

Board O'Gram

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

National Forensic League Tournament: Mr. Wood recognized the National Forensic League Tournament Representative, Julie Ann Franklin, 12th grade, Rome High School for her honors. Julie Ann Franklin qualified to represent Rome High School and the State of Georgia at the National Forensic League National Tournament in Philadelphia, PA, in June 2005. This is Julie's second national tournament this season and her third in her career debate in Rome High School.

RESA Mathematics Tournament: Mr. Clark recognized Rome High's Math Team for earning top honors at the RESA Mathematics Tournament. The Rome High Math Team competed in the RESA Mathematics Tournament at Floyd College on February 22. The Rome High team placed first in the tournament. Isle Cleeves had the top individual score on the written test for the entire meet. The team members included: Michelle Jester, 12th grade; Devin Kitson, 12th grade; Devang Patel, 12th grade; William Madden, 11th grade; Emilee McDonald, 11th grade; David Holcomb, 11th grade; Kyle Doegg, 11th grade; and Mary Holcomb, Faculty Sponsor.

Sixth Month Attendance: Dr. Cooper reported the attendance for the sixth month of school. He stated that North Heights Elementary School had the highest percentage of student attendance, 98.08 percent. It was also noted that Rome Middle School had 96.17 percent of student attendance for the sixth month of school. The school with the highest percent of staff attendance was Elm Street Elementary School, 97.23 percent.

Personnel Recommendations: The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendations for new Certified and Support staff hiring for 2004–2005:

- A. Recommendation of 2004–2005 Personnel/Certified: Natalie McDowell/EC
- B. Recommendation of Personnel/Support for 2004–2005: Candace Peacock/Aide / NH

The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendations for re-employment of Certified employees for 2005 – 2006 (see attached).

The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendation of Dr. Randy Phillips to move laterally from Rome Middle School to the Central Office for the 2005–2006 school year.

2005-2006 Benefits Package: The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's 2005-2006 Benefits Package recommendation as presented by Dr. Robert Young. The Benefits Package includes: Employer Paid Life Insurance; Employer Paid, basic single coverage with buy-up options, Dental Insurance; Employer Paid, single coverage with family option, Vision Insurance; Voluntary Term Life Insurance; Voluntary Short Term Disability Insurance; Voluntary Long Term Disability Insurance; and a Voluntary Cancer Indemnity Plan. According to Dr. Young, Shaw/Hankins is currently preparing the infrastructure to enroll Rome City School employees in the benefit plans and will be conducting training and enrolling sessions at the schools during the months of April and May 2005. All of the benefit plans will become effective July 1, 2005.

East Central Focus on Student Achievement: At Dr. Cooper's request, Mrs. Wood presented the Focus on Student Achievement at East Central Elementary School. Mrs. Wood reported on the 2004 CRCT results. She attributed East Central Elementary School's students' success on the CRCT by having experienced dedicated staff members willing to go the extra mile in preparing students. According to Mrs. Wood, the teachers are focused on instruction and they care about their children. As a school, they prioritize objectives and evaluate each child for deficiencies and areas needing improvement. The teachers focus on individualized instruction to maximize each child's potential.

Testing Schedule: At Dr. Cooper's request, Dr. Harris reported on this spring's 2005 testing schedule. Dr. Harris explained why the Rome City Schools test students. In addition to simply being in compliance of Georgia Law, the test results: assist in evaluating student achievement; identify individual student weaknesses; provide diagnostic information for teachers about specific students; and aid administration in evaluating instructional programs.

Dr. Harris reported that the window for CRCT administration is from April 19-28, 2005. Grades 1-8 will test Reading on April 19, English/Language Arts on April 20, and Math on April 21. Grades 3-8 will test Science on April 25 and Social Studies on April 26. Dr. Harris stated that the tests are critical because students must achieve the passing scores of 300 in Reading for third grade and 300 in Reading and 300 in Math for fifth grade.

The Georgia High School Graduation Test window of administration is from March 28 through April 1, 2005. This is an 11th grade test in the areas of English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Finally, Dr. Harris stated that the End-of-Course Testing (EOCT) administration will take place April 27, 28, and 29, 2005 and will be in the following subjects: Algebra 1; Geometry; Ninth Grade Literature and Composition; American Literature and Composition; Physical Science; Biology; U.S. History; and Economics. The End-of-Course Test will count 15 percent of the final grade.

2005-2006 School Calendar: The Board members present unanimously adopted on second reading the proposed 2005-2006 School Calendar as presented by Dr. Cooper.

SPLOST II Results: Dr. Cooper gave an update on the SPLOST II revenues. He stated that December 20'04 collections of \$455,212.60 were \$53,254.93 over projections. Dr. Cooper reported that the actual revenues-to-date for the system are ahead of projected revenues by \$83,864.17.

Bus Driver Salary Schedule: The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendation to adopt a 2005 Bus Driver Salary Schedule. Dr. Cooper stated that the new salary schedule is more regionally competitive and will be effective April 1, 2005.

Main Elementary Renovations: The Board members present unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's bid package recommendations for renovation of Main Elementary School's Gym as presented by Dr. Cooper and Dr. Young.

Spring Holidays: Dr. Cooper announced that Spring Holidays will be held from March 21 – 25, 2005.