

**Jackson County Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Sylva, North Carolina
Scotts Creek Elementary School**

516 Parris Branch Road, Sylva

October 25, 2016

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at Scotts Creek Elementary School, 516 Parris Branch Road, Sylva, North Carolina. 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; Chris Campbell, School Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ken Henke called the business meeting to order.

Mr. Henke introduced 4th Grade Student Council members, Zebulon Mathis and Cody Maney, and 5th Grade Student Council members, Gage Davis and Hayden Moore, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Henke introduced Taleigh Verrault on Flute, and Robert “Bo” Webb on Trumpet who played the National Anthem.

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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Scotts Creek Teachers, Linda Potter, Dorothe Willson, and Katie Swartzwelder presented information and a video about a new program being implemented in the school, “The Leader in Me”. This program teaches 21st century leadership and life skills to students and creates a culture of student empowerment based on the idea that every child can be a leader.

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None. Ms. Claire Christensen requested to speak to the board in closed session.

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 September 20, 2016.

INFORMATION AGENDA

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

Dr. Murray reported on the following:

1. Board of Education meetings will be held in all Jackson County Public Schools during the 2016-2017 school year. The September meeting was held at Blue Ridge School.
2. Dr. Murray introduced the two newest Principals, Mr. Brent Speckhardt, Principal Blue Ridge Early College and Mr. Fred Osborn, Principal Fairview Elementary School.
3. Dr. Murray informed the board about the achievements of the Smoky Mountain High School Band under the leadership of Mr. Drew Umphlett, and showed a brief video of the band. He stated that the new Performing Arts facility allows us to showcase our student talents in fine arts.
4. Dr. Murray informed the board that SMHS teacher, Mr. Colby Redden, was nominated by his students and awarded the Walmart Commander of the Classroom. Mr. Redden received a gift card for \$500.00 to reimburse him for classroom supplies that he had purchased.
5. Dr. Murray informed the board that North Carolina districts and schools with the highest graduation rates in 2016 were honored today during an awards luncheon celebrating their performance and the state's 10 years of progress helping more students earn a diploma. Two Jackson County schools, Jackson County Early College and Blue Ridge Early College, both achieved a 100% Graduation Rate. Ms. Rebecca Ensley, Principal Jackson County Early College, represented Jackson County Public Schools at the luncheon.

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

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

- C. **Agenda Item:** NCSIP Grant
Presenter: Kelly Doppke, Student Support Services Director

Ms. Doppke informed the board about the NCSIP Grant for 2016-2017. The Jackson County Public Schools Exceptional Children Program was granted \$20,000.00 this year that will be used for continuing professional development in reading and math programs for children with disabilities.

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

Mrs. Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary as of October 25, 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, Federal Grants Fund, Other Specific Revenue Fund, and other local transfers.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison the board voted unanimously to approve the state public school fund, federal grant fund, local current expense fund, and other local transfers and budget amendments.*

- B. **Agenda Item:** School Improvement Plan Approval
Presenter: Adam Holt, Director of Testing and Accountability and Angie Dills, Director of Secondary Curriculum

Mrs. Dills and Mr. Holt presented the 2016-2017 District and School Improvement Plans 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 District and School Improvement Plans.*

- C. **Agenda Item:** Principal Professional Development Plan approval per G.S. 115C-105.37-39
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott, Associate Superintendent

Dr. Elliott presented the Principal Professional Development Plan for approval per G.S. 115C-105.37-39 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 Principal Professional Development Plan per G.S. 115C-105.37-39.*

- D. **Agenda Item:** Homeschool Students Co-curricular and Extra-curricular Activities
Presenter: Dr. Kim Elliott

Dr. Elliott presented information about research conducted in surrounding counties to determine what access homeschool students were allowed to participate in with regard to curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities in their particular school systems.

The board directed Dr. Elliott, Associate Superintendent, to establish a Policy Committee, to include board members Ali Laird-Large, Margaret McRae and school principals, to bring a policy to the board by January 2017 concerning homeschool students' participation in Co-curricular and Extra-curricular activities in Jackson County Public Schools.

Action: *No action taken.*

- E. **Agenda Item:** Golden Leaf Grant Computer Purchase
Presenter: David Proffitt

Mr. Proffitt presented the quote from Virtucom for the purchase of Golden Leaf Grant computers and asked board approval.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, the board voted unanimously to approve the Golden Leaf Grant computer purchase from Virtucom.*

- F. **Agenda Item:** MOU and Agency Agreement with Jackson County – Capital Projects
Presenter: Darin Allison

Mr. Allison presented the Draft Memorandum of Understanding and Agency Agreement with Jackson County for Capital Projects 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 MOU and Agency Agreement – Capital Projects, with Jackson County.*

- G. **Agenda Item:** Exemption for RN&M Engineering Services
Presenter: Darin Allison

Mr. Allison asked for board approval of an exemption to allow RN&M to provide engineering services for the Smoky Mountain High School HVAC System C Building due to their previous involvement in the construction of this building.

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

- H. **Agenda Item:** Professional Engineering Contract for RN&M
Presenter: Darin Allison

Mr. Allison asked for board approval of the RN&M Engineering Contract.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the RN&M Engineering Contract.*

- I. **Agenda Item:** Architect Contract for Blue Ridge School and Fairview Elementary School
Presenter: Darin Allison

Mr. Allison presented the draft architect contract for the Blue Ridge School and Fairview Elementary School ES/EC Reroof and HVAC upgrades 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 Architect Contract for the Blue Ridge School and Fairview Elementary School ES/EC Reroof and HVAC upgrades.*

- J. **Agenda Item:** Policy Updates

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

Policy Updates:

1. Governing Principle-School Initiatives (1400)
2. Technology Responsible Use (3225-4312-7320)
3. Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety (4333)
4. Criminal Behavior (4335)
5. Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues (4341)
6. Registered Sex Offenders (5022)
7. School Bus Idling (6306)

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.*

K. Agenda Item: Field Trips

Presenter: Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent

1. Knoxville Zoo – Fairview Elementary School, Grade 5, Knoxville, TN, Nov. 4, 2016, TT #2933.
2. Dollywood – Blue Ridge Early College, Grades 7-12, Pigeon Forge, TN, Nov. 18, 2016, TT #3039.
3. The O’Neal School – Fairview Elementary School, Grades 6-8, Pinehurst, NC, Dec. 9, 2016 to Dec. 11, 2016, TT #3047.

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. 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. 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 Mrs. Margaret McRae, 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:*

1. Closed Session Minutes of Meeting on September 20, 2016

PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA

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

Employee Recommendations:

1. Bartolis, Albert – Substitute School Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Bates, Larry – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
3. Beveridge, Andrew – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
4. Brady, Darian – Afterschool Assistant, Scott Creek Elementary School
5. Brooks, Linda – Substitute Bus Monitor, School of Alternatives
6. Bryson, Dustin – Carpenter I, Maintenance Department Central Office
7. Buchanan, Teresa – Bus Monitor, Smoky Mountain High School
8. Caplinger, Kristen – Substitute Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
9. Caplinger, Kristen – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
10. Cohen, Barbara – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
11. Corsair, Mary – Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
12. Crawford, Nancy – Substitute School Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
13. Cunningham, Alex – Marching Band Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School
14. Dillard, Amy – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
15. Dudley-Hart, Noree – Title One Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
16. Fortner, Katie – Substitute Bus Monitor, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
17. Frady, Tiffany – Marching Band Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School
18. Frizzell, Mitchell – Interim Custodian and Bus Driver, Fairview Elementary School
19. George, Kevin – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
20. Gillen, Ashley – Title I Tutor, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
21. Gonzales, Alexandra – Accounting Clerk II, Central Office
22. Henry, Anthony – School Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
23. Howell Arthur Spence – Marching Assistant, Smoky Mountain High School
24. Long, James – School Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, School of Alternatives
25. McCoy, Barbara – Substitute School Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
26. McCue, Gretchen – After School Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
27. Moore, Misty Dawn – EC Teacher Assistant, School of Alternatives
28. Provost, Michelle – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
29. Pruitt, Bill – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
30. Reavis, Chelsea – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School and School of Alternatives
31. Sandoval, Jesus Santoyo – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
32. Seitz, Cynthia – Title One Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
33. Sessoms, Tammy – Substitute Bus Monitor, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
34. Smith, Kelsey Davis – After School Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School

35. Stokes, Anna – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
36. Willoughby, Wes – Substitute Bus Monitor, Smokey Mountain Elementary School

LEAP Program Employee Recommendations:

1. Cebula, Alexandra – Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
2. Cruz-Mejia, Luiz - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
3. Downing, Leah - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
4. Gill, Megan - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
5. Jackson, Rachel - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
6. Marshall, Victoria - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
7. Rivas, Esther - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
8. Velasquez, Jennifer Montoya - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church
9. Yang, Cenyu - Tutor, Cullowhee United Methodist Church

Employee Resignations:

1. Cabe, Daniel – HVAC Mechanic, Central Office
2. Frizzell, Mitchell – Interim Custodian and Bus Driver, Fairview Elementary School
3. Kelly, Jason – Maintenance Worker, Central Office
4. Littlejohn, Angela – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
5. Moody, Tammy – Tutor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
6. Nicholson, Travis – Custodian and Bus Driver, Scotts Creek Elementary School

Employee Retirements:

1. Jones, Darlene Kathy – Teacher Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School

Non-Staff Coach Recommendations:

1. Blanton, Morgan – Head Coach Junior Varsity Softball, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Bradley, Jason – Assistant Coach Boys Basketball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
3. Burns, Jennifer – Head Coach Middle School Softball, District-wide
4. Davis, Connor – Head Coach Swimming, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Farmer, Eric – Assistant Coach Middle School Boys Basketball, Blue Ridge Early College
6. Lambert, Fallon – Assistant Coach Basketball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
7. Lindsey, Christian – Assistant Coach Basketball, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
8. Phipps, Josh – Head Coach Basketball, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Staff Coach Recommendations:

1. Brown, Jordyn – Assistant Coach Cheer, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
2. Brueggar, Sarah – Assistant Coach Girls Basketball, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
3. Copeland, Heather – Head Coach Girls Basketball, Scotts Creek Elementary School
4. Davis, Megan – Assistant Coach Girls Basketball, Scotts Creek Elementary School
5. Davis, Megan – Head Coach Softball, Scotts Creek Elementary School
6. Shuler, Pam – Assistant Athletic Director – Winter Sports, Smoky Mountain High School

7. Stephens, Chelsea – Head Coach Soccer, Scotts Creek Elementary School
8. Taylor, Mark – Assistant Athletic Director – Winter Sports, Smoky Mountain High School

Transfers Requiring Action:

1. Beveridge, Andrew – From Custodian and School Bus Driver at Smokey Mountain Elementary School to Custodian and School Bus Driver at Scotts Creek Elementary School
2. Chapman, Jeremy – From Teacher Assistant at School of Alternatives to Teacher Assistant at Smoky Mountain High School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is November 29, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Smokey Mountain Elementary School, 884 US Highway 441 North, Whittier, North Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, Chairman Henke adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Ken Henke, Chairman

Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary