

Next Step

A report on Board action
Cumberland County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
March 13, 2018

Recognition of Ex-Officio Members

Student Government leaders Katie Hawkes from Gray's Creek High School and Sophia Spangler from Massey Hill Classical High School served as ex-officio members of the Cumberland County Board of Education. Ex-officio members are given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions, and give input on any topic brought before the Board.

Board Approves School Watch Program

Members of the Board approved a school watch program that will use community volunteers to help safeguard local schools. The volunteers, who will be known as School Angels, will "provide an extra pair of eyes and ears" on school campuses across the district. They will work to alert administrators to any suspicious activities around schools; greet parents, students, and visitors; provide directional campus information, and inform administrators of any physical safety and security concerns. Plans are for the volunteers, who have to successfully pass a volunteer background check, to receive training in radio communications and on crisis management and the emergency handbook. Interim Superintendent Tim Kinlaw told the Board that a program facilitator will be needed to not only train, but recruit volunteers from across the County.

Proposed Calendar for SY 2018-2019 Gets 'Thumbs Up'

Completing the semester and its testing prior to Winter Break, ending the school year on May 24, and front loading professional development to the beginning of the school year are just three reasons Board members gave the proposed CCS' 2018-2019 School Calendar a unanimous 'thumbs up.' According to Ron Phipps, the associate superintendent of CCS' Evaluation and Testing, the school system must have a minimum of 1,025 hours or 185 days per school year. With the new calendar, the CCS will use the hour requirement option. Phipps proposed adding 10 minutes to the end of the school day to help facilitate bus routes between the elementary, middle, and high schools. Also, under the proposed calendar, Winter Break will be from December 21 – January 7 and at least four days will be built into the calendar for inclement weather make-up days.

Board Recognitions

Betty Musselwhite, the associate superintendent of School Support Services, introduced the following honorees to the Board to be recognized:

February's 2018 Amazing Acts of Character Award Recipient – Student Honoree Gabriella Gordon from College Lakes Elementary School was

Board of Education

Carrie Sutton
Chair
District #3

Donna Van
Vice-Chair
District #4

**Judy
Musgrave**
At-Large

Rudy Tatum
At-Large

Greg West
At-Large

Alicia Chisolm
District #1

**Porcha
McMillan**
District #2

**Susan
Williams**
District #5

Peggy Hall
District #6

**Interim
Superintendent**
Tim Kinlaw

recognized for displaying ‘acts of good character’ above and beyond expected behavior. Members of the Board extended personal congratulations to Gabriella.

State Championship Athletes – The following four student-athletes were applauded by the Board for recently earning state championship titles:

Zinzilli Kelly from Douglas Byrd High School – State 3A Indoor Track Long Jump Champion ~ Coached by Robert Freeman

Dallas Wilson from Cape Fear High School – 3A 132 lb. State Wrestling Champion ~ Coach Heath Wilson

Mike Vernagallo from Cape Fear High School – 3A 160 lb. State Wrestling Champion ~ Coach Heath Wilson

Daniel Peede from Pine Forest High School – 4A 152 lb. State Wrestling Champion ~ Coach Charles Daniels

2018 Wells Fargo Outstanding Educator Award Recipients – Musselwhite introduced Wells Fargo, N.A., Cape Fear Market President of Wells Fargo Greg Reames, who presented this year’s Wells Fargo Outstanding Educator Awards. The award recipients were as follows: Elementary Teacher Award Winner – Brandy Powers from Ponderosa Elementary School; Secondary Teacher Award Winner – Michelle Quinn from Pine Forest High School; and Administrator Award Winner – Dr. Tonjai Robertson from South View High School. The awards are designed to assist educators who want to bring their innovative ideas to life.

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