

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

398 Hospital Road, Sylva

May 29, 2018

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 29, 2018, at the Central Office Board Room, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina. The following members were present:

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

Board Member Margaret McRae was present via telephone conference call.

Also present were Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent; Dr. Kevin Bailey, Personnel Director; 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.

**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.*

**OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeff Goss updated the board about the petition to determine the interest in the formation of middle school in Jackson County. Mr. Goss said that a total of 168 signatures have been obtained, with 104 having students in Jackson County Public Schools. He said he appreciates the boards' willingness to address this issue and feels that their voices are being heard. Mr. Goss thank Dr. Elliott for the return phone conversation and for helping set the work session conversation. He said he was surprised by the responses from the numerous people he has spoken with about middle school. Mr. Goss said that many people pointed out benefits that he had not considered, including additional electives and extracurricular activities for middle school students.

Julie Sylvester told the board that she was here to support the formation of middle schools. She stated that this year has been a challenge due to the unfortunate events in our K-8 schools. She said that she has two children at Fairview and thinks the teachers are incredible. She feels that we need to come together for the good of the kids and be open to meet in the middle. She said she has

spoken to many people about middle schools in Jackson County and feels that the community is very supportive. Ms. Sylvester feels that middle school will better prepare our students for high school, and she appreciates the boards' willingness to discuss the issue.

Erin McManus spoke to the board in support of the development of middle schools. She stated that she is the mother of a kindergarten student at Scotts Creek. She said that we are being successful, but feels that there will be more diversity of extracurricular classes in a middle school setting that will allow our students to acclimate better before going to high school. Ms. McManus feels that school safety begins at the counselor level and establishing middle schools will allow more focus on this age group. She stated that the state number of short term suspensions for drugs and fighting doubles in this age group, and we need to consider this statistic. She said that middle school will prepare kids emotionally and developmentally before high school. Ms. McManus added that a middle school would unite the athletics program as well.

### **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 April 26, 2018.

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

- A. **Agenda Item:** Superintendent's Report  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kim Elliott, Superintendent

Dr. Elliott reported on the following:

1. Dr. Elliott thanked the parents for speaking this evening. She said that the board will meet for a work session on July 16<sup>th</sup>, location to be determined, to discuss budget, strategic planning and middle school.
2. Dr. Elliott introduced Suzanne Thompkins from Smoky Mountain High School. Ms. Thompkins said that several of her students competed in the World Languages Conference and were extremely successful as follows:
  - Extemporaneous Speaking Spanish 4 – First Place - Ivy Ayling
  - Extemporaneous Speaking Spanish 3 – First Place – Evelyn Pavey
  - Extemporaneous Speaking Spanish 3 – Third Place – Travis Hinton
  - Poetry Recitation – First Place – Evelyn Pavey
  - Poetry Recitation – Second Place – Gabe Rodriguez
  - Cultural Quiz Bowl – First Place Team – Ivy Ayling, Grace Pressley, Travis Hinton and Evelyn Pavey
3. Dr. Rebecca Ensley could not be with us this evening because she and her team are presenting research on Early College and Community college partnerships to the General Assembly and area legislators in Raleigh.
4. Dr. Elliott congratulated Mark Hooper on an excellent inspection report from DPI, AC Sprinkle and Sue Blankenship on 100% inventory accuracy, and Stephanie Stevens on excellent files and record keeping.
5. Ms. Kelly Doppke has been elected by the region 7 and 8 EC Directors to serve on the State Director's Advisory Council. In this role, she will represent the traditional LEA's

from regions 7 and 8 at the state level and provide stakeholder feedback to the state EC division.

6. Dr. Elliott recognized Mr. David Proffitt for his excellent work on the JCPS website. Our website made the Finals site list of eight websites with great photography.

- B. Agenda Item:** Scotts Creek Elementary School Leader in Me Update  
**Presenter:** Jessica Stewart, Teacher

Mrs. Stewart updated the board on the Leader in Me program at Scotts Creek Elementary School. Ms. Stewart said that the program has helped change the culture and environment at Scotts Creek, by teaching 21<sup>st</sup> Century leadership skills to all students and staff. Scotts Creek students from all grade levels shared with the board their favorite habit from the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.

- C. Agenda Item:** Paid Lunch Equity  
**Presenter:** Laura Cabe

Ms. Cabe informed the board that the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act allows any school system with a positive fund balance in the School Nutrition account as of January 30<sup>th</sup> to be exempt from increasing school meal prices for the coming school year. JCPS has a positive fund balance, so meal prices will not increase for 2018-2019.

- D. Agenda Item:** Declared Surplus Items  
**Presenter:** Gwen Edwards, Finance Officer

Ms. Edwards informed the board that the following item has been declared as surplus and will be sold on Govdeals.com:

2000 GMC Truck – School Bus Garage

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

Ms. Edwards presented the Unaudited Financial Summary as of May 29, 2018.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

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

Ms. Edwards asked for approval of budget amendments and transfers for the State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund, Federal Grants Fund, Capital Outlay fund, School Nutrition 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 budget amendments and transfers to the State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund, Federal Grants Fund, Capital Outlay Fund, School Nutrition Fund, and Other Specific Revenue Fund.*

**B. Agenda Item:** CTE Local Plan

**Presenter:** Angie Dills, Secondary Curriculum and CTE Director

Ms. Dills presented the 2018-2019 CTE Local 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 CTE Local Plan for 2018-2019.*

**C. Agenda Item:** School Nutrition Procurement Plan

**Presenter:** Mrs. Laura Cabe, School Nutrition Director

Mrs. Cabe presented the 2018-2019 School Nutrition Procurement Plan 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 2018-2019 School Nutrition Procurement Plan.*

**D. Agenda Item:** HVAC System for Central Office Approval

**Presenter:** Jason Watson, Maintenance Director

Jason Watson informed the board that repairs and replacements to the existing heating and cooling systems at the Central Office are needed. He said that the systems are old and recommended converting to a heat pump system instead of repairing the old equipment 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 purchase of an HVAC System for the Central Office.*

**E. Agenda Item:** SCC - Mark Jones Reappointment to the Board of Trustees

**Presenter:** Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent

Dr. Elliott asked for board approval to reappoint Mr. Mark Jones to the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees as the Jackson County Public Schools representative for an additional four year term.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to approve the Reappointment of Mark Jones to the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees for a four year term.*

**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. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.*

## **OPEN SESSION**

### **PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA**

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

#### **Employee Recommendations:**

1. Adams, Hannah – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
2. Boughman, Kimberly – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
3. Brindley, Richard – Teacher and Head Coach Football, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Bryson, April – Assistant Principal, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Caudle, Kimberly – Media Coordinator, Fairview Elementary School
6. Crisp, Meredith – Afterschool Tutor, Fairview Elementary School
7. Day, Kaila – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
8. Fields, Emily Paige – Afterschool Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
9. Green, Melinda Brynn – Pre-K Teacher, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
10. Green, Mitchel – Custodian and Bus Driver, Fairview Elementary School
11. Hendershot, Sarah – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
12. Houghton, Janaye – Interim EC Pre-K Teacher, All Pre-K locations
13. Jordan, Madison – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
14. Kanwischer, Robert – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
15. Mulligan, Tyler – EC Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
16. Norman, Adrianna – Interim Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
17. Smith, Jodi – Teacher, Blue Ridge School and Early College
18. Vickery, Elizabeth – Homebound Teacher, District-wide
19. West, Heidi – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School

#### **Employee Resignations:**

1. Brookshire, Chris – Head Coach Football, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Brodof, Emily – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
3. Cantrell, Trey – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Clapp, Amanda – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Hicks, Ashley – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
6. Krause, Roxanne – EC Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
7. Millsaps, Carla – School Nutrition Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
8. Payton, Carol – Teacher, School of Alternatives
9. Poteat, Beth – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
10. Walker, Deyana – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School

#### **Employee Retirements:**

1. Emmanuel, Margaret – Social Worker, Scotts Creek Elementary School
2. Taylor, Frank – Bus Driver/Custodian, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

3. Webb, Judith – Teacher, Blue Ridge Early College

**Special Requests – Leave of Absence:**

1. Morgan, Jessica – Teacher Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
2. Pendergast, Stephanie – EC Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School

**Staff, Non-Staff and Returning Coach Recommendations:**

1. Marr, Shannon – Head Coach Baseball, Smokey Mountain Elementary School,  
Returning Non-Staff

**Summer Employment:**

**Blue Ridge School:**

1. Kinsey, Sheila – School Bus Driver
2. McNabb, Stacy – Substitute Teacher, Academic Camp
3. Smith, Brandon Shane – Substitute School Bus Driver

**Bus Garage:**

1. Henson, Karissa – Summer Bus Cleaning
2. Stillwell, Renee – Summer Bus Cleaning

**Cullowhee Valley Elementary School:**

1. Algeo, Melissa – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
2. Algeo, Melissa – Counselor, Summer Camp
3. Bishop, Samantha – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
4. Brown, Eryn – Substitute Assistant, Summer Camp
5. Carruthers, Ashlynn – Director, Summer Camp
6. Joyner, Alexandria – Counselor, Summer Camp
7. Mathis, Derek – Counselor, Summer Camp
8. Pollack, Brad – Counselor, Summer Camp
9. Robinson, Teresa – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
10. Sloan, Trish – Counselor, Summer Camp
11. Thompkins, Suzanne – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy

**District Wide:**

1. George, Kevin – Substitute School Bus Driver
2. Lovedahl, Cassidy – EC Teacher, Extended School Year

**Fairview Elementary School:**

1. Caudle, Crystal – Day Camp Assistant
2. Caudle, Crystal – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
3. Chastain, Michelle – School Bus Driver
4. Henson, Julie – Day Camp Assistant
5. Inestroza, LeeAnn – School Bus Driver
6. Jordan, Madison – Day Camp Assistant
7. Karup, Aimee – Day Camp Assistant
8. Karup, Aimee – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
9. Lovedahl, Rebekah – Director, Summer Day Camp
10. McGaha, Harold – School Bus Driver
11. Morgan, Jessica – Day Camp Assistant
12. Nicholson, Whitney – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
13. Pittman, Heather – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
14. Rigdon, Danny – Substitute School Bus Driver

15. Upchurch, Rachel – Day Camp Assistant

**Scotts Creek Elementary School:**

1. Bailey, Amber – Day Camp Assistant
2. Brady, Darin – Day Camp Assistant
3. Conner, Kay – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
4. Edmonds, Genia – Substitute Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
5. Edmonds, Genia – Homebound Teacher/Tutor
6. Gentry, Cindy – School Bus Driver
7. Grissom, Stephanie – Day Camp Assistant
8. Hart, Chrysan – Day Camp Assistant
9. Hart, Chrysan – Substitute Bus Driver
10. Hickman, Danette – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
11. Holder, Tammy – Substitute Bus Driver
12. Huckabee, Lori – Day Camp Assistant
13. McCoy, Susan – Day Camp Assistant
14. Moore, Wanda – Day Camp Assistant
15. Moore, Wanda – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
16. Morris, Grace – Substitute Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
17. Wike, Meg – Day Camp Assistant
18. Wike, Meg – Substitute Bus Driver
19. Willson, Dorothie – Substitute Teacher, Summer Camp
20. Willson, Dorothie – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy

**Smokey Mountain Elementary School:**

1. Cherry, Gina – Substitute Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
2. Bumgarner, Mary – Substitute Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
3. Bumgarner, Mary – School Bus Driver
4. Lansperry, Jamie – Teacher Assistant, Kindergarten Academy
5. Rogers, Christie – Teacher, Kindergarten Academy
6. Santoyo, Jesus – School Bus Driver, Summer Camps
7. Stokes, Anna – School Bus Driver, Summer Camps

**Administrator and Director Contract Renewals:**

1. Dills, Angela – Middle, Secondary, and CTE Director
2. Holt, Adam – Testing and Accountability Director
3. Hooper, Mark – Transportation Director
4. Lunsford, Angela – Assistant Principal, Fairview Elementary School
5. Speckhardt, Brent, Principal, Blue Ridge Early College

**Teacher Contract Renewals:**

**Blue Ridge School**

1. Cline, Sarah
2. Coffee, Leigh
3. Hall, Sarah
4. Houtzer, Deborah
5. McKee, Jennifer
6. McRight, Nicole
7. Steinel, Ashley

8. Watkins, Susan
9. White, Michelle

**Blue Ridge Early College**

1. Crowe-Young, Eleanor
2. Elkins, Brittany
3. Fahey, Amy
4. Hawkins, Allison
5. Lanning, Max
6. Littlefield, Aaron
7. Mayse, Jr., Timothy
8. Pressler, Nickalus

**Cullowhee Valley Elementary School**

1. Allison, Mary
2. Barkiewicz, Amanda
3. Bartko, Heather
4. Borchelt, Carly
5. Brown, Eryn
6. Coggins, Anita
7. Cooper, Natalie
8. Crisp, Rayna
9. Fisher, Katrina
10. Foxx, Kieran
11. Gibson, Tony
12. Honey, Vivian
13. Jones, Charles
14. Joyner, Alexandria
15. Lovedahl, Kassidy
16. Medford, Taylor
17. Moon, Tonya
18. Patten, Jennifer
19. Pitcher, Beth
20. Pollack, Brad
21. Richards, Eileen
22. Saghy, Caitlyn
23. Solesbee, Drew
24. Stewart, Anna
25. Willett, Danielle

**Fairview Elementary School**

1. Allen, Laura
2. Block, Melissa
3. Brown, Alicia
4. Crawford, James
5. Crisp, Meredith
6. Dainsberg, Kimberly
7. Giles, Petra
8. Golden, Tori
9. Gribble, Corina
10. Howell, Wendy

11. Huskison, Christi
12. McDevitt, Brandon
13. Moss, Amber
14. Nicholson, Whitney
15. Painter, Mikaela
16. Payne, Brittany
17. Pittman, Heather
18. Provost, Valerie
19. Rearigh, Andrea
20. Richards, Keith
21. Smith, Steven
22. Speir, Ashley – Interim to 1 year Contract
23. Waldrop, Erica
24. Watson, Joshua
25. Watson, Tracy
26. Wheatley, Jessica
27. Wiggins, Ciera
28. Wilson, Erik
29. Wood, Paige

**Jackson County Early College**

1. Galloway, Dale

**School of Alternatives**

1. Bennett, Mary
2. Brown, Laura
3. Button, Lindsay
4. Clark, Teresa
5. Cook, Ronald
6. Daniels, Christina
7. Geary, Saska
8. Hannah, Melissa
9. Lawless, Molly
10. McCardle, Judy
11. Moses, Kathryn
12. Parsons, Jonathan

**Scotts Creek Elementary School**

1. Bailey, Amber
2. Cauley, Jonathan
3. Copeland, Heather
4. Davis, Megan
5. Edmonds, Genia
6. Evans, Gabriela
7. Finley, Katelyn
8. Glenn, Anna
9. Hall, Robin
10. Hamilton, Jo
11. Hickman, Melissa
12. Mahoney, Michael
13. Martin, Shirley

14. Montgomery, Benjamin
15. Morris, Grace
16. Porter, William
17. Reynolds, Carrie
18. Roth, Natalie
19. Shipman, Laura
20. Stephens, Chelsea
21. Stockton, Karen

**Smokey Mountain Elementary School**

1. Alday, Robin
2. Bell, Stephanie
3. Brooks, Bridgette
4. Cherry, Gina
5. Clement, Leah
6. Davis, Jamie
7. Estep, Audrey
8. Extine, James
9. Green, Melinda
10. Hall, Amanda
11. Heim, Lindsay
12. Hummer, Suzanne
13. Jamison, Charity
14. Jenkins, Casey
15. Johnson, James
16. Maney, Christy
17. McClellan, Jesame
18. Noran, Nicole
19. Obuchowski, Tracy
20. Pangle, Alaina
21. Price, Cassandra
22. Rogers, Christie
23. Smith, Sheila
24. Trull, Maria
25. Willoughby, Wesley

**Smoky Mountain High School**

1. Alexander, Jerry
2. Brooks, Paige
3. Brown, Stephen
4. Buchanan, Emma
5. Cagle, Curtis
6. Caldwell, Susan
7. Cash, Emily
8. Cauley, Jeremy
9. Collings, Stacey
10. Dengler, Ty
11. Dezarn, Megan
12. Elmore, Megan
13. Frizzell, Earl

14. Hill, Melissa
15. Holt, Krystle
16. Karcher, Susan
17. Klipa, Heather
18. Klipa, Tyler
19. Macke, Stacy
20. Mastromatteo, Brittany-Ann
21. McElroy, Craig
22. Miller, Brittany
23. Miller, Jason
24. Milligan, Lara
25. Naegler, Charae
26. Orr, Amanda
27. Pendergast, Stephanie
28. Reddin, Colby
29. Rhoads, Emory
30. Sessoms, Todd
31. Sides, Mark
32. Sink, Barbara
33. West, Traci
34. Williams, Kimberly

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is June 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Central Office Board Room, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection, Chairman Henke adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

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Ken Henke, Chairman

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Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Secretary