

**Jackson County Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Sylva, North Carolina**

JCEC

January 26, 2016

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at the School Board Administrative Offices, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Ken Henke, Chairman
Ali Laird-Large, Vice Chair
Matt Wike
Elizabeth Cooper
Margaret McRae – via telephone

Also present were Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent; Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Chris Campbell, School Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ken Henke called the business meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Henke asked that the agenda be amended to include authorization for the Board Chair and Superintendent to sign the final construction contract for the School of Alternatives Plumbing Project, subject to the contract being completed and reviewed by the Board's attorney.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the Amended Agenda.

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT ACTION AGENDA

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

- A. Open Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 15, 2015.

INFORMATION AGENDA

A. **Agenda Item:** Superintendent's Report
Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray

Dr. Murray updated the board on the items as follows:

1. Principal Jake Buchanan is not here this evening due to a schedule conflict with Senior Wrestling. Several administrators are out due to illness.

2. Dr. Murray attended the first Robotics Competition Team interest night held in Franklin. Mr. Phil Drake has agreed to help fund teams if the need arises. Teams will consist of 10 students. Jackson County Public Schools is seeking additional sponsorship for teams from local businesses.
3. Dr. Murray briefed the board about the Education Bond that will be on the March ballot. This bond is primarily for higher education. Due to our continuing partnership with Southwestern Community College and Western Carolina University, Jackson County Public Schools is supporting this bond measure.
4. Dr. Murray informed the board about his participation in the Executive Leadership Program. He is one of twenty Superintendent's selected to participate in this professional development program that will help build networks and support for public schools.

B. **Agenda Item:** School Nutrition Update
Presenter: Mrs. Laura Cabe

Mrs. Cabe updated the board on the following child nutrition programs:

C. **Agenda Item:** Maintenance Update
Presenter: Darin Allison, Maintenance Director

Mr. Allison updated the board on the following maintenance projects:

School of Alternatives

Electrical work necessary for the renovation/water line replacement is 80% complete.

Fairview Elementary School

Roof replacement bid process completed.

Smokey Mountain Elementary School

Held preliminary meetings with Tribal Water in relation to the water line connection.

Smoky Mountain High School

Repaired heat in auxiliary gymnasium.

D. **Agenda Item:** Unaudited Financial Summary
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Director

Gwen Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary for January 26, 2016.

ACTION AGENDA

A. **Agenda Item:** Budget Amendments and Transfers
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Mrs. Edwards asked for approval of budget amendments and transfers for the State Public School Fund, Federal Grants Fund, Capital Outlay Fund, and Other Specific Revenue Fund.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the above listed Budget Amendments and Transfers.*

- B. Agenda Item:** Review Indian Policies and Procedures
Presenter: Jason Watson, Director Secondary Curriculum

Mr. Watson updated the board on the Indian Policies and Procedures and asked for board approval.

Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board voted unanimously to approve the Indian Policies and Procedures.

- C. Agenda Item:** Beginning Teacher Support Plan
Presenter: Jason Watson, Director Secondary Curriculum and Laura Dills, Director Elementary Curriculum

Mr. Watson and Mrs. Dills presented the Beginning Teacher and Lateral Entry Support Plan to the board and asked for board approval.

Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the Beginning Teacher and Lateral Entry Support Plan.

- D. Agenda Item:** Low Performing Schools Plan Revision
Presenter: Jason Watson, Director Secondary Curriculum

Mr. Watson updated the board on the reformatted Low Performing Schools Plan and asked for board approval.

Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board voted unanimously to approve the Low Performing Schools Plan.

- E. Agenda Item:** Amend 2015-2016 Board of Education Meeting Schedule for March 2016
Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

Dr. Murray informed the board that the March 22, 2016 board meeting was inadvertently scheduled during Spring break and asked for board approval to move the meeting to March 15, 2016.

Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board voted unanimously to approve rescheduling the March 2016 board meeting to March 15th.

- F. Agenda Item:** Amend 2015-2016 School Make-up Schedule
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Elliott requested the board amend the 2015-2016 School Make-up calendar due to additional snow day school closures and asked for board approval.

Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the 2015-2016 School Make-up calendar.

- G. Agenda Item:** Authorization for Board Chair and Superintendent to sign the School of Alternatives Plumbing Project Contract
Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

Dr. Murray informed the board that we received the contract for the School of Alternatives Plumbing Project late this afternoon. The contract was prepared using an alternate form which required a longer

review process by the board attorney. Due to the time sensitivity of this project, Dr. Murray asked the board for approval to allow the Board Chair and Superintendent to sign the contract.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board voted unanimously to approve the Board Chair and Superintendent to sign the School of Alternatives Plumbing Project contract.*

H. Agenda Item: Field Trip Request
Presenter: Dr. Michael L. Murray

1. Carolina Indoor Performance Association – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9 to 12, Spartanburg, SC, Jan. 30, 2016 – TT #2133
2. Charleston - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grade 8, Charleston, SC, April 27 to 29, 2016, TT 2186
3. Charlotte Motor Speedway - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grade 5, Charlotte, NC, Feb. 4, 2016 - TT 2169
4. Charlotte Motor Speedway - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grade 7, Charlotte, NC, Feb 9, 2016, TT 2187
5. Ripley's Aquarium - Fairview Elementary School, Grade 4, Knoxville, TN, April 14 to 15, 2016, TT 2192
6. Winterguard and Winter Percussion Performance - Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 8 to 12, Duncan, SC, Mar. 12, 2016 – TT #2151
7. Winterguard and Winter Percussion Performance - Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 8 to 12, Kingsport, TN, Mar. 5, 2016 – TT #2150
8. YMCA Camp Greenville - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grade 7, Greenville, SC, Apr. 20 to 22, 2016, TT 2185

Dr. Murray reviewed the above listed field trip requests and asked the board for approval.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the above listed field trips.*

CLOSED SESSION

The board unanimously approved a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, to enter into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143.318.11 for the following purposes: under subsection; (a) (1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-32 and (a) (3) to discuss matters protected by attorney-client privilege.

Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.

OPEN SESSION

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

- A. Closed Session Minutes of Meeting on December 15, 2015.

PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA

Action: A motion was made by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large to approve the personnel agenda as recommended by Dr. Murray and was seconded by Ms. Margaret McRae. The board unanimously approved the following recommendations:

Employee Recommendations:

1. Barkiewicz, Amanda – Substitute Custodian, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
2. Bennett, Regan Crowley – Substitute Custodian, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
3. Bowers, Brittany – Tutor, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
4. Brookshire, Christopher – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Clayton, Heather – Teacher Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
6. Edmonds, Genia – Substitute Afterschool Program Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
7. Floyd, Sarah – Speech Language Pathologist, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
8. Hart, Chrysan – School Nutrition Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
9. Henson, Tyla – School Nutrition Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School
10. King, Beverly – Substitute Custodian, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
11. Littlejohn, Angela Maney – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
12. McCoy, Susan – Afterschool Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
13. Pantoja, Connie – Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
14. Prokop, Beth – Bus Monitor, School of Alternatives
15. Radford, Charles Cort – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
16. Ray, Tina – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
17. Richards, Eileen Milkey – Substitute Custodian, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Employee Resignations:

1. Eichhorn, Amanda – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
2. Jones, Leah – School Nutrition Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
3. Kilpatrick, Michael T. – Custodian and Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
4. McElroy, Craig – Head Coach Junior Varsity Baseball, Smoky Mountain High School
5. McClure, Heather – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
6. Napert, David – Teacher, School of Alternatives

Employee Retirements:

1. Cochran, Janice – Maintenance Department Administrative Assistant, Central Office
2. Hilton, Terry – Testing Coordinator, Central Office
3. Lowdermilk, Thomas Kent – Transportation Supervisor, Bus Garage

Employee Transfers Requiring Action:

1. Guffey, James – From Fuel Truck and Bus Driver at Cullowhee Valley Elementary School to Custodian and Bus Driver at Smokey Mountain Elementary School
2. Jones, Steven Jacob – From Bus Driver at Smoky Mountain High School to Bus Driver at Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Non-Staff Coach Recommendations:

1. Burns, Jennifer – Assistant Coach Middle School Softball, District Team
2. Burnside, Keri – Assistant Coach Junior Varsity Women’s Soccer, Smoky Mountain High School
3. Davidson, Todd – Assistant Coach Track, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Hicks, Derek Lee – Assistant Coach Middle School Baseball, District Team

Staff Coach Recommendations:

1. Brookshire, Christopher – Head Coach Varsity Football, Smoky Mountain High School

- I. **Agenda Item:** Calendar Approval for 2016-2017 – First Review
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Henke informed the board that the 2016-2017 Calendar approval has been tabled until the February Board of Education meeting.

Action: *No action taken.*

- J. **Agenda Item:** Turf Project/Critical Facility Needs
Presenter: Mr. Ken Henke, Board Chair

The board discussed the Smoky Mountain High School football field turf project and the possible impact county funding would have on completing the project by the June 30th deadline. The board also discussed the request to the Jackson County Commissioners to fund all proposed critical facility needs.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to ask the Superintendent to gather information on Capital Projects and on behalf of the board, ask the Jackson County Commissioners to consider funding all critical facility needs.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is February 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administrative Office, Sylva, North Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, Chairman Ken Henke adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Ken Henke, Chairman

Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary