

School calendar growing by 5 days next year

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

"School days, school days, dear old Golden Rule days" will last a week longer next school year, thanks to a bill signed into state law last year. The Cleveland County School District was able to avoid it in 2011 with a state-approved waiver, but with that expiring this summer, students will have to go to school five more days.

The board adopted the calendar as presented at its meeting Monday night.

CCS Executive Director of Human Resources Dianna Bridges presented a proposed calendar, including the additional days, to the board of education Monday night.

The 215-day calendar, assembled by a committee of teachers, parents and administrators, shows the 2012-13 school year

starting Aug. 16 and ending June 12. The first of 185 instructional days was marked for Aug. 27, the last - June 10.

In the state's budget bill of 2011, each local school board was mandated to adopt a calendar of 215 days for each fiscal year, including a new minimum of 185 days (formerly 180) and 1,025 hours (formerly 1,000) of instruction. The law still requires that the school year begin no sooner than Aug. 25 and end no later than June 10, leaving the board's options somewhat limited with 200 days (including holidays) falling between the two dates this coming school year.

Unlike last year, students will now have to attend school on Halloween and will have one less day for Christmas and Spring breaks.

"It's a terrible calendar but it's the best

we can do under the parameters the state Legislature has given us," said Board Member Jerry Hoyle, echoing the sentiments expressed by many board members at the meeting.

The state board of education approved the option of allowing school districts waivers last summer to offset the calendar addition until 2012-13, giving schools more time to plan for it. Cleveland County, like most other school districts in the state, already had calendars set for the current school year when the law was adopted and received a waiver for the 2011-12 year. That waiver requires the district to conduct staff development for teachers on the new state curriculum on those five days.

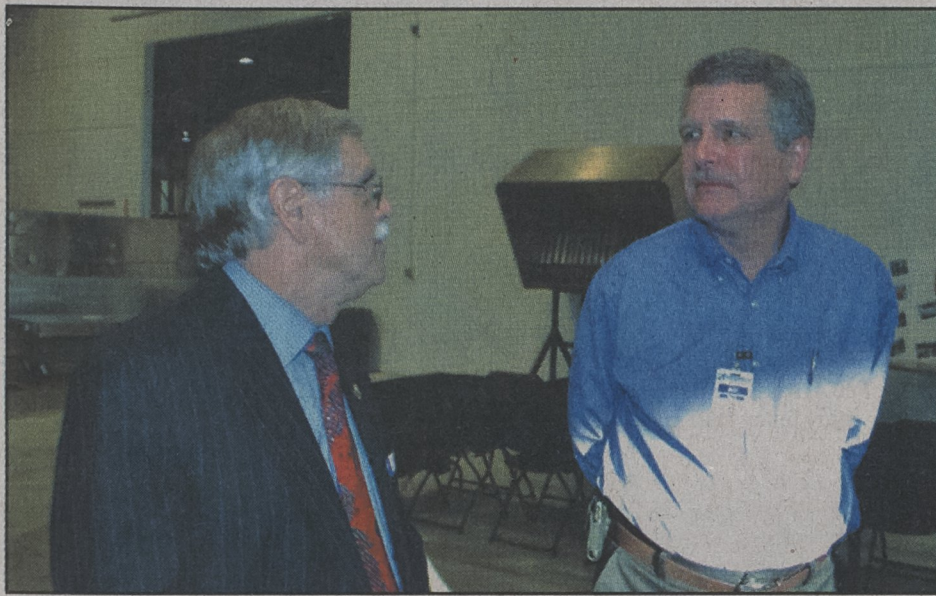
Superintendent Bruce Boyles said legislators are discussing changing the requirement for the five additional school

days. Board members told Dr. Boyles they will reconsider next year's calendar if the state makes that change.

Dr. Boyles said the additional five instructional days will cost at least \$100,000 in transportation costs alone not including the salary costs for non-certified staff.

Board members have discussed two calendar proposals presented by Bridges during a December meeting and at a work session earlier this month. The calendar committee had recommendations for calendars with 180 and 185 instructional days for next year. The board opted to consider only one calendar for adoption to reduce the possibility of confusion.

Cleveland County Schools Spokeswoman Donna Carpenter contributed to this report.



Kitchen Ventilation Systems celebrates 5 years

photo by ELLIS NOELL

Kitchen Ventilations Systems, LLC, Division of VTP, celebrated its 5th anniversary last Wednesday and city officials helped celebrate. Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, is welcomed by plant manager Bill Cowen. Some 50 employees of Kitchen Ventilations at Cleveland County Industrial Park make hoods for commercial kitchens.



A drawing of the future field house proposed for KMHS' John Gamble Stadium.

BOARD: endorses Touchdown Club's plans to raise money for new field house and more

FROM Page 1

The goal is to raise \$1.2 to \$1.3 million for the project, through public donations.

Brinkley said that the club has looked into financing its plans for up to 36 months through First National Bank, but about 1/3 of the project's budget would be required on deposit to break ground for the new facilities.

Brinkley told the board of education that Kings Mountain High School is in true need of a new field house and concession stand, not to mention updates to the stadium's press box, which was built in 1967, and restroom facilities, now 41 years old, he said.

Locker rooms for both female and male athletes of all sports are another need, he pointed out, along with storage areas.

A blue print of the proposed field house, includes seven rooms for storage, a junior varsity locker room with 49 lockers, a varsity locker room with 65 lockers, a 35-foot-by-55-foot multipurpose room, a kitchen, conference room, training room, football display area, and offices for the football coach, assistant football coaches, and athletic direc-

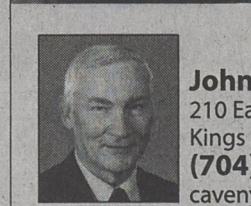
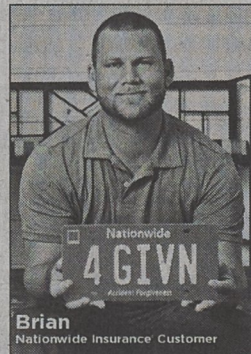
tor.

A sketch of the proposed press box includes two radio rooms, a press box, a mechanical room, storage room, bathroom, and a 13-foot-by-20-foot hospitality room, upstairs. Downstairs, plans for the proposed press box features two coaches offices and women's and men's bathrooms, with offices and restrooms separated by breezeways.

Brinkley said that the

Touchdown Club plans to begin its fundraising campaign in 60 days. The first priority is to build a field house, hopefully beginning in early summer 2012 and finishing in October 2012, he added.

After the 2012 football season, Brinkley said, they could demolish John Gamble Stadium's existing press box for a new one, hopefully finishing construction by the 2013 football season.



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Westmoreland to take oath of office Friday in Raleigh

Westmoreland, Shelby businessman and long-time Republican leader, will take the oath of office Friday at noon as State Senator from District 46. He is succeeding Debbie Clary to serve the remainder of her term.

The ceremony will take place in the old Senate Chamber of the State Capital Building in Raleigh.

Westmoreland is inviting constituents to join him in Raleigh for the ceremonies. He has arranged a Supreme Court tour with Associate Justice Paul Newby at 10:30 a.m., a tour of the Capital Building, across the street from the Supreme Court, 2 East Morgan Street; the proclamation signing with Governor Beverly Perdue,

pending her schedule; and swearing-in ceremonies with Justice Newby at noon in the Senate chamber. A light lunch will be served in his office, 314 Legislative Office Building, followed by a 1:15 p.m. tour of the State Legislative Building.

Those planning to attend the events are asked to call 919-715-3830.

Moschler named Finance Director

Beverly Moschler, who was appointed interim finance director in October for the City of Kings Mountain, has been promoted to the position of Finance Director.

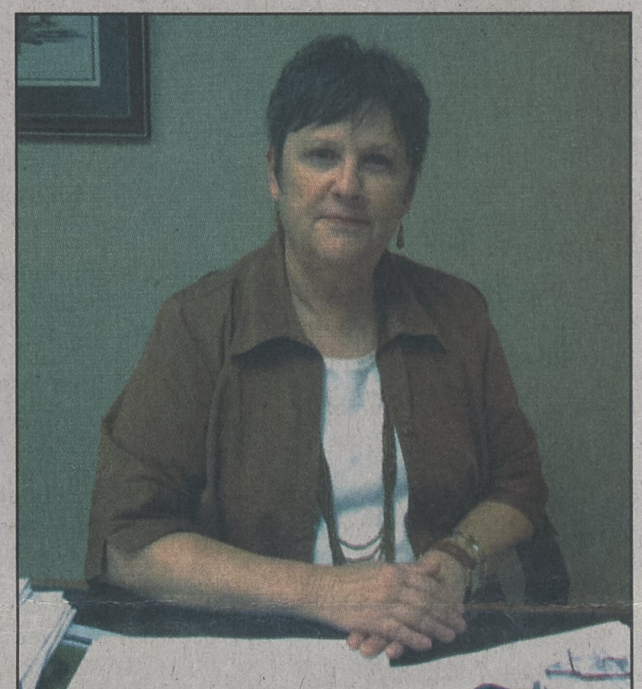
City Manager Marilyn Sellers announced the promotion and conducted interviews for the position following the resignation of Lori Hall. Mrs. Hall has joined Macon County in Franklin as county finance director.

"Lori worked 18 years with the city and we commend her for her fine work here, for clean audits for 12 straight years and we congratulate her in her new job," said Sellers.

Sellers said the city is advertising for the position of assistant finance director.

Moschler has served as assistant finance director for 14 years and before that worked for the city for seven years at Mauney Memorial Library. She graduated from Longwood College in Farmville, Va. with a B.S. degree in math and accounting.

Beverly and Jack Moschler moved to Kings Mountain in 1986. Mr. Moschler, who is retired, works part time at Bridges



Beverly Moschler

Hardware. They have four grown children: Jacob Moschler and wife, Thuan, of Tacoma Park, Md., Dora Addie Moschler and husband, Jerry Nunoo, of Philadelphia, Pa., David Moschler of Berkeley, California and Jesse Moschler of Raleigh. They are members of Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte.

At city hall Moschler worked closely with Lori

Hall on the preparation of city budgets and with city auditors. She was certified in government financing in January 2011 and has completed studies in four areas of municipal financing, passing all four tests with flying colors, according to Sellers. Most recently she worked with auditors who will review the last year audit at Tuesday's city council meeting.

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