coordinator Jennifer Love invited everyone to attend the STEM Tourney on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the Smoky Mountain Center for Performing Arts. Dr. Baldwin and Ms. Love thanked all the sponsors and parent mentors for making the event possible. A huge shout out and thank you was then given to Mr. Phil Drake for the donation of the Performing Arts Venue.

There being no further business and on a motion made by Tommy Cabe and seconded by Melissa Evans, the Board adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Secretary, Board of Education

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Chairman, Board of Education

