

MINUTES OF THE THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN WORKSHOP SESSION,
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman NeSmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: David Dawson, Charles Evans, Derwood Hickey, Nancy Hiers, Mark NeSmith, and Kay Streets. Scott Morgan was on conference call but did not participate in any votes taken by the board.

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Streets made a motion, with a second by Ms. Hiers, to approve the consent agenda (attachment A), which included agenda and fund raising activities. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

3. PRESENTATION FROM CITY OF THOMASVILLE

A. Easement requests - Mr. Jerry Pionessa with the city of Thomasville explained the new water system planned for outlying areas around the city. He said the city is trying to get easements from other property owners on the bypass and if so, there would not be a need for an easement across Thomas County Central High School for the water lines. He said easements across high school property are a plan B in case plan A, easements from other property owners, cannot be accomplished.

B. Utility rates - Mr. Don Atkinson and Ms. Lynn Williams with the city of Thomasville explained the rate increases for utilities.

C. Future annexation plans - Mr. Steve Sykes, manager for the city of Thomasville, informed the board that the city economics are not driven by taxes but operates off business enterprises and the city has no interest in annexing property because the city receives no additional revenue although the workload increases.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Academic updates

1. Additional student named to Governor's Honors: Nikki Young, Band (Tuba Player) – Dr. Kornegay explained that Nikki is the 5th student to be named to Governor's Honors this year.

2. College and Career Ready Performance Index to be posted soon – Dr. Kornegay expressed disappointment in College and Career Ready Performance scores being released soon because there are errors in the report.

a. Tentative date for draft scores to be released to systems, April 26

b. Scores released to press May 2nd with embargo until May 7th

c. Scores based on 2011-2012 data, not current year data

B. Athletic program updates

1. Recent accomplishments – Dr. Kornegay announced the following accomplishments for the athletic program: girls' golf team won region championship, which is the third region championship win for girls' sports this year. The other two were softball and soccer. Boys' golf team won 3rd in region; girls' track team won 2nd place overall, with 15 girls qualifying for sectionals; Brianna Scott finished first in track and set a new school record; 4 x 100 relay team won place first in region track meet; boys' track team won 3rd in region, with 6 qualifying for sectionals.

2. Fall football schedule – Fall football schedules were given to board members.

C. Financial reports: Joey Holland

1. March financial report – Mr. Joey Holland, finance director, explained the financial report (attachment B) for March.

2. Revenue update for draft FY14 budget – Mr. Holland reported good news had come from Georgia Department of Education. He said that the school system had an overall gain of \$715,000 because of the difference in the way QBE had computed health insurance and some systems had a loss but Thomas County had a gain of about \$213,000. Also, the difference in the formula for health insurance for school systems had saved the state \$83,000,000 which was applied to Austerity reduction.

Dr. Kornegay asked about reducing the number of furlough days for teachers from six to five for the 2013-2014 budget so teachers could have an additional planning day. He explained that the new evaluation system would require a full day of training for teachers and that would take up one of the planning days. Mr. Evans moved, with a second by Mr. Hickey, that the number of furlough days for teachers be reduced from six to five for 2013-2014. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

D. Facilities update

1. Sponsorship signs – Dr. Kornegay informed the board of another proposal from the sign company that would place a sign at the corner of the middle school campus near Hwy. 202. He explained that one side of the sign would be a fixed billboard and the other side would be an electronic sign with 10 different rotating slides and face the intersection. He said if approved, the school system would have one slot on that sign and one slot on another of the company's signs. He asked if the board would like for him to proceed with the sponsorship signs. There was no opposition from the board to continue working on the contract for sponsorship signs for future board approval. Dr. Kornegay informed the board that the boosters club would like to do tear down their sponsorship sign and possibly replace it with an electronic sign and the sponsorship sign could be put inside the stadium or the back side of the stadium enclosed and the sign placed there. There was no opposition from the board for the booster club sign to be replaced.

2. Roof for administrative building – Dr. Kornegay informed the board of the need to replace the roof on the administrative building at the board office. He said the current roof was put on in the 70s. He proposed putting on a new roof and doing some upgrades as opposed to building a new building. There were no objections from board members for this proposal.

E. Charter school renewals: PREP Academy and Bishop Hall – Dr. Kornegay proposed letting the PREP Academy charter expire. He said that charter was a requirement for getting the grant for PREP Academy but that obligation has been fulfilled and now there is no benefit for maintaining charter status. He said if it expires, there would be no loss of programs and the PREP Academy would become a department of Thomas County Central High School instead of being a separate entity. He said the plan is to apply for charter status for Bishop Hall.

F. Upcoming dates - Dr. Kornegay informed the board of upcoming events for the school system:

1. Mrs. Deal visits Hand-In-Hand, "Read across Georgia tour," April 24, 9:50-10:20

2. May 14 board meeting

a. Meeting to be held in auditorium for year-end resolutions

b. Group and individual photographs to be made for website

3. TCCHS graduation Saturday, May 25, 10:00 a.m., TCCHS Gym

4. Bishop Hall graduation Friday, May 24, 6:30 p.m., Center for the Arts

5. Cross Creek end of year choral performances, May 10, 8:25 and 10:00 a.m.

5. NEW BUSINESS: APPROVAL OF AMENDED FY13 BUDGET – Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Mr. Evans, to approve the FY13 amended budget (attachment C). The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL – Ms. Hiers made a motion for the board to go into executive session (attachment D) for personnel. Mr. Hickey seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Ms. Streets, to end the executive session. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

7. PERSONNEL REPORT – Ms. Hiers moved, with a second by Mr. Dawson, to approve the personnel report (attachment E). The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evans moved to adjourn. Mr. Hickey seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

Chairman

Secretary