

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

95 Bobcat Drive, Cashiers

September 20, 2016

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at Blue Ridge School, 95 Bobcat Drive, Cashiers, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Ken Henke, Chairman
Ali Laird-Large, Vice-Chairman
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.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Murray presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Frances Dietz for her selection as the Jackson County Public School's Exceptional Children Program Teacher of Excellence for 2016-2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Mary Morse spoke to the board and asked them to consider allowing homeschooled children to take the PSAT, SAT, and ACT tests when they are offered in Jackson County Public Schools. She stated that these tests are a pathway to college for these students and additionally the PSAT qualifies a student for the National Merit Scholar program. She asked the board to consider this as a service to the 300 Jackson County families that provide homeschooling for their children and she stated that this will help build goodwill in the community.

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 of August 23, 2016.

INFORMATION AGENDA

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

Dr. Murray reported on the following:

- The Jackson County Board of Education holds their monthly board meetings in the schools every other year. Dr. Murray thanked Teri Walawender and staff for hosting the September meeting at Blue Ridge School and Early College.
- Dr. Murray and Dr. Elliott attended the 11th annual Songwriters' Round to benefit the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation on September 10, 2016.
- Dr. Murray and the entire board will be attending the District 8 meeting in Swain County on September 29th.
- Dr. Murray, Dr. Elliott and several board members will be attending the North Carolina School Board Association Law Conference in Asheville October 12 to 14, 2016.
- Dr. Murray reminded the board the third annual Collaborative Regional Educational Workshop (CREW) is scheduled October 6th at Cherokee Central Schools. CREW will involve teachers and administrators from Jackson, Macon, Swain and Haywood counties for a full day of professional development.

- B. **Agenda Item:** Capital Projects Update
Presenter: Darin Allison, Director

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

- C. **Agenda Item:** Accountability Update
Presenter: Adam Holt, Testing and Accountability Director

Mr. Holt provided the board with an overview of the 2015-2016 JCPS test data, graduation rate and school performance grades.

- D. **Agenda Item:** Rural Low Income Schools Grant
Presenter: Laura Dills, Elementary Education Director

Ms. Dills updated the board on the continuation of the Rural Low Income Schools Grant. This formula grant will again fund one technology technician and the summer academic camp, with the additional of grades 4 through 12.

- E. **Agenda Item:** Principal of the Year/Steve Jones Servant Leadership Award Information
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott reminded everyone about the upcoming Excellence in Leadership Awards Evening on October 4th at Smoky Mountain High School. Jackson County Public Schools will be recognizing Ms. Teri Walawender, who has been chosen by her peers as the 2016-2017 Principal of the Year and we will also recognize the recipient of the Steve Jones Servant Leadership award.

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

Mrs. Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary as of September 20, 2016.

ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Agenda Item:** 2016-2017 Budget Approval
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Ms. Edwards presented the 2016-2017 Jackson County Public Schools budget 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 2016-2017 Budget.*

- B. **Agenda Item:** .5% Compensation Bonus
Presenter: Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Ms. Edwards provided the board with information about the 2016-2017 appropriations bill that authorized the award of a one-time 0.5% bonus to any permanent employee whose salary is paid with state funds, including permanent part-time employees, with the exception of teachers and instructional support personnel paid on the teacher salary schedule. This bonus does not include employees that are not paid with state funds. Ms. Edwards requested approval to extend the payment of the bonus to permanent employees not paid on the teacher salary schedule who are not paid from State funds. This bonus will be paid from the funding source from which the employee's salary is paid as of September 1, 2016. For those employees that have multiple jobs, the bonus will be prorated based on the percentage of time worked in each job. To be eligible for the bonus, an individual must be employed on September 12, and must be employed in a permanent position for 20 hours or more per week. Ms. Edwards requested board approval for the bonus.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison the board voted unanimously to approve the .5% Compensation Bonus.*

- C. **Agenda Item:** Computer Purchase for Golden Leaf Grant
Presenter: Mr. David Proffitt, Technology Director

Mr. Proffitt presented the quote for the purchase of 65 computers for the Golden Leaf Grant 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 purchase of computers for the Golden Leaf Grant.*

D. Agenda Item: Discussion and Action on SMHS Roof Replacement Bid

Presenter: Darin Allison, Director

Mr. Allison informed the board that only one bid was received for the Smoky Mountain High School roof replacement project and will have to be re-advertised and re-opened for bids per regulation. Due to a limited time frame, Mr. Allison asked the board to authorize the Superintendent to act on their behalf to approve the bid for the SMHS roof replacement prior to the next board meeting.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, the board voted unanimously to authorize the Superintendent to act on their behalf to approve the SMHS roof replacement bid.*

E. Agenda Item: Board Member CEU Credits

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

Dr. Murray presented the Jackson County Board of Education CEU's for 2015-2016 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 2015-2016 board member CEU's.*

F. Agenda Item: Weather Waiver Request for 2017-2018

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray

Dr. Murray presented the 2017-2018 LEA based calendar waiver request for weather related causes and asked the board for approval.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2017-2018 Weather Waiver request.*

G. Agenda Item: Policy Updates

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

Policy Updates:

1. Contracts with the Board (6420)
2. Evaluation of Licensed Employee (7810)
3. Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees (7815)
4. Facility Construction (9030)
5. Bidding for Construction Work (9120)
6. Supervision of Construction Contract (9130)

Dr. Murray presented the proposed changes to above listed policy updates 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 policy updates as listed above.*

H. Agenda Item: Merit-Based Bonus for Non-Educators Plan

Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott presented the Merit-based bonus for non-educators plan 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 Merit-based bonus for non-educators plan.*

I. Agenda Item: Field Trips

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

1. Walt Disney World – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 10-12, Orlando, FL, March 30, 2017 to April 2, 2017, TT 2815.
2. Carolina Renaissance Festival – Smokey Mountain Elementary School, Grade 7, Huntersville, NC, Oct. 19, 2016, TT 2849.
3. Mountains to the Sea – Smokey Mountain Elementary School, Grade 8, Asheboro, Raleigh, and Charlotte, NC, April 4 to 7, 2017, TT 2857.
4. Maker Faire – Smokey Mountain Elementary School, Grades 6-8, Decatur, GA, Oct. 1, 2016, TT 2894.
5. Atlanta Anatomy Exhibit – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 11, 2016, TT #2903.
6. Washington, DC – JCEC, Grades 11-12, Washington, D.C., Apr. 9 to 13, 2017,, TT #2918.

Dr. Murray reviewed the above listed field trip requests 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 above listed field trips.*

CLOSED SESSION

The board unanimously approved a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison 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 Mr. Wes Jamison, 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:*

1. Closed Session Minutes of Meeting on August 23, 2016

PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA

Action: *Upon a motion made by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel agenda as recommended by Dr. Murray. The board unanimously approved the following recommendations:*

Employee Recommendations:

1. Ashe, James – Activity and Substitute School Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Baker, Anna – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
3. Brown, Stephen – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Chastain, Michelle – Lead Bus Driver, Transportation Department
5. Cope, Gregory – Substitute School Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School and Fairview Elementary School
6. Coffman, Layne – EC Homebound Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
7. Crow, Mariah – Homebound Private School Teacher, District-wide
8. Davis, Megan – Substitute School Bus Driver, Scotts Creek Elementary School
9. Green, Bethany – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
10. George, Kevin – Substitute School Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
11. Glover, Jimmie – Substitute School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School, Scotts Creek Elementary School, Smoky Mountain High School, and Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
12. Hall, Cynthia – Lead Bus Driver, Transportation Department
13. Johnson, Marcia – Substitute Bus Monitor, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
14. Kearns, Haley – Afterschool Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
15. Lunsford, Angela – Assistant Principal, Fairview Elementary School
16. Montgomery, Benjamin – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
17. Mulligan, Lara – Homebound Private School Teacher, District-wide
18. Pannell, Makayla – Afterschool Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
19. Parsons, Jonathan, Teacher, School of Alternatives
20. Springer, William – Substitute School Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
21. Steinel, Ashley – Substitute School Bus Driver, Blue Ridge School
22. Stewart, Christen – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
23. Wheatley, Leann – Data Manager, Scotts Creek Elementary School
24. Wilhelm, Kristen – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
25. Wise, Madalyn – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School

Employee Resignations:

1. Ballew, Reva – Part Time Psychologist, District-wide
2. Campbell, Twila – Data Manager, Scotts Creek Elementary School
3. Crisp, Brittany – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
4. Lor, Kalia – Afterschool Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School

Non-Staff, Staff and Returning Coach Recommendations:

1. Bates, Madison – Head Coach Volleyball, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
2. Bristol, Tia – Assistant Coach Junior Varsity and Varsity Volleyball, Blue Ridge Early College
3. Bruegger, Sarah – Head Coach Soccer, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
4. Case, Savannah – Assistant Coach Volleyball, Fairview Elementary School

5. Davidson, Todd – Assistant Coach Cross Country, Smoky Mountain High School
6. Dunford, Olin – Assistant Coach Varsity Women’s Basketball, Smoky Mountain High School
7. Green, Travis – Assistant Coach Varsity Women’s Basketball, Smoky Mountain High School
8. Harber, Shayne – Assistant Coach Volleyball, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
9. Klipa, Heather – Head Coach Women’s Basketball, Smoky Mountain High School
10. Maney, Chris – Volunteer Assistant Coach Soccer, Fairview Elementary School
11. Maney, Graham – Assistant Coach Soccer, Fairview Elementary School
12. Melvin, Jason – Head Coach Junior Varsity Women’s Basketball, Smoky Mountain High School
13. Mireles, Cristian – Assistant Coach Middle School Soccer, Blue Ridge Early College
14. Muir, Rebecca – Assistant Coach Soccer, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
15. Orr, Lauren – Head Coach Volleyball, Fairview Elementary School
16. Santoyo, Jesus – Assistant Coach Soccer, Smokey Mountain Elementary School

Transfers Requiring Action:

1. Howell, Wendy – From Teacher at Smokey Mountain Elementary School to Teacher at Fairview Elementary School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is October 25, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Scotts Creek Elementary School, 516 Parris Branch Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, Chairman Henke adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Ken Henke, Chairman

Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary