

Board O'Gram

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Report of Rome Board of Education — Action Compiled by Dr. Robert A. Young, Dir. of Administrative Services

Campbell named Georgia All-State Chorus: Mr. Wood presented a Certificate of Recognition to Hannah Campbell for being named to the Georgia All-State Chorus. Georgia All-State Chorus is the highest honor for students involved in chorus programs across the state. Students must go through a rigorous initial audition where they must sing a solo for Georgia Music Educators in four different categories: 1. Solo: A prepared classical solo; 2. Scales: The student must sing several different scales; 3. Ear Training: Participants sing back to the judges excerpts that are played for them; 4. Sight Reading: The student must sing an excerpt she has never seen before. Each student is judged for accuracy and quality in this audition. Students are judged on a scale of 10-30 with 10 being a perfect score (no errors made during the audition). For the second audition the student must prepare all the songs selected for All State Chorus, usually 7 to 9 pieces. Students must not make errors of more than 30% to be selected for All State and those students scoring 90% or better receive a gold seal on their certificate. Hannah Campbell scored a 10 at the first audition and was invited to the second audition where she scored better than 90% and received a gold seal. Hannah participated with 500 middle school students from across the state of Georgia at All-State Chorus.

Williams named to Memphis Sound Drum & Bugle Corps: Mrs. Collins presented a Certificate of Recognition to Micah Williams for earning a position in the *Memphis Sound Drum & Bugle Corps*. In November, Micah Williams auditioned for a spot in the drumline of the *Memphis Sound Drum & Bugle Corps*. Fifty-seven college and high school percussionists from throughout the Southeast competed for seven snare drum positions. Micah won the seventh and final spot over two college students and will be marching on the snare line of *Memphis Sound* this summer. Quite an accomplishment for a high school junior.

2006 Young Georgia Authors' Writing Competition winners: Mr. Greer presented Certificates of Recognition to the Rome City Schools 2006 Young Georgia Authors' Writing Competition winners. The Young Georgia Authors' Writing Competition is open to all students currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, kindergarten through the twelfth grade. Each school is asked to send one entry per grade level and selections are made by a local panel of judges to select the best example of student writing in each grade level for the State competition. The purposes of the competition are to encourage students to develop writing that represents their best efforts; to provide a context for schools to support and celebrate the writing successes of all students; and to encourage and recognize student achievement in writing throughout Georgia. Any type of student writing is permissible. Entries may be short stories, poetry, essays, personal narratives, or any other original student writing. The following students are our system's winners whose entries were sent for State competition:

Jazelyn Byars, Kindergarten, Southeast Elementary
Jayla Haney, 1st Grade, Southeast Elementary
Carson Conkright, 2nd Grade, North Heights Elementary
Mandy Smith, 3rd Grade, West End Elementary
Lucy Lansing, 4th Grade, East Central Elementary
Samuel Moses, 5th Grade, West End Elementary
Olivia Louis-Jean, 6th Grade, Southeast Elementary
Jacob Sanborn, 7th Grade, Rome Middle School
Tyler VanRiper, 8th Grade, Rome Middle School
Kaelon Caldwell, 9th Grade, Rome High School
Zaynab Taei, 10th Grade, Rome High School
Cody Fox, 11th Grade, Rome High School
Kimberly Rogers, 12th Grade, Rome High School

Rome High School Math Team participants: Mrs. Huffman presented Certificates of Recognition to Rome High Schools Math Team members for their accomplishments.

A) The Rome High Math Team had some marvelous victories over the last two weeks. As a team, they won the Berry Math Meet and the RESA Math Meet.

Team members competing in both meets were:

William Madden
David Holcomb

Emilee McDonald
Kyle Doegg

Bill Grout
Liang Hou

Chris Jones
Wes Bryson

- B) At the West Georgia Meet, students competed as individuals in different subject areas. Math Team members competing were:

Calculus: William Madden, David Holcomb and Chris Hunter

Algebra II: Anna Claire Cauthen, Josh Scoggins, Patrick Hunter, and Joel Grindstaff

Advanced Math: Wes Bryson, Isaac Payne, Liang Hou, and Bhavi Patel

Geometry: Gabrielle Whitney, Jessica McDonald, Kyle Doegg, and Haley Shore

- c) Winners of the West Georgia Meet were:

Josh Scoggins, First Place, Algebra II

Anna Claire Cauthen, Third Place, Algebra II

Kyle Doegg, and Gabrielle Whitney, Fourth Place, Geometry

William Madden, David Holcomb, Chris Jones, Second Place, Calculus

Rome High School Interact Club Awards: Mr. Clark presented Certificates of Recognition to the Rome High School Interact Club participants for their accomplishments. Congratulations to members of the Rome High School Interact Club, who attended the State Convention before Spring Break.

The Rome High Club was named "Club of the Year". The Club also had the "Best Scrapbook" at the Convention and two of our seniors, Brittany Burns and David Holcomb, won \$500 scholarships for their work in Interact.

The following students attended the Convention: Brittany Burns, Jennifer Blalock, Jordan Peace, Meredith Smith, Trang Le, Hannah Chupp, Ashley Alred, Laura Latham, Laura Hamilton, Jeff Hamilton, David Holcomb, and Ben Pease. Mrs. Mary Holcomb serves as the faculty advisor.

Seventh Month Attendance: Dr. Cooper reported the attendance for the seventh month of school. He stated that Anna K. Davie Elementary School had the highest percentage of student attendance, 97.68 percent. It was also noted that Rome Middle School had 96.96 percent of student attendance for the seventh month of school. The highest percent of staff attendance was Elm Street Elementary School, 97.53 percent.

New Personnel: On a Collins/Wood motion, the Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's personnel recommendations for employees:

Certified Employment 2006-2007: William Brad Barker/RMS; Jo Orr/ES; Patty Acree/EC; Beth Herod/WE; Stephanie Barnes/ES; Cassandra Parson/WE; Gretchen Bunde/RMS; Shelley Raley/WC; Wendy Cannon/WE; Hazel Ratliff/EC; Amy Deese/RMS; Chris Rogers/MN; Barbara Ford/MN; and Brandi Tripp/WC

Support Employment 2005-2006: Ellen Sturwold/Parapro/SE

Recommendation/Assignment of Personnel 2006-2007: Dr. Narkisa Ware/principal/Anna K. Davie Elementary School and Mrs. Dawn Williams/principal/Main Elementary School

Focus on Student Achievement for Rome Middle School: At Dr. Cooper's request, Mr. Robert Costley presented the Focus on Student Achievement for Rome Middle School. Mr. Costley briefly reviewed the CRCT scores for the previous years indicating that the students of Rome Middle School are doing well measured against the state averages.

Mr. Costley discussed the changes that have been implemented in the past year. These changes include adding five gifted ELA segments to the school curriculum: three in eighth grade and two in seventh grade. He, along with his teachers, has increased the number of math inclusion segments for Special Education students from one last year to eight this year. He said that ALL eighth grade students take pre-Algebra or Algebra 1 whereas in the past, only a few did. In the past, there were no Honor ELA programs but this year there are 12 Honors ELA programs offered. In the past, there were 12 teachers who had to teach multiple subject areas outside their primary interest. This year there are two who serve a "bridging function" for students but no other teachers teach more than one subject area. In the past, the School Improvement Teams carried out logistic and curricular functions. Now, Rome Middle School has an additional team of professionals, made up of department heads, who meet as the Monthly Curriculum Task Force designed to proactively develop and adjust the curriculum.

The school highlights, as presented by Mr. Costley, include: curriculum maps for all five academic areas; monthly cumulative reviews; common benchmark assessments (Dec/March); and formative assessment software which provides teachers with valuable assessment data to assist their students. He cited successes in the areas of fine arts, safety, and discipline. According to Mr. Costley, if a student is out of class because of poor discipline, he/she is missing valuable instruction time. The priority of the administration and staff is to ensure that each child is given as much time in instruction as possible.

Textbook Adoption: On a Clark/Wood motion, the Board members present unanimously adopted Dr. Cooper's textbook adoption for 6-12 Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education as presented by Dr. Mary Baldwin.

2006-2007 Board Goals: On a Collins/Huffman motion, the Board members present unanimously adopted the 2006-2007 Board Goals:

1. Continue additional training for the implementation of the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) in grades K-12 English Language Arts; grade 6 Math and Earth Science; grade 7 Life Science; grades 9-12 Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, and Physics.
2. Implement the new Georgia Performance Standards in grades K, 1, 2, and 7 Math and grades 3, 4, and 5 Science.
3. Train teachers/administrators on the Georgia Performance Standards in grades 3, 4, 5, and 8 in Math; grades K, 1, 2, and 8 in Science; and grades 6-12 in Social Studies.
4. Implement Writing Workshop at all elementary schools for students in grades K-6.
5. Implement Math Workshop at all elementary schools for students in grades K-6.
6. Hire and staff a lower grades literacy coach, an upper grades literacy coach, and a math coach for each elementary school.
7. Focus on student achievement at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and improve test scores in all subject areas.
8. Renovate the kitchens at East Central Elementary School and West Central Elementary School during the summer of 2006.
9. Explore the possibility of hiring a public relations coordinator.

Amendments to Policy Section G: On a Wood/Collins motion, the Board members present unanimously adopted, on First Reading, all recommendations to Section G of the Rome City Schools Board Policy Manual.

SPLOST II: Dr. Cooper gave an update on the SPLOST II revenues. He stated that the January '06 collections of \$469,978.58 were \$37,154.43 above projections and overall collections are very strong.

Maximum Class Size numbers: In other items, Dr. Cooper discussed the new maximum class size requirements for 2006-2007:

GRADE(S) SUBJECT(S)	MAXIMUM INDIVIDUAL CLASS SIZE	
	2005-2006	2006-2007
Regular Kindergarten	20	18
Regular Grades 1-3 No Professional	23	21
Grades 4-5 English, Math, Science, Social Studies	32	28
Grades 6-8 English, Math, Science, Social Studies	32	28
Grades 6-8 Middle Schools All Academic Classes As Defined In Rule 160-4-2-.05 Middle School Program Criteria	32	28
Grades 9-12 High Schools English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language	32	28

Teacher and Student Holidays: Dr. Cooper announced that April 13-14, 2006 are unneeded makeup days and will instead be teacher and student holidays.

Second Reading on Policies Sections D & E: Under Unfinished Business, on a Huffman/Clark motion, the Board members present unanimously adopted, on Second Reading, all policy recommendations to Sections D and E of the Rome City Schools Board Policy manual.

National Teacher Recognition Week – May 7-13, 2006: Under New Business: Mrs. Sims read a Board Resolution in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week which will be May 7-13, 2006. The Board members will be distributing apples and service pins to the employees on Tuesday, May 9, 2006.

A. D. Black Scholarship Committee named: Mrs. Sims appointed Mr. Clark and Mrs. Huffman to serve with Dr. Buck on the A.D. Black Scholarship Committee in naming this year's recipients.

RCS/FC Board Meeting: Mrs. Sims reported that the Rome Board of Education will schedule a meeting with the Floyd County Board of Education to see if there are any areas that collaboration might be possible.

Other: Mrs. Sims recognized the art work in the lobby which was prepared by students at Anna K. Davie Elementary School.