

Carter County Education Committee
June 4, 2018
Carter County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ward promptly at 6 pm.

Roll Call: Commissioners Carroll, VonCannon, Lyons, Ward, Miller, Hill and Peters present; Commissioner Dietz was absent.

The agenda was amended to allow a presentation under new business from Mrs. Juanita McKinney about her "At Wit's End" Equine Assisted Learning and Growth programs. Motion by Hill, seconded by VonCannon to approve as amended. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Hill, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the previous session also passed by unanimous voice vote.

No public comments were brought forward.

Under new business, Mrs. Juanita McKinney presented two short videos about Equine Assisted Learning and Growth programs and discussed her "At Wit's End" Center. A program brochure is attached to this document.

The floor was given to School Superintendent Kevin Ward for a wrap-up of the 2017-18 school year.

- School budget came in \$5,000 lower than the April estimate.
- County school enrollment number has decreased by 1 100 students since 2001.
- Each student the county system loses equals a loss of \$8,700 in funding.
- County school students were awarded \$5.4 million in scholarships this year.
- 43 students spread across all four high schools completed the Work Ethic

Diploma program.

• New school rating categories for 2018-2019 have been announced by the TN Department of Education (editor's note-these seem just as vague as the previous categories with the exception of the last one, which is self explanatory. The result of this bureaucratic tinkering is as follows :

- Exemplary
- Advancing
- Satisfactory
- Marginal
- In need of improvement-any school failing to achieve testing completion

in all categories by 95% of enrolled students is automatically placed into this category.

August 6 is the first inservice day for teachers, with the first day of school on the following Monday.

There will be no July Education Committee meeting.

A round table discussion emerged spontaneously regarding overhead and fixed costs associated with maintaining a school facility and the need to be able to conduct strategic planning for the future without harassment. Educating the public properly is key.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45

Draft submitted by Mike Hill, acting secretary