

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

Central Office Board Room

April 19, 2016

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at the Central Office Board Room, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Ken Henke, Chairman
Elizabeth Cooper
Matt Wike
Margaret McRae

Also present were Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent; Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Assistant Superintendent, John Henning, Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ken Henke called the business meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT ACTION AGENDA

Action: *Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

- A. Open and Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 15, 2016.

INFORMATION AGENDA

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

Dr. Murray updated the board on the following activities during the previous month:

- Dr. Murray introduced special guest Ms. Luann Coyle, NCATA District 8 President. Ms. Coyle presented Ms. Mary Bennett, Horticulture Teacher at the School of Alternatives,

with a grant check for \$100.00 to use in her classroom. The NCATA awarded 8 grants statewide out of more than 250 submissions.

- Dr. Murray announced that School of Alternatives Principal, Mr. Kris Reis, was awarded the Sylva Rotary Service Award.
- Dr. Murray shared a memo that he received from former JCPS teacher Dolphus Brown, about Faith Baptist Church recognizing the Smoky Mountain High School (SMHS) Girls Soccer Team, First Baptist Church of Sylva honoring the SMHS Baseball team, Webster Baptist Church hosting the SMHS Girls Softball team, East Sylva Baptist Church hosting the SMHS Girls and Boys Track and Field teams and Cullowhee Methodist Church adopting the SMHS Boys Golf Team.
- Dr. Murray informed the board about the SMART Robotics competition that was held on April 2nd at Cherokee Central School. He said that more than 400 students participated that included six Jackson County Public Schools teams.
- Dr. Murray took part in a full-scale lock down and relocation drill at Blue Ridge School on March 31st. Multiple agencies from across Jackson County were involved and provided extremely positive feedback on the relocation event.

B. Agenda Item: Maintenance Update
Presenter: Mr. Darin Allison, Maintenance Director

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

- A pre-bid meeting is scheduled at Smokey Mountain Elementary School on April 24th for the upcoming HVAC upgrade.
- Engineers are drawing the new water line routing for Smoky Mountain High School “B” building.
- Bonitz Roofing has been awarded the bid for the roof replacement at Smokey Mountain Elementary School.
- Unfortunately Haynes Electric Co. was unable to perform breaker replacement at Scotts Creek Elementary School as previously scheduled/Looking to accomplish in July.

C. Agenda Item: “Three Billboards”
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Elliott informed the board that Cullowhee Valley Elementary School will be used for a scene in the upcoming Woody Harrelson movie “Three Billboards” on May 17th. The film crew will be making some external improvements to the front of the school where the filming will take place.

D. Agenda Item: Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Elliott announced the names of the Teacher of the Year for 2016-2017 for each school as follows:

Kristal Hunter	Blue Ridge School
Jill Painter	Blue Ridge Early College
Melanie Smathers	Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Holly Rowan	Fairview Elementary School
Brandon Pendergast	Jackson County Early College
Stephen Brown	School of Alternatives
Natalie Norman	Scotts Creek Elementary School
Alicia Kilpatrick	Smokey Mountain Elementary School
Jeff Pope	Smoky Mountain High School

Support Employee of the Year:

Sandra Stevens – School Nutrition Admin. Asst.	Central Office, Bus Garage, Maintenance
Ginger Bryson – Custodian	Blue Ridge School
Darlene Beckett – Virtual School Facilitator	Blue Ridge Early College
Karen Clarke – School Counselor	Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
Carleen Parham – Receptionist	Fairview Elementary School
Shannon Woodring – Student Data Manager/Bookkeeper	Jackson County Early College
David Dalton – Student Data Manager/Bookkeeper	School of Alternatives
Tammy Jones – Custodian/Bus Driver	Scotts Creek Elementary School
Andy Gass – Custodian	Smokey Mountain Elementary School
Ada Hall – Bookkeeper	Smoky Mountain High School

Dr. Elliott invited everyone to attend the upcoming Excellence in Education Reception on May 16, 2016, at 6 p.m., in the Smoky Mountain High School Performing Arts Center where the district Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year will be announced.

- E. **Agenda Item:** AIG Update
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Elliott presented the board with the AIG plan for first review. The AIG plan will be presented by Mrs. Laura Dills, at the May board meeting for final approval.

- F. **Agenda Item:** Unaudited Financial Summary
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Gwen Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary for April 19, 2016.

ACTION AGENDA

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

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

Action: *Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the state public school fund, capital outlay fund, federal grant fund, local current expense fund, and other local transfers and budget amendments.*

- B. Agenda Item:** Amendment to Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP Audit Contract
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Ms. Edwards explained to the board that due to changes in pension disclosures the Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP Audit Contract for 2015-2016 had to be amended and asked for board approval.

Action: Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP Audit Contract.

- C. Agenda Item:** Approval for SMHS Football/Soccer LED Scoreboard purchase
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Ms. Gwen Edwards presented the quote for purchase of a Football/Soccer LED scoreboard for Smoky Mountain High School. She explained that partial funding has been received from Harris Regional Hospital for the purchase of a new scoreboard.

Action: Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the Smoky Mountain High School Football/Soccer LED Scoreboard.

- D. Agenda Item:** Paid Lunch Equity
Presenter: Mrs. Laura Cabe, School Nutrition Director

Ms. Cabe explained the Paid Lunch Equity program to the board and asked the board to approve a \$.15 increase to lunch prices for Jackson County Public Schools for 2016-2017 school year.

Action: Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the \$.15 increase for paid lunch equity for 2016-2017.

- E. Agenda Item:** Field Trip Requests
Presenter: Dr. Michael L. Murray, Superintendent

1. Andy's Trout Farm – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Dillard, GA, April 29, 2016, TT #2417
2. Carowinds Peace Center – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Charlotte, NC, May 7-8, 2016, TT #2455
3. Dollywood - Smoky Mountain High School, Grade 9, Sevierville, TN, April 29, 2016, TT #2420
4. Forbidden Caverns – Scotts Creek Elementary School, Grade 6, Sevierville, TN, May 13, 2016, TT #2470
5. Paramount Carowinds – Fairview Elementary School, Grades 7 and 8, Charlotte, NC, June 11, 2016, TT #2483
6. Pigeon Forge – Jackson County Early College, Grade 10, Pigeon Forge, TN, May 6, 2016, TT #2484

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

Action: Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike 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 Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae 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. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.

OPEN SESSION

Action: Upon a motion by Mr. Matt Wike and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:

- A. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 15, 2016.

PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA

Action: A motion was made by Mr. Matt Wike to approve the personnel agenda as recommended by Dr. Murray and was seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae. The board unanimously approved the following recommendations:

Employee Recommendations:

1. Brookshire, Christopher – Activity and Field Trip Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Broom, Anita – Summer Bus Custodian, Bus Garage
3. Buchanan, Teresa – Summer Bus Custodian, Bus Garage
4. DeBord, April – Activity and Substitute School Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Downing, Leah – LEAP Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
6. Graning, Evelyn – Activity and Substitute Bus Driver, Scotts Creek Elementary School
7. Hagan, Emily – LEAP Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
8. Mathis, Stephanie – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
9. Nicholson, Travis – Activity and School Bus Driver, Scotts Creek Elementary School
10. Orr, Seth – Activity and Field Trip Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
11. Plush, Laura – Tutor, Blue Ridge School
12. Pruitt, William – Activity and Substitute School Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
13. Radford, Charles – Activity and Substitute School Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
14. Rivas, Esther – LEAP Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
15. Sartain Jr., Michael – Activity and Field Trip Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
16. Schwalm, Angela – Temporary EC Teacher Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
17. Shephard, Vaudie – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School

18. Shearin, Jessica – Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
19. Speckhardt, Brent – Principal, Blue Ridge Early College
20. Walker, Sherry – Temporary Part Time Custodian, Smoky Mountain High School

Employee Resignations:

1. Blanton, Samantha – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Buchanan, Derek – Maintenance, Central Office
3. Coggins, Jeff – Maintenance, Central Office
4. Danner, Connie – Teacher Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Morgan, Sylvia – Teacher Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
6. Nance, Kelsie – After School Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
7. Reavis, Chelsea – Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
8. Todd, Judy – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
9. Young, Kayleigh, Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Employee Retirements:

1. Wittekind, Rachel – School Nurse, Blue Ridge School, Blue Ridge Early College, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, and Fairview Elementary School

Non-Staff Coach Recommendations:

1. Ammons, Aimee – Assistant Coach Softball, Fairview Elementary School
2. Dew, Berkleigh – Assistant Coach Softball, Scotts Creek Elementary School (Correction)
3. Gribble, Craig – Assistant Coach Baseball, Fairview Elementary School
4. Stewman, Rusty – Head Coach Softball, Fairview Elementary School

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is May 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administrative Office, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, Chairman Ken Henke adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Ken Henke, Chairman

Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary