MINUTES OF THE WISE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
January 14, 2013, 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Nolan L. Kilgore called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a Moment of Silence was observed.

ROLL CALL
The roll was called by the clerk and all members were present.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
The organizational meeting of the Wise County School Board was held on Monday, January 14, 2013, 6:00 p.m., in Conference Room A of the Education Center.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Mr. Kilgore asked Dr. Perry to conduct the election of the Board Chairman and Dr. Perry sought nominations from the Board for Chairman.

Rocky Cantrell nominated Mark Hutchinson
Betty Cornett nominated John Schoolcraft
Larry Greear nominated Nolan Kilgore
Dr. Perry asked members of the board if there were any more nominations, with none being said, Dr. Perry asked the clerk for a roll-call vote in order of the nominations.

On a roll-call vote, the nomination for Mark Hutchinson resulted in a tied vote 4/4 with tie breaker John Graham voting no. (Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Rocky Cantrell and Mark Hutchinson voted yes; Larry Greear, Nolan Kilgore, Phillip Bates and Mike Mullins and voted no.)

Mr. Hutchinson asked if the tie-breaker would need to be involved until all the candidates were voted on first. The tie breaker might not even be needed if all nominees were first voted on, since one might receive the majority vote. Dr. Perry replied that it is his understanding that the tie breaker is used when casting any tie votes. Mr. Mullins, Board Attorney, replied that the policy on voting methods states “in any case in which there shall be a tie vote…”, the tie breaker will vote, that’s the first thing, the second is his understanding of nomination are that you go forward until someone gets the majority vote. Ms. Cornett stated this is like every other decision the board makes, this board really doesn’t make the decisions, and Mr. Graham has made the major decisions for this County.

On a roll-call vote, the nomination for John Schoolcraft resulted in a tied vote 4/4 with tie breaker John Graham voting no. (Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Rocky Cantrell and Mark Hutchinson voted yes; Larry Greear, Nolan Kilgore, Phillip Bates and Mike Mullins and voted no.)
On a roll-call vote, Nolan Kilgore was selected as Chairman with a tied vote 4/4 with tie breaker John Graham voting for Mr. Kilgore. (Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Rocky Cantrell and Mark Hutchinson voted no; Larry Greear, Nolan Kilgore, Phillip Bates and Mike Mullins and voted yes.)

Chairman Kilgore opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Rocky Cantrell nominated Mark Hutchinson
Phillip Bates nominated Larry Greear
Mark Hutchinson nominated John Schoolcraft
Chairman Kilgore asked members of the board if there were any more nominations, with none being said, Chairman Kilgore asked the clerk for a roll-call vote in order of the nomination.

On a roll-call vote, the nomination for Mark Hutchinson resulted in a tied vote 4/4 with tie breaker John Graham voting no. (Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Rocky Cantrell and Mark Hutchinson voted yes; Larry Greear, Nolan Kilgore, Phillip Bates and Mike Mullins voted no.)

On a roll-call vote, Larry Greear was selected as Vice-Chairman with a tie vote 4/4 with tie breaker John Graham voting for Mr. Greear. (Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Rocky Cantrell and Mark Hutchinson voted no; Larry Greear, Nolan Kilgore, Phillip Bates, Mike Mullins voted yes.)

Mr. Hutchinson commented that for the record, Mr. Schoolcraft, who is a board member, who ran like the other board members, who never got a chance to be voted on. Mr. Hutchinson asked Mr. Mullins, Board Attorney for higher opinion on the tie breaker. Mr. Mullins replied that on page 183 of the Robert’s Rules, it reads, “When more than one person has been nominated and the election is by voice vote, the chair takes the vote on the candidates in the order in which they were nominated. Members must remember to vote yes for the candidate that they want and vote no for the other candidates. The first candidate to receive a majority vote wins”. I am going by the Robert’s Rules Simplified and Applied.

APPOINTMENTS – CLERK AND DEPUTY CLERK
Clerk
Chairman Kilgore made the superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Judy Durham as Clerk of the Board. On the roll-call vote, all members (Larry Greear, Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Mark Hutchinson, Rocky Cantrell, Mike Mullins, Phillip Bates and Nolan Kilgore) voted yes.

Deputy Clerk
Chairman Kilgore made the superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Ron Vicars as Deputy Clerk. On a roll-call vote Ron Vicars was selected as Deputy Clerk with a 7/1 vote. (Larry Greear, John Schoolcraft, Mark Hutchinson, Rocky Cantrell, Mike Mullins, Phillip Bates and Nolan Kilgore voted yes; Betty Cornett voted no.)
BOARD ATTORNEY
Chairman Kilgore made the superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Scott Mullins as the Board Attorney. On the roll-call vote, all members (Larry Greear, Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Mark Hutchinson, Rocky Cantrell, Mike Mullins, Phillip Bates and Nolan Kilgore) voted yes.

SUPERINTENDENT DESIGNEE
Chairman Kilgore made the superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Greg Mullins as the Superintendent’s Designee. On the roll-call vote, all members (Larry Greear, Betty Cornett, John Schoolcraft, Mark Hutchinson, Rocky Cantrell, Mike Mullins, Phillip Bates and Nolan Kilgore) voted yes.

MEETING DATES/TIMES
Chairman Kilgore noted on the agenda to consider the meeting dates/times. Discussion included the possibility of changing the regular meeting date to the second Tuesday of each month. Mr. Mullins made a motion to have the regular meeting date/time moved to the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6 p.m. Phillip Bates seconded the motion and all members voted aye to the motion.

ROBERT’ RULES OF ORDER SIMPLIFIED AND APPLIED

CHANGE OF ANY PROTOCOL
Chairman Kilgore noted on the agenda is changes of any protocol, with no discussion; there were no changes under meeting logistics.

APPOINTMENTS/COMMITTEES
Board Chairman Kilgore noted on the agenda was appointments/committees. Mr. Hutchinson stated if all members were in agreement, to leave appointments/committee as is.

1. Linwood Holton Governor’s School – Betty Cornett
2. Special Education Advisory Board – Larry Greear
3. Wise County Schools Career-Technical Center Advisory Board – Mike Mullins
4. Wise County Schools Educational Foundation – Nolan L. Kilgore

Mr. Bates made a motion to leave appointments as is. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion and all members voted aye to leave the current appointments/committees.
REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Nolan L. Kilgore called the board meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a Moment of Silence was observed.

ROLL CALL
The roll was called by the clerk and all members were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
John Schoolcraft made a motion to approve the agenda. Mike Mullins seconded the motion and all members voted aye on the approval of the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA
John Schoolcraft made a motion to approve the following consent agenda. Phillip Bates seconded the motion and all members voted aye on the following consent items:
   5.1 Monthly Fund Report
   5.2 Religious Exemptions
   5.3 Field Trips

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Phillip Bates made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Mullins seconded the motion and all members voted aye on the approval of the minutes as presented.

EDUCATIONAL REPORTS
WCEA REPORT:
Matthew McCarty, president of the WCEA, gave an updated report.
   • Congratulated everyone for a successful first semester
   • Thanked all support staff across the county
   • WCEA is excited about the spring semester and the opening of new high schools
   • Thanked Dr. Perry and the Central Office staff for working hard to keep everyone afloat as a division during these tough economic times
   • Our school staffs are working closely with the central office to provide quality and enriching learning experiences for children of all ages
   • Asked the board for continued support of our continuing contract resolution
   • Our division is not as successful as it is without the daily devotion of each employee

WCPA REPORT:
J. W. Adams Combined School principal, Mr. Stephen Bonney, represented the WCPA. Mr. Bonney shared some of what is taking place this year at J. W. Adams Combined School.
   • Beginning of second semester, marks the end of mid-year tests, new standards
   • Fortunate to have a dedicated faculty at J. W. Adams Combined School. Last year’s SAC’s review committee member stated, “this place really makes me want to be a principal again”
- Strong academic success, give 21 SOL tests
- Technological resources; iPad’s, Kumo’s, tablets, smartboards, projectors, 65’ TV’s, 2 stand along computer labs, etc.
- Improving the schools climate
- Remediation programs
- School-wide reward system, $13,000 in the past has been awarded to students
- Fundraising community: donated $1,000 to Food Bank with over two-thousand cans of food, $400 to Sophie’s Drive, $1,000 to Relay for Life, 117 children on the Angel Tree, Shoebox collection, $5,000 to St. Jude’s
- The school is a community center, a building that lends itself to a lot of organization, just to mention a few: Little Leagues, Pro Art, Arts Alive, gymnastics, dance, scouts, drama, Zumba, karate, etc.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS:
None

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Chairman Kilgore opened the floor for public comment and reminded anyone who was addressing the Board to address the chairman, to avoid personnel issues, and to adhere to the five-minute rule.

Wise resident Walter Crouse
- School board has a major funding problem
- Budget should come from the school board present budget, not from the reserve
- Next year’s budget will not be level funded
- Enrollment will be greatly reduced
- Savings on construction should be given back to the Board of Supervisors
- Taxpayers should not pay for tax increase
- Committee of 100 can pay for athletic facilities
- Stop SOL and No Child Left Behind
- School system will be damaged by the reduced federal funding
- Unconstitutional tie breaker
- Academics first time being honored

Pound resident Harold Greear
- General Assembly will require all tie breakers on elected boards be elected by the people

DISCUSSION:
Response to Public Comment

No questions

Construction Update
Dr. Perry provided an update on the various construction projects within the Wise County Public Schools.
UHS
December has been one of the slower months for progress with seven weather delay days and the holidays that have totaled eight days. With this being said, the work has still moved forward throughout the month. The masons have averaged a good work force working seven days a week when permitted. The masons are about 90% complete on the first floor bearing walls and have started laying the second floor walls. In addition, masons are working to finish the lower bearing walls in section B, which is the cafeteria area. They still have several inside partitions and several areas of “finish up” work to complete throughout the building. The concrete on the second floor is about 70% complete. The steel erection is about 80% complete on the low roofs with the Auditorium steel complete and the gymnasium steel ready to start now. HVAC, plumbing and electrical work is being done in sections A & B. The plumbers and electricians are also working with the masons in B, C and D. The sprinkler system is being installed in sections A & B. The metal stud walls are complete in the Admin area and they are installing the metal stud headers in section A. The roof top curbs are being installed now to make ready for the roofing crews to start within the next few days. This will be coordinated with the weather and the steel crews to start roofing in section D and proceed to total dry-in which is scheduled to be completed by March.

CHS
December has been the same at CHS with a total of 18 days for weather and holidays that have not been worked. However they have still made progress on the site. The masons have made good of the days that they have worked with an average crew of 16 masons and 12 helpers. They are averaging about 125 blocks per day per mason which is about 2,000 blocks per day. The steel crews have started setting steel in section A and have been able to work on some of the days when others could not work due to weather. The stairs have arrived and should be installed shortly. This is a big help in keeping the upstairs work going. Electricians and plumbers are working in unison with the masons. We are on the power grid now with temporary power being installed throughout the building. The sewer line has been started by others to connect the sewer down through the Morgan property. The concrete has been completed on all the “slabs on grade” and the elevated slab has been poured.

EHS
Construction of the additions and renovations at Eastside High School are still slightly behind schedule but are within budget. The General Contractor has been asked to do everything in their power to remain on schedule. The project as a whole is approximately 12% complete. A summary of Work from the past month is as follows. Installation of the foundations at the new student commons was completed. Interior masonry work was started and is still ongoing. Excavation and installation of new sanitary sewer lines and water lines was started and is still ongoing. Mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and sprinkler rough-in was ongoing for the duration of the month. Exterior work for the coming month includes steel erection at the new student commons, framing the exterior walls of the new administration addition, and laying masonry for the exterior walls of the science addition. Planned interior work includes continuation of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and sprinkler system rough-in, continuation of interior masonry work, and beginning interior painting.
AES
Construction of the new Gymnasium at Appalachia Elementary School is nearing completion on schedule and on budget. A/E Substantial Completion Inspections were conducted and a Certificate of Substantial Completion issued by Thompson & Litton on December 31, 2012. At this time the sprinkler system is installed but not yet activated. The system’s finalization is dependent upon activation of the new water line project along US-23-Business which is to supply the water for the system. This said, a temporary Certificate of Occupancy will be granted by the Wise County Building Official and provided by Quesenberry’s Inc. such that the facility can be used prior to activation of the sprinkler system. A permanent Certificate of Occupancy will be granted once the sprinkler system is activated. Exterior work at the Gymnasium is approximately 99% complete. Punch list items include painting of the handrails at the main entrance, painting of the exterior window frames, and final clean-up and removal of all construction equipment and debris. Interior work at the Gymnasium is approximately 95% complete. Punch list items in summary include final cleaning, final testing of the bleacher installation, activation of the sprinkler system, final testing and balancing of HVAC equipment, completion of toilet partition and bathroom accessory installation, completion of counter and shutter installation at the concession room, miscellaneous paint touch-up, miscellaneous door hardware installation, and miscellaneous minor mechanical, electrical, and plumbing adjustments. There have been no major construction issues thus far and the project as a whole is approximately 98% complete.

Dr. Perry stated that he is still confident that Union and Central High Schools will open next January, 2014 and he doesn’t see any major problems that could delay reopening of Eastside High School this August, 2013. The Appalachia gym is finished, the project was completed on time and under budget. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held January 10, 2013.

Owner’s Cost
Dr. Perry stated that he is still waiting to hear whether the school division can save some money by having S. B. Ballard Construction Co. assume, owner’s costs for the new schools. All information should be ready with a recommendation by the February board meeting.

Six Year Plan
Dr. Perry provided an outline on the Six Year Plan. Throughout the remainder of this school year, we will provide a monthly update to the board on our efforts to accomplish the goals outlined by the Six Year Plan.

Two Primary Goals
   a. Improve Student Achievement
   b. More responsive Central Office

Guided Reading
   1. Student Assessments (multiple times)
      a. PALs
      b. STAR
      c. Running Records
   2. Homogenously grouped for reading instruction
a. Decoding  
b. Fluency  
c. Comprehension  
3. Instructional practices  
a. Developmental spelling list  
b. Vocabulary development  
c. Teaching in ZPD  

Closing the Gap  
1. Student Assessments (multiple times)  
a. PALs  
b. STAR  
c. Running Records  
d. Interactive Achievement  
e. SOLs  
2. Decrease gap with all subgroups  
3. Goal  
a. Attain proficiency  
b. Make more than 1 years progress  
c. Multi-year process  

Data-Driven Instruction  
1. Analyzing data  
a. Curriculum  
b. Instructional  
2. Analyze different bodies of evidence  
3. Work with specific stakeholders  
a. Administrators  
b. Teachers  
4. Example  
a. Student growth percentile in 4th/5th grade  
b. Realizing decline as compared to state growth  
c. Met with staff to develop action plan  

Capital Improvement Projects  
1. UHS/CHS Projections  
2. Scope of Work at CHS/UHS  
3. Scope of Work at EHS  
4. Update on Capital Improvements  
a. CHS lights  
b. EHS sports complex  
c. Roofing repairs  
d. CPS drainage  
e. SPES roof repair
Dr. Perry reported concerning the Union and Central High School projections, it was our hope to have those prices by the time of our board meeting but, he will make these recommendations in February. If there is any additional money with the scope of work at Central, Union and Eastside High Schools, the board needs to decide what they want to do with it. Dr. Perry stated that another bid was received on the lights at Central High School. It was lower than what was discussed at our last meeting. Ms. Cornett asked if the lights at Central were the old lights, why do we need to take those down. Dr. Perry replied as we have explained at other meetings, the bolts that anchor the lights, we feel that they no longer have the integrity to keep the towers up and could be a safety issue. Ms. Cornett asked if new lights would be installed. Dr. Perry replied there might not be enough funds to cover that, there is a need for that and the board will have to make that decision, later.

Dr. Perry stated that the decision was made to move forward with the Eastside High School sports complex. All the safety issues will be addressed first. The roofing repairs will be started, weather permitting. The Coeburn Primary School drainage bid has been awarded. The money is available for St. Paul Elementary roof repairs.

Ms. Cornett asked the money leftover-- is it bond money? Dr. Perry replied it can either be bond money or additional allocations that the Board of Supervisors gave. Ms. Cornett asked, can you use the bond money for other things or does it have to be used on the schools? Dr. Perry replied the bond money can only be used for projects listed in the legal descriptions associated with those bonds. Within the bonds, it was support activities with the schools. There was a discussion concerning the use of QSCB bonds on the construction of the two schools. Dr. Perry commented that all funding and use of all sources of revenue would be utilized in a legal and time sensitive matter.

