

Carter County Commission



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Minutes of:

Education Committee

February 3, 2020 6:00 PM

Members:

Chairwoman Layla Ward	Mark Blevins
Nancy Brown	Gary Bailey
Charles Von Cannon	Sonja Culler
Jerry Proffitt	David Miller

I. Call to Order

The Education Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Layla Ward at 6:00 pm.

II. Approval of Agenda / with amendment

Chairwoman Ward asked that an amendment be made to section 5 to include guest speaker Micky Taylor with the Carter County School System. A motion was made by Nancy Brown to accept the agenda with the amendment, second by Jerry Proffitt. Agenda with amendment was unanimously approved.

III. Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the January 2020 minutes was made by Nancy Brown, second by Mark Blevins. Minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Public Comments

None

V. Update from Dr. Ward / guest speaker Micky Taylor

Micky Taylor the CTE Director in the Carter County School System attended the meeting to give an update on some of the program available in the system. Mr. Taylor informed the committee that the state is pushing for student certifications. The system is trying to roll out industry certifications in the programs that the county offers. Some of those programs are OSHA 10, OSHA 30, CNA, and Microsoft. Next year they will be adding Pharmacy Tech. Students will be able to certify in high school and be able to go right into the workforce. There are several other certification programs that will be added. The industry certifications are quite expensive. He thanked Mayor Barnett for writing a 3-star grant that will help pay for student certifications. Mr. Taylor also wanted to call attention to a competition that the Johnson City Home Builders Association puts on each year in which the Carter County schools has won the past two years. The Battle of the Build is held February 20 – 23 at ETSU. The students have been working with instructors from different high schools, on a project to enter the competition and are looking forward with confidence to that weekend. The materials used for the project are paid for partly

from the school system budget, but they are also sponsored by David Isaacs of Isaacs Pools and Spas and Lowes.

The county has gone into an agreement with Massey Electric in Kingsport for our electrical program students. They will be able to enter an apprentice program. If they successfully go through the work program and have the soft skills that Massey is looking for they can go into the 4 year apprentice program then enter into their electrical licensure and they will have the opportunity to become a master electrician in 2 years. While they are working, they will also have full benefits. Ms. Brown asked how the class would work and what schools would it be available at. Mr. Taylor answered by tell the committee that the system has a floating teacher that is moved around according to the need. One teacher is certified in Pharmacy Tech. They are not sure where the classes will be at this time but every student no matter the school will have the opportunity to attend those classes. David Miller asked who will pay for the certifications for the students in the Pharmacy program? Mr. Taylor stated that they will be using the money that they Mayors office applied for in the 3-star grant. The state has already told the system that will be able to use some of the federal money to pay for certifications. The students will have to have their own transportation and will have to be 18 years of age when they start the program. The county is looking for ways to grow the technical skills of the students so they will be able to get good jobs and not have to have a 4, 6- or 8-years degree.

Dr. Ward wanted the committee to know just how much work the instructors and students are doing on the Battle of the Build competition and encouraged each to try to attend.

Dr. Ward also wanted to brag on the robotics team from Happy Valley High School. They went to the competition in Memphis where they won 1st place. They attended the National Competition in Louisville Ky. The kids in these programs are pushing the system to expand, create the new and better programs.

David Miller asked if the attendance in the schools was being affected by the sickness in the area. Dr Ward noted that the trend had been, low attendance on Friday but picking up by Monday. This past Monday the attendance was lower than the previous Friday. Because of this he informed the committee that if the numbers were the same or lower on Tuesday the system would close to clean and hopefully give students and teachers time to get healthy. Several of the elementary schools were desperately short of teachers. There were approximately 5 substitute teachers short.

VI. New Business

None

VII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry Proffitt, second by Nancy Brown. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27.