

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

December 3, 2018

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mark Blevins, Nancy Brown, Austin Jaynes, Layla Ward for Ginger Holdren,
Gary Bailey, Sonja Culler and Robing McKamey

ABSENT: Charles VonCannon

CALL TO ORDER: Robin McKamey, Chairwoman

ROLL CALL: Quorum Present

- Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Mark Blevins to approve the agenda as presented. By voice roll call vote, motion carried.
- Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Austin Jaynes to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2018, meeting as presented. By voice roll call vote, motion carried.
- Report from School Superintendent: Kevin Ward introduced Mickey Taylor, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education (CTE) for the County school system. Mr. Taylor gave the committee an introduction into the programs offered at the county's four (4) High Schools. These programs included the following: Meat Science, Business, Collision Repair, Family Consumer Science, Auto Mechanics, Engineer/Design, Marketing, Agriculture, Welding, Agriculture/Greenhouse, Electronics, Criminal Justice and Flight. He stated not all programs were not offered at every school but transportation was provided to students desiring to take a program at another school not offered where they attended. He also informed the committee the State was pushing next year for Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPSOs) and Industry Certifications for all programs. Dr. Ward stated Mr. Taylor had met with the principals of Happy Valley High school and Middle School to create an introduction of a Robotics Program.
- Old/New Business: Dr. Ward brought up the recent opportunity the committee had to visit Keenburg and Unaka Elementary Schools and Unaka High School. He stated maybe vocational programs, as well as buildings, could be observed by the committee during future visits. He suggested field trips be delayed until after the end of the school's semester.
- Public Comments: Dr. Ward acknowledged the commission had approved a partial salary for an additional SRO officer. He stated this allowed for the creation of a roving supervisor's role to fill in for absent officers and assist other officers at all schools.

Dr. Ward told the committee the directors were currently working on a five (5) year plan to establish goals for the school department and coming up with objectives and strategies toward obtaining these goals. He stated the plan would be completed in January, presented to the Board for approval, then brought to the Education Committee in February.

Commissioner Patty Woodby voiced her concern for the number of homeless students in Carter County and asked for an update from Dr. Ward on the school department's recently hired "homeless liaison". He related Title funds had been used to hire a full time certified social worker, formerly with Frontier Health. He stated she was on the Board's next meeting agenda to give an update on what she has been dealing with in our county. He related her job

description included, but was not limited to, getting homeless students in touch with support agencies, absenteeism and working with Child Protective Services in some cases. He stated if a student was removed from a home for any of the reasons set out in the state's definition of "homeless", the county would be responsible to see to the transportation of the child to and from school no matter where they were residing.

Mr. Ward stated the Board of Education would be having a workshop on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, and a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at 4:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone to attend.

The next meeting was set for January 7, 2019, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved for entry:

Suzi Wallace

Robin McKamey, Chairwoman