Calendar 2013 – 2014
Dr. Perry presented the board with a calendar for the 2013 – 2014 school year. We are proposing the calendar for discussion.

1. Two Calendars
2. CHS/UHS and ES/MS/EHS
3. Same instructional days
4. Different workdays (same number)
5. End semester before winter break
6. Accommodate transitions
7. Election Day

There was a discussion concerning the school calendar. Ms. Cornett asked in the past have we used the 89 days. Dr. Perry replied that in the past we have used 89 or fewer days in first semester. Mr. Mullins liked working some of the schools on Election Day. Dr. Perry is working with the Electoral Board. We will present these calendars to the SAC, PAC, and WCPA to solicit feedback.
# 2013-2014 School Calendar

The 2013-2014 School Calendar is subject to change due to inclement weather.

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**July 4**: Fourth of July Holiday School Closed.

**NOTE**: July 5 WILL BE A HOLIDAY ALSO. We will take this instead of Memorial Day 2014.

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**Aug. 5, 9 & 12**: Teacher Workdays.

**Aug. 13**: Student’s First Day.

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**Sept. 3**: Labor Day School Closed.

**Sept. 13**: Mid-Term Grade Report Sent to Parents.

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**Oct. 1**: Dismissal at 12:30, staff development for teachers in afternoon.

**Oct. 18**: End of first 9 weeks. Dismissal at 12:30.

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**Nov. 27-29**: Thanksgiving Holidays-School Closed.

**Nov. 15**: Mid-Term Grade Reports Sent to Parents.

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**Dec. 20**: End of first semester. Dismissal at 12:30.

**Dec. 31**: Winter Break-School Closed.

**May 16**: End of Second Semester. Dismissal at 12:30.

Note: If full week is given for spring break, add three days to school calendar.

**April 3 & 4**: Spring Break School Closed.

**April 8**: Mid-Term Grade Report Sent to Parents.

Option 1:
If January 2 - 8 may be used if several days missed before Winter Break, if no days missed before Winter Break, then January 8th would be a teacher workday. January 9th would be first day of second semester.

Option 2:
If no more than 15 days are missed by March 1st, then a full week will be given for Spring Break. Option 3:
For every day missed in the second semester a day will be added to the school calendar up to June 7th.

Option 4:
Depending upon the number of days missed in January, we may utilize the policy that if we miss a day during the week, we will go to school that Saturday.

Two teacher workdays would follow the last day of school.
### 2013-2014 School Calendar Central and Union High Schools

*The 2013-2014 School Calendar is subject to change due to inclement weather*

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**AUGUST '13**

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Aug. 9 & 12 Teacher Workdays.
Aug. 12 Student's First Day.

**SEPTEMBER '13**

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Sept. 3 Labor Day School Closed.
Sept. 11 Mid-Term Grade Report Sent to Parents.

**OCTOBER '13**

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Oct. 6 Dismissal at 12:30, staff development for teachers in afternoon.

**NOVEMBER '13**

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Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Holidays-School Closed.
Nov. 15 Mid-Term Grade Reports Sent to Parents.

**DECEMBER '13**

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**JANUARY '14**

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Jan. 1 Closed Winter Break.
Jan. 2-8 Teacher Workdays
Jan. 9 First Day of Second Semester.

**FEBRUARY '14**

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Feb. 7 Mid-Term Grade Report Sent to Parents.

**MARCH '14**

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Mar. 15 Dismissal at 12:30, staff development for teachers in afternoon.

**APRIL '14**

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Apr. 18 Mid-Term Grade Report Sent to Parents.

**MAY '14**

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May 16 End of Second Semester. Dismissal at 12:30.

**JUNE '14**

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School Safety
Dr. Perry informed the board with a quick summary of some of the main procedures we have in place to ensure student and staff safety. Although it is virtually impossible to guarantee absolute safety at school, it is our primary mission to ensure student safety on a daily basis.

1. Safety (main priority)
2. Strong record of safety
3. Crisis Plans
4. SRO in each attendance area
5. Relationship with law enforcement
6. Cameras
7. Security doors
8. Trainings with law enforcement
9. Annual multi-agency
10. Procedures for dangerous individuals
11. Training for transportation
12. Monitor internet and social networks
13. Monitors in key building areas
14. Limit access to classrooms
15. Constant trainings and conversations
16. Mock trainings by law enforcement
17. Constant supervision

There was a discussion concerning school safety. Dr. Perry committed to doing everything within our power to protect our students and staff members. The division is reinforcing existing safety procedures and implementing new procedures to ensure safety.

Inclement Weather
Dr. Perry familiarized the board members with our procedures and policies associated with inclement weather. Second, it will help our parents and guardians become more familiar with our inclement weather procedures and policies. The following procedures and policies were discussed during the meeting:

1. Delayed opening or closure
   a. 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
   b. 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
   c. Schools closed
2. Early Dismissals
   a. Dependent on the weather and not attendance/financial
   b. Dismiss quickly if weather seems to be worsening
   c. Wait if weather seems to be improving
3. Announce the delayed opening (6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. is our targeted times)
   a. Radio
   b. Television (Channels 5, 11, 10, and 19)
   c. Internet (School Division website)
4. Alert Now
   a. Verbal
   b. Text
   c. Email
   d. Contact bsexton@wise.k12.va.us for changes

5. Snow Routes
   a. All snow route option
   b. Isolated snow route option
   c. Communicate primarily through Alert Now
   d. Return students to school if unsafe

6. Conditioning Monitoring
   a. Monitor at least 4 different projections
   b. Have at least 8 people on roads
   c. Target problem areas
   d. Contact VDOT
   e. Monitor variety of factors (cold, wind-chill, potential weather, etc.)

ACTIONS:

BILLS PAYABLE
Phillip Bates made a motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented. Mike Mullins seconded the motion. All members voted aye on Bills Payable.

WCEA RESOLUTION
Betty Cornett made a motion to approve the WCEA Resolution as presented. Phillip Bates seconded the motion. All members voted aye on the Resolution.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
We are in the process of collecting information to determine what we want to do with our current attendance policy. Dr. Perry will provide a summary of feedback at our February meeting.

CLOSED MEETING: (Personnel/Legal)
Larry Greear made a motion that pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, I move that the board convene a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion, consideration or interview of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the School Board which is authorized by Section 2.2-3711(1) of the Code of Virginia; discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, of the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the School Board, as authorized by Section 2.2-3711(3) of the Code of Virginia; the investing of public funds, where competition is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the School Board would be adversely affected, as authorized by §2.2-3711(6) of the Code of Virginia; consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, or consultants, pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the School Board; and consultation with legal counsel
employed or retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by §2.2-3711(7) of the Code of Virginia.

The second was by Phillip Bates and all members voted aye on Closed Session.

OPEN MEETING:
John Schoolcraft made the motion to return to an open meeting; the second was by Larry Greear and all members voted aye on the roll-call vote.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:
WHEREAS, the Wise County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, SECTION 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wise County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered.

VOTE:
AYES: 8
NAYS: 0

Employment
Mike Mullins made a motion to approve the following personnel list as presented by the administration. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

Employment Effective 2012-2013 School Year:
Nicole Castle as PVPS Teacher, replacing Mary Beth Allen

Transfer Effective 2012-2013 School Year:
Danny Bush as UHS Janitorial Assistant, to UHS Custodian replacing Joseph Miller

Resigning:
Jeremiah Johnson as SBO Network/Computer Tech effective January 1, 2013

New-Coaching 2012-2013:
Quinn Reynolds as CHS Assistant Girls Basketball (Pd. by County-Split supplement 3%)
Stephanie Cornett as UHS Head Girls Soccer (Pd. by County)

Dismissal:
Ronald Mullins as WPS Teacher, effective January 14, 2013
BOARD COMMENTS:

Mark Hutchinson, I appreciate those in attendance at Appalachia Elementary School gym. The most important part of the dedication was a student that thought they were important. I thought that was interesting, moving and touching. I want to mention that I am disappointed. I was informed that a meeting took place with one of the board members who were contacted to come up here on Friday to speak with Chairman Kilgore and the superintendent regarding the organizational meeting. That disappoints me that this kind of thing happens. It bothers me because I think it exemplary of a lack of cooperation and trust that we are experiencing. While both sides probably give legitimate reasons for it, I think it was wrong and inappropriate. Maybe if one of the board members wants to talk to one of the others or one of the other four, however, I’m just disappointed that the superintendent was involved in it. I’m also disappointed once again that a member was told they could be vice-chairman if the voting went a certain way. I think as I have mentioned earlier concerning the tie breaker, they may be a time that a tie breaker is needed in a true sense that it was established by law, but I would have liked to have seen an opportunity for everybody who was nominated by one of the eight to get a chance to be voted on. I want to make sure that it’s understood my time on this board I have learned some things and seen some things and it was mentioned about the position of governor school. I want it to be known that it was said it had to be rotated, that’s not the case. Ms. Robinette, I know for a fact, served on that board for eight years, might have been twelve. I’m glad we went the route we did. I also understand and it gives me some hope in that meeting there was some discussion of reluctance to use the tie breaker. I think that’s probably a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel, because if you see the inappropriateness of that use, maybe that should come to question of the necessity of it. This might be something for Mr. Mullins to look into for me. I’m curious as to the fact if a tie breaker is used to break a tie, then if I call Dr. Perry or Ms. Durham and I say I’m not going to make February’s meeting, and I think most of us do that when we are not going to be here, but if I do that, then you don’t have an even number of board members present but you have enough for a quorum. So I am wondering if it gives the tie breaker a break that night, they would not have to worry about attendance, have to cast a vote with a board member not here. If Dr. Perry or Ms. Durham were contacted by two, then that would leave six and still enough for a quorum. Then a tie breaker would need to be here in that case, you could have three/three, because we know what it takes to be a quorum. We should let them know if we can’t attend and that would relieve the tie breaker for that night.

Mr. Cantrell, congratulated Dr. Perry on his wedding. We discussed safety; my problem is my kids are getting bused 25/30 miles to school. How many people thought about that when they voted to send Pound to Wise? That’s a long ways to put kids on a bus. I wasn’t in favor of consolidation then and I’m not in favor of it now and I want be in favor of it on down the road. There is not one sitting at this table that would have children or grandchildren that could tell me “that’s ok, my kid drives 30 miles, I don’t care”. How many of you will say that to me. I don’t believe what you are telling me, when you tell me that. Something needs to be done about that. Consolidation might be over to a certain extent, but it’s never going to get better for Pound’s kids when they are driving that far to school. You have brought up and told me how great all this is, I hear problems every day, kids don’t want to come to Wise, they don’t want to travel that far, they want to go to school closer to home. The juniors and seniors that were jerked up, with one year left, just like last year, those seniors came to a new school, didn’t have a clue what was
going on. They were not made welcome; you can say what you want to. I don’t think that was right. The ones that drive 4 or 5 miles down the road will be tickled with it. Putting the kids from Pound on buses having them drive out on top of the hill above Wal-mart, how many of you will honestly tell me that you don’t mind that. A bus will get away from one of the drivers, you know that’s going to happen, many people will lose their life. To say what we have done here is not right. What we have done to Pound kids is not right, they need to go to school in Pound. Build them sixteen classrooms over there. What kind of cost can you put on a child’s life?

Mr. Mullins, no comment

Mr. Bates, no comment

Mr. Schoolcraft, the dedication at Appalachia Elementary gym was great, a beautiful job. The kids, teachers and administration were really excited. They have a great school! When you have the opportunity to go visit somewhere like that, you are impressed by the sincerity of the staff and the kids, how involved they are; that doesn’t happen just because you do that for special occasions, which happens because that is how they are taught. Hats off to that staff, they did an excellent job. Quesenberry’s and Thompson & Litton did a first class job, hats off to them. I hope the rest of our buildings can measure up to that because you can’t walk in there without being impressed. I would like to talk about school safety, school resource officers; I would like to have armed officers in each school. I know you are looking at a considerable expense, but I also know that deters that kind of event that we have been talking about. I know that there are some other measures we have talked about and continue to talk about that will make our schools safer. I commend each person on this board and the administration for being concerned with safety. It’s good to see people respond as quickly as this group has. We get more kids hurt from the lack of supervision than we do from other things. I would ask in regard to that, you will take a look at some of the classes, the number of students we have in some of those classes. I know, having the opportunity to go visit all three schools in the Big Stone area, I visited the physical education classes at the middle school. There are two teachers in the class, and a good number of students. If you look at safety, I think we should evaluate the student/teacher ratio. Again, I commend this board and the administration on how quickly they responded on making our schools safer. I commend each person on this board and the administration for being concerned with safety. It’s good to see people respond as quickly as this group has. We get more kids hurt from the lack of supervision than we do from other things. I would ask in regard to that, you will take a look at some of the classes, the number of students we have in some of those classes. I know, having the opportunity to go visit all three schools in the Big Stone area, I visited the physical education classes at the middle school. There are two teachers in the class, and a good number of students. If you look at safety, I think we should evaluate the student/teacher ratio. Again, I commend this board and the administration on how quickly they responded on making our schools safer. I think all of us are concerned about it. One note, parents I would ask you to be patient with and tolerant of any kind of procedure that the schools have put into place that may lead to limited access to classes or classrooms. Just know that the reason that is being done, it to insure the safety of your children. I encourage you to be patient and respect this because it is for the safety of our children.

Ms. Cornett, I attended the dedication at Appalachia Elementary gym. It certainly is a first class gym. Quesenberry’s and Thompson & Litton, I was very impressed, but I have seen their work many times and they did an excellent job. I want to talk about the tie breaker, I hope the people in our County saw what happened here tonight. Mr. Graham has never one time voted against the desires of the four individuals. I was disappointed to hear about the meeting that took place; I was very disappointed in that. In Wise County, or in the state of Virginia, the superintendent, to me, he works for the respected board. He should not have been involved in the board officers at all. That is up to the school board to take care of that. How much involvement he was in, I don’t know, I wasn’t there, I wasn’t invited. But, in Wise County, it just seems to me, it’s true, the four
members of this board and the tie breaker work hand and hand. I don’t think it makes any differences what we say or do, the four know that the tie breaker is going to go along with them and it doesn’t matter what we think. So just to tell you deep in my heart, I was here the night that Mr. Bates confirmed this, I said that this board will never reach a compromise or a consensus or even meaningful discussion with this appointed tie breaker. He has never been elected by the people in this County, never. Mr. Bates confirmed this last year when he said the tie breaker was necessary or we would be deadlock. To me, that’s a clear indication that Mr. Bates is not willing to compromise or negotiate, and evidently the way it’s gone over tonight. It’s the same way with the rest of the four. I was truly disappointed when I heard about the meeting and I was called to see if I would vote the right way, I guess, or at least they thought the right way. But to me, I think you should rotate the chairmanship in this school board. No one person should have this chairmanship every year. I have to close with a very heavy heart to see what is happening here on this board and I really do hope that the people in this County can see that because it is a one-sided board. It doesn’t matter if I have good ideas, or Mr. Schoolcraft has good ideas, they don’t want to hear them, they don’t have to hear them because they have the tie breaker to say we are going to do it and we are going to do it our way.

Mr. Greear, enjoyed the ribbon cutting ceremony at Appalachia Elementary School gym. As Ms. Cornett expressed, I was very impressed with the engineering project that they undertook, a beautiful structure and very well designed, very functional. I also attend the 9 o’clock club presentation at Barter Theater. Congratulations to them once again for winning the state. I hope all the schools, got off to a very good start for the second semester.

Chairman Kilgore, I really enjoyed the One Act Play that Mr. Greear mentioned, Group A State Champions. I felt privileged to be at Barter, the place was full and a very great presentation. Also, the Senior All County band at Coeburn Middle School was impressive. Appalachia Elementary School ribbon cutting, those kids that Mr. Schoolcraft mentioned had the “wave” down pat; it was so good to see them excited about their new gym. It’s been a fun week with school visits and seeing our students perform, it amazes me, particularly the art programs, just how talented the students are. It’s a blessing to go see them.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

_____________________________  ___________________________
  Nolan L. Kilgore, Chairman      Judy Durham, Clerk of the Board