

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

398 Hospital Road

July 26, 2016

6:00 p.m.

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

Ken Henke, Chairman  
Ali Laird-Large, Vice-Chairman  
Elizabeth Cooper  
Margaret McRae  
Wes Jamison

Also present were Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent; Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Associate Superintendent; Chad Donnahoo, School Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ken Henke called the business meeting to order.

Mr. Henke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board unanimously voted to keep its current leadership with Ken Henke serving as chairman until the organizational meeting following the next school board election in 2018.*

*Upon a motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to keep Ali Laird-Large serving as vice chair until the organizational meeting following the next school board election in 2018.*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Dr. Murray presented a certificate of appreciation to Carol and Jack Hennessee of the Hennessee Foundation for their generous support of Jackson County Public Schools. The Hennessee Foundation has contributed funds to Fairview Elementary School, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School and the School of Alternatives for playgrounds and a walking track.

## OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

## CONSENT ACTION AGENDA

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

A. Open Session Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 28, 2016

## INFORMATION AGENDA

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

Dr. Murray updated the board on the following:

- Dr. Murray thanked everyone involved in the successful Summer Leadership meetings. He stated that several board members attended the two day in-service training that was held at NCCAT. Dr. Murray said that Jackson County Public Schools is a unique system with an extremely supportive school board.
- Dr. Murray informed the board that Jackson County Public Schools will be sending a Leadership team of nine members to the Golden Leaf Grant Leadership meeting in Raleigh next week.
- For the third consecutive year, Jackson County Public schools will be participating in the CREW Regional Professional Development program in association with other school districts in the Western Region.
- New Teacher Orientation was held today for 18 new teachers. Dr. Murray stated that he is proud that they have made the choice to pursue their careers with Jackson County Public Schools.
- Southwestern Community College held the Freshman Orientation for Jackson County Early College yesterday.

B. **Agenda Item:** Capital Projects Update  
**Presenter:** Mr. Darin Allison, Capital Projects and Facility Director

Mr. Allison provided the board with a graph showing completion of various capital projects throughout Jackson County Public Schools.

C. **Agenda Item:** Surplus Equipment  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott informed the board that the following items have been declared as surplus and will be fold on GovDeals:

- Maintenance has 2 score board, trailer and small hand tools
- Cullowhee Valley Elementary School has student desks, carts, mobile room divider and compressor.
- Fairview Elementary School – School Nutrition has an oven.

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

Mrs. Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary as of July 26, 2016.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

- A. **Agenda Item:** Meridian Behavioral Health Services Agreement Renewal  
**Presenter:** Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Mrs. Edwards presented the board with the 2016-2017 Meridian Behavioral Services Agreement contract. Jackson County Psychological Services has merged with Meridian and changed their name. Mrs. Edwards said that there are no changes to services and asked for board approval.

***Action:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the renewal of the Meridian Behavioral Health Services Agreement as requested by Mrs. Edwards.*

- B. **Agenda Item:** Microsoft Licensing Agreement Renewal  
**Presenter:** David Proffitt, Technology Director

Mr. Proffitt presented the quote for the Microsoft license agreement renewal 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 Microsoft Licensing Agreement renewal as requested by Mr. Proffitt.*

- C. **Agenda Item:** 2016/2017 Student Handbooks – All Schools  
**Presenter:** Mrs. Angie Dills and Mrs. Laura Dills

Mrs. Dills reviewed the 2016-2017 on-line student handbooks for all Jackson County Public Schools and asked for board approval.

***Action:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, the board voted unanimously to approve the on-line student handbooks.*

- D. **Agenda Item:** Teacher One-Time Signing Bonus for 2016-2017  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott informed the board as recruitment and retention strategy, Jackson County Public Schools would like to again offer the Teacher One-Time Signing Bonuses for 2016-2017. The monthly \$100.00 bonus will be paid in the first full month of employment and continue each month for a maximum benefit of \$1000.00, that will end May 2017. Teachers working less than 100% of the time in the classroom will receive a portion of the bonus based upon the percentage of time employed.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae the board voted unanimously to approve the Teacher One-Time Signing Bonus for 2016-2017.*

**E. Agenda Item:** Supplement Plan for 2016-2017  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott informed the board that the County Commissioners set aside funds for supplemental pay for teachers for the 2016-2017 school year in the budget. Dr. Elliott requested that this money be used for a 2% supplemental pay for classroom teachers and qualified staff for the upcoming school year 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 Supplement Plan for 2016-2017.*

**F. Agenda Item:** Bus Driver Perfect Attendance Pay Incentive 2016-2017  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott informed the board that JCPS is still experiencing difficulty hiring and retaining school bus drivers and would like to offer the Bus Driver/Monitor Perfect Attendance Pay Incentive for 2016-2017. The incentive will begin on the first student day and will follow each scheduled pay period. Drivers and bus monitors will receive \$50.00 for each month they have no absences on their regular assigned bus route.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison the board voted unanimously to approve the Bus Driver/Monitor Perfect Attendance Pay Incentive for 2016-2017.*

**G. Agenda Item:** Field Trips  
**Presenter:** Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

1. Ripley's Aquarium – Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grades K-5, Gatlinburg, TN, August 2, 2016, Travel Tracker #2730
2. University of Tennessee – Jackson County Early College, Knoxville, TN, Sept. 1-2, 2016, Travel Tracker #2731
3. Asheboro Zoo – Jackson County Early College, Asheboro, NC, September 9, 2016, Travel Tracker #2732

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. Margaret McRae, 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 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 Mrs. Ali Laird-Large 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. Margaret McRae, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

A. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 28, 2016.

### **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 Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper. The board unanimously approved the following recommendations:*

#### **Employee Recommendations:**

1. Allison, Mary – EC Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
2. Block, Melissa – EC Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
3. Carnes, Scotti – Activity Bus Driver and Substitute Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Carpenter, Jeff – EC Bus Monitor, School of Alternatives
5. Clayton, Heather – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
6. Claxton, David – Activity Bus Driver and Substitute Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
7. Crisp, Rayna – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
8. Giles, Petra – Pre-K Coordinator, District-wide
9. Klipa, Tyler – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
10. Lundberg, Michelle – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
11. Mathis, Kassidy – Speech Language Pathologist, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
12. McNabb, Stacy – Interim Lead Teacher, Blue Ridge School and Early College
13. Moon, Tonya – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
14. Moss, Amber – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
15. Moody-Bumgarner, Mary – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
16. Osborn, Frederick – Principal, Fairview Elementary School
17. Painter, Mikaela – EC Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
18. Parks, Pamela – Teacher, Blue Ridge Early College
19. Poteat, Beth – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
20. Pressler, Nickalus – Teacher, Blue Ridge Early College
21. Schwalm, Angela – EC Teacher Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
22. Waldrop, Erica – Speech Language Pathologist, Smokey Mountain Elementary School and Pre-K

23. Williamson, Caroline – Graduation Coach, School of Alternatives

**Employee Resignations:**

1. Parton, Morgan – EC Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
2. Saunders, Kelly – Band Director, Fairview Elementary School
3. Shearin, Jessica – Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
4. Vamvakias, Jeff – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
5. Washington, Britney – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
6. William, Tara – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School

**Special Requests – Leave of Absence:**

1. McMahan, Sandra – Teacher, Blue Ridge School

**Staff, Non-Staff and Returning Coaches:**

1. Doolin, Ashley – Head Coach Tennis, Smokey Mountain High School
2. Fox, Amber – Athletic Director, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
3. Frese, Jamie – Head Coach Softball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
4. Jamison, Steve – Head Coach Boys Baseball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School (Correction)
5. Jamison, Tyler – Assistant Coach Boys Baseball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School (Correction)
6. Norton, Nicole – Assistant Coach Softball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School

**Transfers Requiring Action:**

1. Dunford, Ollin – From EC Teacher Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School to Virtual School/Computer Lab Facilitator, School of Alternatives
2. Brooks, Dee Ann – From Office Support at Smoky Mountain High School to Teacher Assistant at Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is August 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, NC.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection, Chairman Henke adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

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Ken Henke, Chairman

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Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary