

2005 Press Release Archive

Press Release

January 3, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Planning Retreat and Training Session

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will participate in a training session and planning retreat at Amicalola Falls State Park Lodge on Friday, January 7 and Saturday, January 8, 2005. A consultant from the Georgia School Boards Association will facilitate the retreat, which will begin with a dinner meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. The planning meeting, which is open to the public, will focus on excellence in school district governance, and is expected to end by mid-afternoon Saturday.

-end-

Press Release

January 12, 2005

Re: Called Board Meeting Wednesday, January 19

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, January 19, at 6:30 p.m. to consider two disciplinary tribunal appeals in executive session. The called meeting will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

-end-

Press Release

January 19, 2005

Re: Facilities/Policy Workshops Wednesday, January 26

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct facilities and policy workshops on Wednesday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m.

The meetings will be held at the Board Conference Room formerly the Jasper Elementary School

media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

January 19, 2005

Re: Called Board Meeting Postponed

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education has postponed the called board meeting scheduled Wednesday, January 19, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The Board will reschedule the meeting to consider two disciplinary tribunal appeals at a later date.

-end-

Press Release

January 27, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meetings

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct two called board meetings prior to its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on February 10. The first called meeting is a rescheduled meeting that was originally set for January 19, but was postponed. The board will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2, and is expected to enter into executive session to consider two student disciplinary tribunal appeals.

The second called board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, at 6:30 p.m. The board is again expected to enter into executive session to consider personnel issues. Both meetings will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

February 11, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Facilities Committee Workshop and Called Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a facilities committee workshop and called board meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to conduct the superintendent's evaluation at the called meeting.

The meetings will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

February 18, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel issues.

The meeting will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

February 18, 2005

**Re: School System to Participate in Severe Weather Drill
Wednesday, February 23, 2005**

Contact: Tom Keating ph. 706-253-1700

Pickens County Schools will participate in a statewide severe weather drill on February 23 rd. Governor Sonny Perdue has proclaimed the week of February 20 – 26 as Severe Weather Awareness Week. During this time, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) is urging schools throughout the state to participate in the exercise. If there is an actual threat of severe weather on that day, the drill will be postponed until Friday, February 25 th.

During this exercise, students, teachers, principals and other school personnel will practice their response to a possible weather emergency. This year's drill will rehearse our schools' response to a tornado watch and tornado warning which will require many school personnel to relocate to different areas in the school as laid out in the school's emergency plans.

By practicing our severe weather plans, our schools will be able to respond much more quickly during an actual severe weather storm. In addition, school personnel and local emergency management officials will practice their communications and coordination procedures. -end-

Press Release

March 2, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel issues.

The meeting will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

March 14, 2005

Re: Called Board Meeting and Finance Workshop Wednesday, March 23

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, March 23, at 6:30 p.m. followed by a finance committee workshop. The board will consider a guaranteed maximum price for Harmony Elementary School. The board is also expected to discuss elements of the FY06 budget.

The meetings will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

March 14, 2005

Re: Special Week Honors Georgia's School Board Members

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

Pickens County Schools is joining in a statewide celebration this week to salute the efforts of local school board members. The week of March 14-18, 2005, has been proclaimed School Board Member Appreciation Week in Georgia. The week-long observance calls attention to the

contributions of members of local boards of education.

"School board members are elected by citizens to be the governing bodies of local school systems, and therefore, must make decisions with students, parents, taxpayers and school employees in mind," said Pickens County Schools Superintendent Lee Shiver.

"While those decisions can be difficult at times, our board continues to make great progress in advancing higher standards, more accountability, better educational programs, and more open communication," said Shiver.

"Most board members willingly accept the challenges of their office without expecting to be praised. But we believe our board members deserve a pat on the back for their dedication and allegiance to the students of Pickens County."

The Pickens County Board of Education members are: Chairman Mark Mitton, in his third year of service; Vice-chairman John Trammell, in his first year of service; Tony Young, in his third year of service; Ervin Easterwood, in his third year of service; and Jerry Chastain in his first year of service.

As constitutional officers of Georgia, school board members are responsible for setting educational policies, employing school personnel, providing buildings and equipment, operating a transportation system and disbursing school funds. As community leaders, school board members serve as advocates for the children in local public schools and must study, evaluate and decide what actions are in the best interest of those students.

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA), sponsor of the celebration, is a voluntary statewide organization of local boards of education. GSBA serves as an advocate for the interest of the state's public school students and local school boards. GSBA also provides in-service training and technical assistance to Georgia's local school systems and school board members. Information about GSBA is available at www.gsba.com.

-end-

Press Release

March 24, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Facilities Committee Workshop and Called Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a facilities committee workshop and called board meeting on Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel at the called meeting.

The meetings will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

April 11, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting and Finance Committee Workshop

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel issues. The board has scheduled a finance committee workshop to discuss elements of the FY06 budget on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 6:30 p.m.

These meetings will be held at the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

April 18, 2005

Re: Finance/Policy Workshops Wednesday, April 27

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct finance and policy workshops on Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m.

The meetings will be held at the Board Conference Room formerly the Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

April 22, 2005

Re: Called Board Meeting and Finance/Policy Workshops Wednesday, April 27

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m. The board is expected to meet in executive session to discuss personnel. The finance and policy workshops will follow the called board meeting.

The meetings will be held in the board conference room at the former Jasper Elementary School

media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

May 2, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Additional Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a finance committee meeting on Wednesday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

May 3, 2005

Re: School Board Approves Administrative Personnel Changes

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

At the end of their called meeting Wednesday night, April 27, the Pickens County Board of Education transferred one principal and accepted another principal's request to be released from her contract. The board approved Jasper Elementary School Principal Cindy Bean's request to be released from her contract for the next school year, along with her request for administrative leave for the remainder of the current school year.

The board also approved the transfer of Pickens High School Principal Lloyd Shaddix to the position of Supervisor of Operations for the school system. The transfer will take effect at the end of the current school year.

The school system is advertising the two administrative vacancies immediately, and will give local school administrators and credentialed faculty first consideration for the vacancies.

Shaddix has been principal of Pickens High School since 2002. Bean became principal of Jasper Elementary School in 2004.

Pickens County Schools Superintendent Lee Shiver said, "We will strive to secure the most highly qualified candidates available for these critical leadership positions in our school system." Shiver said he expects to have recommendations ready for the school board's consideration later this month.

-end-

Press Release

May 5, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a finance committee meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

May 13, 2005

Re: "2004-2005 Super District for Quality Schools"

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Schools system was recently notified by the Executive Directors of the Commissions on Elementary, Middle, and Secondary Schools of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) of receiving special recognition to those schools districts where all eligible elementary, middle, and secondary schools are accredited. The district is considered a **"2004-2005 Super District for Quality Schools,"** and was congratulated for its "...schools' accreditation accomplishments and continued success in improving educational opportunities for the young people served."

For 2004-2005, there were 521 school districts in the 11 state SACS region that qualified for this recognition. The number by state is: Alabama – 51, Florida – 38, Georgia – 73, Kentucky – 51, Louisiana – 10, Mississippi – 49, North Carolina – 52, South Carolina – 53, Tennessee – 81, Texas – 9, and Virginia – 54.

SACS accreditation is non-government and voluntary, and it helps educational institutions improve through a systematic process of evaluation that focuses on improving teaching and student learning. SACS accreditation assures not only that an institution meets minimum standards, but also that it demonstrates a commitment to continuously providing quality educational programs.

An alliance between SACS and the Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA), which is comprised of the six regional accreditation commissions and several related organizations, i.e., the National Council for Private School Accreditation and the National Study of School Evaluation provides every elementary, middle, and secondary school that holds SACS accreditation the additional benefits of **national accreditation and international recognition**

through CITA.

SACS accreditation ensures benefits to a school and its community, including:

- A mission and goals focused on improving student performance and the school's capacity to improve teaching and learning.
- A collaboratively developed improvement plan that includes methods for measuring student progress and involves key school stakeholders.
- An effective framework that integrates all types of school planning and evaluation requirements.
- Qualified staffing and limited class size.
- Regular review of the school's programs by a team of outside peer professionals.
- Accountability and value for tax dollars spent.
- Regional, National, and International Recognition as an accredited school.

Founded in 1895 and headquartered in Decatur, Georgia, SACS is one of six regional accrediting bodies in the United States and as an association is comprised of three Commissions. SACS serves 11 Southern states from Virginia to Texas, as well as American-International schools in Latin America. It accredits more than 13,000 institutions (public, nonpublic, early childhood centers and kindergartens; elementary, middle and high schools; vocational-technical schools, military schools; colleges and universities). For additional information, check the Association's web page at www.sacs.org.

