

Board O'Gram

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

Board Resolution: Mrs. Sims read a resolution proclaiming the Board's support for the reauthorization of the Federal Child Nutrition Programs and urging the Congress of the United States to eliminate the reduced price school meals programs, and to provide free meals for all children with family incomes below 185 percent of poverty.

Attendance: For the second month of school, Main Elementary School had the highest percentage of student attendance at 99.05 percent. It was also noted that Rome Middle School had 96.33 percent of student attendance for the second month of school. The school with the highest percent of staff attendance was Southeast Elementary School with 97.86 percent.

New Personnel: The Board unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendations for new certified and support staff hiring for 2004 - 2005:

Certified: Pam Davis, Elm Street (49%); Joyce Thomas, Rome Transitional Academy; Erika Dinges, Southeast; and Paula Shade, Elm Street.
Support: Susan Lee, Central Office.

Main Elementary School Focus on Achievement: At Dr. Cooper's request, Dr. Bynes made a presentation on the Focus on Student Achievement at Main Elementary School. Dr. Bynes reported on the 2003 CRCT results and pointed out that 100 percent of their third grade and fifth grade students met AYP standards. Dr. Bynes attributed the success experienced at Main Elementary School to a number of factors: that class schedules no longer include any self-contained classes in grades one through five and that they focus programs such as Direct Instruction, Guided Reading, Learning Focused Schools, and After-School on individualized student learning. In the future, Dr. Bynes stated that the students will be screened for their individual learning styles so teachers may more appropriately develop their teaching strategies to meet the specific learning styles of their individual students.

Rome Middle School – After-School Program: At Dr. Cooper's request, Dr. Phillips reported on the Rome Middle School's After-School Program. Dr. Phillips announced that in 2003-2004 Rome Middle School earned AYP and has set Rome Middle School's goal to meet AYP again for 2004-2005. He attributed the success of the students at Rome Middle School to the focus of the After-School Program which is aligned with the core curriculum. Dr. Phillips said that the After-School Program is all about reading, language arts, and math preparation. He announced that there will be a new Saturday program that will be unveiled within the next few weeks to further support the academic program and assist student learning.

SPLOST Update: Dr. Cooper gave an update on the SPLOST II revenues. He stated that July '04 collections of \$395,466.15 were \$6,491.52 less than projections.

Declaration of Surplus: On a Swann/Clark motion, the Board unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's Declaration of Surplus recommendation as presented by Dr. Harris. Dr. Harris reported that Mrs. William Hooper will be conducting an auction at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 22, 2004, at the Maintenance Center. Items to be auctioned off include trucks, buses, gas heat/electric air conditioner units and lawnmowers. A complete list of items declared surplus can be picked up at the Central Office receptionist's office.

Construction Manager Selected: The Board unanimously approved Dr. Cooper's recommendation to award the SPLOST II Construction Management Proposal to Pinson's Inc. as presented by Dr. Young.

Announcements: Dr. Cooper announced the 2004 Homecoming game against Hiram on October 15, 2004. He also mentioned that Gordon Central will be coming to Rome on October 22, 2004, as the Wolves host their last regular season home game. Finally, Dr. Cooper announced the 2004 Peach State Marching Band Festival is to be held at Barron Stadium on Saturday, October 23, 2004.

Policy IDEA – First Reading: The Board unanimously approved, on First Reading, Dr. Cooper's recommendation on Policy IDEA (Unstructured Break Time) as presented by Dr. Harris.

Policy BBFA – Second Reading: On a Huffman/Wood motion, the Board unanimously adopted, on Second Reading, Dr. Cooper's recommendation on Policy BBFA (Local School Councils) as presented by Dr. Harris.

Board Announcements and Actions: Mrs. Sims appointed Mrs. Huffman to serve as the Board's 2005 Legislative Liaison.

Mrs. Sims wished Mr. Wood and Mr. Swann happy birthday and thanked East Central for the artwork displayed in the hallway just outside the Boardroom.