

August 14, 2017 Annual Board Meeting Minutes

By: Kelly P. Vann, Secretary/Treasurer

On Monday, August 14, 2017, the NEA Board of Trustees held its annual board meeting in the cafeteria. In attendance were Kim Brown, April Liverman, Shari Hudson, Renee Baker, Wanda Trevino, Pat Rowe, Jonathan Morris, Jimi Jilcott, Derreck Long, Joe Flythe, Kelly Vann, Joey Stephenson, Tim White, Misty Buren, Mitzi Taylor and Darrell Rowe.

The following board member was not present: Mona Taylor

The following board members resigned their position on the board prior to the meeting: Kathy Bryant, Billy Futrell, Angie Pope, and Tracy Sykes.

Also in attendance was Mr. Dickens, teachers, and parents.

Mr. Dickens led us in prayer.

Jimi opened by going over the agenda for the meeting. He also explained that during the annual meeting we vote for board members and this year we have nine spots to fill.

Headmaster Comments: Mr. Dickens stated that he and the staff have been really busy this summer preparing for the upcoming school year. At last count, we have 8 more students than we had last year at this time. We have many new elementary students and a few new high school students. Letters were sent out to explain some new points of interest for this year, along with the school packets. We have two new teachers this year – Annie K. Wilson (soon to be Richey) and Logan Miller. Annie has a Master's in English Literature. She will teach 9th grade English, Research class, some other high school classes (4 high school classes) and (2) 7th and 8th grade classes. Logan has an associate's degree in Agriculture and Agricultural Science. She is working on credits for a full certification in elementary education. She will teach the 5th grade afternoon classes and most likely be coordinator for Ag Science class. She will be doing one elementary PE class. She will assist Anita in pre-school and assist with after school. Mr. Dickens thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Announcements and fundraisers:

- The Development Committee will be selling tickets for a chance to win a Yeti Cooler. The tickets will go on sale the first day of school.
- They will also start selling tickets for Great Wolf Lodge the first day of school.
- Tuesday, August 22, 2017 – a visitor from the Roanoke Rapids Police Department will come to talk about cyber bullying and the dangers of it.
- Wednesday, August 23, 2017 – Candyman representative will be here at 9:00 to discuss the fundraiser for this year.
- Friday, August 25, 2017 – Cody Umphlett, a graduate of NEA and member of the Rescue Squad, will come to talk to the students about the dangers of drinking and driving.
- Saturday, August 26, 2017 – the Development Committee will have a car wash from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at Morris Auto Service in Rich Square. They are asking for volunteers.

Annual Financial Statements 6/30/2017: Jimi presented the financial statements for year ended June 30, 2017. He referred everyone to page 2 of the financial report to explain the balance in the Development Committee account. The balance is so low because the funds remaining in the account at June 30th were transferred to the school's operating fund. The committee has a new chairperson and funds will be transferred from the operating fund to committee account to start the year. Jimi reminded everyone that NEA operates on a cash basis; therefore, the revenues and expenses seen on page 4 are all on cash basis. The \$24,497 shown at the bottom in the "transfers to (from)" line is the amount that the Development Committee raised and transferred to the school. This amount represents only fundraisers run through the committee, not the fundraisers that are run through the school directly. He pointed out that without these funds, our expenses would exceed our revenues over \$19,000. Page 5 shows the activity during the year in the trust fund accounts. Page 11 shows the balance of the trust fund accounts at June 30th. Some of the funds aren't currently active, but have been left in the line items they are for financial statement purposes. Page 12 shows a comparison of 2015/2016 and 2016/2017. Jimi stated that we currently have over \$40,000 in outstanding tuition.

Question: What is being done about the outstanding tuition balances?

Answer: We are actively pursuing the families that have a balance. The outstanding debt is much less than last year. We feel that our efforts are paying off.

Development Committee: Beverly Creech is the new chair of the Development Committee. The committee's next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5th at Caludine's Restaurant. Everyone is welcome. The committee always needs help and new members. The committee would like to be able to tie the fundraisers to a specific need. Some people ask what we are raising funds for and if we have a specific thing or purpose they may be more willing to give or donate.

Announcements/Fundraisers:

- Car Wash – August 26th from 9-3 at Morris Auto Service in Rich Square. They need volunteers.
- Yeti Cooler tickets for sale - \$1/ticket – chance to win a 65 tundra. The drawing will be held at the last home basketball game (Senior night).
- Thursday, August 17th will be Open House
- Great Wolf Lodge tickets for sale – \$5/ticket – chance to win \$250 Gift Card. The drawing will be held at the Christmas Program.
- The committee is currently working on securing contracts with businesses so that we can sell the Discount Cards.
- Beta Club members can come help with the car wash and they will get community service hours.
- The committee is taking over the NEA webpage and Facebook page. They are in the design phase at this time, but so far it is coming along well.

Football Team: Jimi announced that there was a meeting held here at NEA yesterday (Sunday, August 13th) about the varsity football team. NEA and Hobgood do not have enough players to make a team. We will be doing a pilot program this year with Hobgood as a combined team. Currently, we will play 3 home games and the last home game will be at Hobgood so they can have homecoming. This is nothing set in stone for the future. This was done to help both schools have a football team and to keep students. We currently have 12 varsity players and Hobgood has 6. The plan now is to practice a week here and then a week at Hobgood and

so on. Joella is working with the conference president and the state representatives.

Question: If the school is going to sponsor a sport, we need to have access to equipment, first aid kits, and other items necessary for that sport. Couldn't the school provide medical supplies and equipment for the teams? The coaches need to be able to get in the equipment rooms for items needed for practice and games.

Answer: Jimi will look into this right away.

Other Questions/Comments:

Question about Dual Enrollment and/or Virtual Public High School: Has any research been done on the academic side? Will students be able to play sports here if they are dually enrolled in NEA and Northampton County Public Schools?

Answer: We aren't sure at this time. Jimi will follow up and get back to us on it. It was presented to the board and parents to see if there was any interest.

Question: A parent wanted to discuss the new rules/policies that were mailed out recently. The parent is fine with the no caffeine for elementary students, no fidget spinners, and new cell phone rules. The parent questioned Rule #4 – the rule states that any student or parent that makes a derogatory comment about the school can be asked to leave or have their contract revoked. Can the school do this? Is it legal? Does this apply to social media? The parent asked if the board/administration would consider rewording the policy.

Answer: We are trying to prevent bullying or derogatory comments made towards someone individually or about someone individually.

Question: Does the dress code apply to the staff as well as the students?

Answer: Yes.

Election of 2017/2018 Board Members: We will be voting for 9 members tonight. The two with the least amount of votes will have a one-year term. Board member terms ending 2016/2017: Jimi Jilcott, Jonathan Morris, Pat Rowe, Kelly Vann, and Tim White. Also there are two more positions ending 2016/2017 that need to be filled due to Kathy Bryant and Billy Futrell resigning. Board Members that resigned with terms ending 2017/2018: Angie Pope and Tracy Sykes. Jimi opened the floor for

nominees. The nominees were: Pat Rowe, Jimi Jilcott, Kelly Vann, Tim White, Anthony Simmons, Jonathan Morris, Bobby Jones, Mandy Vann, Tom Temple, Jennifer Bryant, Mark Short, Amanda Dixon, and Jonathan Newsome.

Board members elected for 2017-2020: Pat Rowe, Jimi Jilcott, Kelly Vann, Tim White, Jonathan Morris, Bobby Jones, and Mandy Vann.

Board members elected for a one-year term 2017-2018: Anthony Simmons and Jonathan Newsome.

Jimi asked if there were any other questions or comments.

The board needs to go into to Closed Session to elect officers and approve contracts. Pat Rowe made a motion for the board to go into closed session. Joe Flythe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Annual Meeting ended at 8:25 pm.