-end-

Press Release

May 16, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting and Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting followed by a finance committee meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is expected to consider personnel recommendations. These meetings will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

May 18, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting and Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting followed by a finance

committee meeting Wednesday, June 1, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is expected to consider personnel recommendations. These meetings will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

June 6, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Facilities Committee Workshop

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a facilities committee workshop on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 5:00 p.m.

The meetings will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

June 8, 2005

Re: Facilities Committee Workshop Cancelled

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The facilities committee workshop scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. has been cancelled.

-end-

Press Release

June 17, 2005

Re: Ground Breaking Ceremony and Called Board Meeting Monday, June 20

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will have a ground breaking ceremony at the Harmony Elementary School property on 330 Harmony School Road, Jasper, Georgia. The ceremony will

take place on Monday, June 20, 2005, at 4:00 p.m.

The board has scheduled a called board meeting to follow the ground breaking ceremony at 5:00 p.m. The board is expected to meet in executive session to discuss personnel and property acquisition. This meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

July 7, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a finance committee meeting Wednesday, July 13, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

July 14, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Policy Committee Meeting and Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a policy committee meeting followed by a called board meeting Tuesday, July 19, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. The board is expected to meet in executive session to discuss personnel. These meetings will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

August 3, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2005 , at 1:00 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss property acquisition.

The meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

August 4, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Monday, August 8, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel issues.

This meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

August 12, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Finance Committee Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a finance committee meeting Monday, August 15, 2005 , at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

August 15, 2005

Re: Local School Board Members Work to Ensure Educational Quality

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

Members of the Pickens County Board of Education were recently recognized for successfully completing board member training activities sponsored by the Georgia Schools Boards Association. Receiving certificates of recognition at the August 11, 2005 , meeting of the board were members: Chairman Mark Mitton, Tony Young, John Trammell, Jerry Chastain, and Ervin Easterwood.

Georgia was among the first states in the nation to require that local school board members receive training to ensure quality educational leadership. Board members receive training on topics such as: Georgia 's Quality Basic Education Act (QBE), budgeting and financing, legal and policy issues, school and community relations and the roles and responsibilities of the school board.

"By participating in training and board development activities, local school board members show their dedication to improving the educational system for the students within their communities," said Jeannie M. (Sis) Henry, GSBA executive director. "Life-long learning doesn't just apply to our students, it applies to all of us-especially to those in a leadership role in public education."

The Georgia School Boards Association is a non-profit association representing Georgia 's locally elected school boards.

-end-

Press Release

September 7, 2005

Re: School Board Retreat at Amicalola Falls Lodge

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will hold a planning retreat on September 9, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner meeting and continuing through 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2005. This retreat will be for planning purposes only, and the board will not vote or take any official action.

The retreat will be held in the Executive Board Room of the Amicalola Falls Lodge, 418 Amicalola Falls Lodge Rd., in Dawsonville, Georgia.

-end-

Press Release

September 9, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Finance Committee Meeting and Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a finance committee meeting followed by a called board meeting Monday, September 12, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. The board is expected to

discuss elements of the FY06 budget. These meetings will be held in the board room of the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

September 13, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. The board is scheduled to meet in executive session to discuss personnel issues.

This meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

October 3, 2005

Re: Board Meeting Thursday, October 6

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Thursday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m. to consider a disciplinary tribunal appeal in executive session. The called meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

-end-

Press Release

October 18, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Facilities Committee Workshop and Called Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a facilities committee workshop followed by a called board meeting on October 25, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. The board is scheduled to give final approval of the FY06 budget and approve a bus lease resolution at the called meeting.

The meetings will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

November 11, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Meeting to Set Millage Rate

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Monday, November 21, at 5:00 p.m. to set and approve the 2005 millage rate and open sealed loan bids.

The called meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper.

-end-

Press Release

November 28, 2005

Re: School Board Meeting Location Changed

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct their regularly scheduled board meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. at the Pickens High School Auditorium on Dragon Drive in Jasper.

As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-

Press Release

December 27, 2005

Re: School Board Schedules Called Board Meeting

Contact: Donna Golden ph. 706-253-1700

The Pickens County Board of Education will conduct a called board meeting on Thursday, December 29, 2005, at 12:00 p.m. The board is scheduled to discuss personnel issues.

This meeting will be held at the former Jasper Elementary School media center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper. As always, the public and employees are invited to attend.

-end-