

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

398 Hospital Road, Sylva

September 24, 2019

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at the Board of Education Administrative Office Board Room, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Alison Laird Large, Chairperson  
Wes Jamison  
Margaret McRae  
Abigail Clayton

Also present were Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent; Jacob Buchanan, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Kevin Bailey, Executive Director of Human Resources; John Henning, School Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Alison Laird Large called the business meeting to order.

Mrs. Laird Large led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Upon a motion by Mrs. Abigail Clayton and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, the board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Dr. Elliott presented Certificates of Appreciation to Black Mountain Baptist Church for their continued support of Cullowhee Valley Elementary School through fund raising efforts for the school and community support.

**OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Gwen Edwards, former JCPS Finance Officer, thanked the board for encouraging her to retire. Ms. Edwards shared that her retirement has allowed her to spend time with family and travel.

**CONSENT ACTION AGENDA**

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

- A. Open Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 27, 2019.

## INFORMATION AGENDA

### A. **Agenda Item:** Superintendent's Report

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

Dr. Elliott reported on the following:

1. Dr. Elliott attended the CREW on Monday, Sept. 30 at Cherokee Central School and thanked all the staff involved with coordinating this event.
2. Dr. Elliott thanked Jason Watson and Jake Buchanan for continuing to move JCPS through all of the ongoing Capital Projects. She informed the board concerning upcoming bids for SME water system, BRS water system, Egress Courtyards, Accessibility upgrades at SMHS ball fields, and HVAC at BREC and FES.
3. Dr. Elliott reported that the School Based Health Centers have been extremely successful at both FES and SMES.
4. Dr. Elliott provided the board with highlights of the accountability update:
  - BREC above 95% and maintained 3-8 reading school performance grade of C
  - CVES increased overall achievement on EOGs from 58.9 to 59.8
  - FES exceeded growth for total school and 3-8 math
  - JCEC maintained school performance grade of A, only 8% schools statewide had school performance grade of A
  - JC School of Alternatives earned a progressing rating on alternative accountability model – highest ranking
  - SCES met growth for total school and 3-8 reading and math
  - SMES increased overall achievement by 4.4 percentage points
  - SMHS ranked 10<sup>th</sup> out of all NC traditional 9-12 high school in terms of total school growth index
5. Dr. Elliott informed the board that JCPS is applying for the Dogwood Trust Legacy Foundation Grant/Nantahala Foundation Grant.
6. Dr. Elliott thanked Dr. Kevin Bailey for his excellent work on Recruitment and Retention. He has implemented some non-traditional methods through the use of Indeed and participation in more job fairs.
7. JCPS has an excellent WCU Partnership and several Directors have been invited to serve on advisory committees. She thanked Angie Dills for her recent and ongoing serve to the College of Education.
8. Dr. Elliott attended the State Board of Education meeting in Raleigh and received information about State Accountability Data, Safety Grant Proposals, I-Station for Read to Achieve, and the Accountability Plan for Education Preparation Programs. In the future IHEs will be receiving a letter grade from the state.
9. Dr. Elliott thanked her Administrative Assistant, Cora Fields for her support.

### B. **Agenda Item:** Board Information Work Session Topic: Capital Projects/Funding

**Presenter:** Alison Laird Large

Mrs. Laird Large informed the board that a Special Called Board Meeting will be scheduled the beginning of November to discuss Capital Projects and Funding. The meeting will be open to the

public, however, it may go in to closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information, or to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

C. **Agenda Item:** Declared Surplus

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

Dr. Elliott informed the board that the following items are being declared as surplus and will be listed on GovDeals.com:

1. Braising Pan – School Nutrition
2. Oversized Buffalo Chopper – School Nutrition

D. **Agenda Item:** Unaudited Financial Summary

**Presenter:** Mrs. Kristie Walker, Chief Financial Officer

Mrs. Walker presented the Unaudited Financial Summary for September 2019.

**ACTION AGENDA**

A. **Agenda Item:** Proclamation of September as Attendance Awareness Month

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

Dr. Elliott presented the board with a Proclamation declaring September as Attendance Awareness Month in Jackson County and asked for board approval.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mr. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the Proclamation of September as Attendance Awareness Month.*

B. **Agenda Item:** Technology Purchases

**Presenter:** Mr. Jeremiah Jackson, Chief Technology Department

Mr. Jackson presented the board with bids for the following items and asked for board approval:

1. Dell Servers
2. Fortinet - telephones

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mr. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of Dell Servers and the Fortinet telephone system.*

C. **Agenda Item:** Field Trips

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

1. Smokey Mountain Elementary School, Grade 8 - Wilmington, NC, Apr. 14 to 17, 2020, TT 6131.
2. Fairview Elementary School, Grade 5 – Knoxville Zoo, TN, Nov. 1, 2019, TT 6133.
3. Scotts Creek Elementary School, Grade 7 – Camp Greenville, SC, Mar. 27, 2020, TT 6158.
4. Blue Ridge Early College, Grades 10-12 - Greenville County Museum of Art, SC, Nov. 8, 2019, TT 6166.

5. Blue Ridge Early College, Grades 9-12 – Dollywood, TN, Dec. 6, 2019, TT 6164.
6. Blue Ridge Early College, Grades 7-8 – Carolina Beach, Wilmington, NC, March 31 to April 3, 2020, TT 6168.
7. Blue Ridge Early College, Grade 12 – Orlando, FL, April 23 to 26, 2020, TT 6169.

Dr. Elliott reviewed the above listed Field Trips and asked for board approval.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mr. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to approve the above listed field trips.*

### **CLOSED SESSION**

*The board unanimously approved a motion by Mr. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, 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. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.*

### **OPEN SESSION**

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

- A. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 27, 2019.

### **PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA**

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

#### **Employee Recommendations:**

1. Bologna, Elizabeth – Teacher, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
2. Buckner, Jenni – Custodian and Bus Driver, Fairview Elementary School
3. Caplinger, Kristin – Activity Bus Driver, Jackson County Early College
4. Dotson, Woody – EC Teacher Assistant, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
5. Dotson, Woody – Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
6. Dupree, Jason – Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
7. Dupree, Jason – Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
8. Friddle, Carrie – Substitute School Nutrition Assistant, All Schools
9. Fry, Eric – Bus Driver, Fairview Elementary School
10. Gotay, Maria – Temporary Part-time Custodian, Scotts Creek Elementary School
11. Jamison, Charity – Substitute Bus Driver and Activity Bus Driver, Smokey Mountain Elementary School

12. Laney, Darryl – Substitute School Nutrition Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
13. Logan, Jeff – Activity Bus Driver, Jackson County Early College
14. Longanecker, Crystal – Substitute Afterschool Worker, Scotts Creek Elementary School
15. Moody-Bumgarner, Mary – Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
16. Morris, Elizabeth – EC Teacher Assistant, Blue Ridge School
17. Perez, Bernice – School Nutrition Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
18. Powell, Daniel – Bus Driver, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
19. Reep, Madison – Afterschool Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
20. Samuel, Tyson – Tutor, School of Alternatives
21. Simmons Jr., Lloyd Wayne – Technology Technician I, Central Office
22. White, Jordyn – Part-time Pre-K Teacher Assistant, Smokey Mountain Elementary School

**Employee Resignations:**

1. Ashe, Lela – Substitute School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
2. Bennett, Teresa – School Nutrition Assistant, Scotts Creek Elementary School
3. Brown, Patricia – School Nutrition Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
4. Cassey, Thomas – Custodian and Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Madsen, Savannah – Afterschool Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
6. Norris, Kevin – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
7. Shepherd, Pamela – Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
8. Sprinkle, AC – Transportation Director, Bus Garage

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

1. Ballentine, Pollyana – Assistant Coach Middle School Volleyball, Blue Ridge Early College
2. Cauley, Cleis – Assistant Coach Soccer, Fairview Elementary School
3. Dillard, Morgan – Head Coach Varsity Softball, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Gentry, Logan – Assistant Coach Swimming, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Haney, Dean – Head Coach Swimming, Smoky Mountain High School
6. Hott, Stephen – Volunteer Assistant Coach Middle School Swim Club, Blue Ridge Early College
7. Wike, Kendall Paige – Assistant Coach Volleyball, Fairview Elementary School

**FYI – BOARD ACTION NOT REQUIRED**

**Transfers:**

Biddix, Mark – From Custodian and Bus Driver at Smoky Mountain High School to Custodian and Bus Driver at Fairview Elementary School

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is October 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administrative Office, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, North Carolina.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection, Chairperson Alison Laird Large adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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Alison Laird Large, Chairperson

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Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Secretary