

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

398 Hospital Road, Sylva

May 19, 2020

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education held their regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in Sylva, North Carolina. Due to N.C. Governors Executive Order 121, the meeting was conducted using video and telephone conferencing to limit the number of people present for the meeting. The following members were present via telephone and/or online platform:

Alison Laird-Large, Chairperson
Margaret McRae
John Henning, School Board Attorney

The following members were present:

Wes Jamison
Abigail Clayton

Also present were Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent; Jacob Buchanan, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Kevin Bailey, Personnel Director; Jeremiah Jackson, Chief Technology Officer; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ali Laird-Large called the business meeting to order.

Ali Laird-Large led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT ACTION AGENDA

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

- A. Open Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 28, 2020.

INFORMATION AGENDA

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

Dr. Elliott reported on the following items:

1. Dr. Elliott announced that May 20th has been named JCPS Custodian and Maintenance Appreciation Day, to thank them for all the work they have done for school re-entry. They will be honored again in the fall during the annual national recognition.
2. The Board will be holding a Special Called Dial-In Work Session on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss budget.
3. Dr. Elliott thanked the staff for the wonderful support they have shown to students and families during this extraordinary time. She said that remote learning is going well, along with phone calls to our students. She reported that food deliveries will continue into June, along with funding for transportation. School Nutrition staff are making plans for nutrition sites for July, and are working long hours to serve our students and meet their needs.
4. Principals and teachers are also hard at work making plans for end-of-year celebrations. JCPS will highlight the PK/Kinder and 8th grade promotions, as well as celebrating the Graduation Class of 2020 - They are spectacular Seniors. The Jackson County community has provided much love and support for the 12th graders by providing signage space, individual signs and electronic billboards for student recognition, as well as sending cards and well wishes to an "adopted senior". All seniors have been adopted by someone and many have been adopted by multiple people. Dr. Elliott thanked all school staff and community members who have initiated and engaged in the joy of showcasing JCPS students.
5. As we are ending one school year, the JCPS focus also turns to the Reentry plans for August 17th. A request for approval later in the agenda for a new state guided Legislative JCPS calendar has been submitted. Planning teams are already meeting and the following 6 workgroups have been formed:
 - 1) Remediation and Summer Jumpstart
 - 2) Instructional Planning, Scheduling, Assessment and Remote Learning
 - 3) Operations, Facilities, School Nutrition, and Transportation
 - 4) Policy, Legislation, and Funding
 - 5) Student Health, Safety, and Emotional Needs
 - 6) Employee Health and Safety/ Recruitment
6. Reentry will involve many external agencies and departments. The Governor of N.C., Roy Cooper, and his staff will continue to delineate the phases and timelines for activities and re-opening JSPS schools. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will guide and direct issues surrounding safety and health. JCPS is grateful for the partnerships and are waiting for that much needed guidance.
7. Dr. Elliott added that updates will be provided with regard to timelines, health and safety, and learning modalities for Fall Semester. Dr. Elliott said "We are holding out hope for the new normal on August 17th, because we have certainly missed our students. We know we will be taking lots of additional precautions and anticipate some students who may be medically fragile will still need some remote learning options. Our staff will have plans and contingency plans in place over the summer to meet the needs of all students. We feel fortunate that many strong relationships with families and external

partners have bonded and I truly believe we are living the adage “it takes a village to support a child” in Jackson County.”

8. Dr. Elliott closed her report with a list of all the school representatives for Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year Nominees. The Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year will be recognized along with the next named Principal of the Year and Steve Jones Servant Leader in the Fall. Congratulations to the following:

Teacher of the Year:
FES - Brittany Payne
CVES - Megan Brown
SMHS - Suzanne Tompkins
SCES - Megan Davis
JCS - Laura Spaulding
BRS - Wanda Crisp
BREC - Nickalus Pressler
JCEC - Inga Sutton
SMES - Wes Willoughby

Support Employee of the Year:
FES - Kathee Jones
CVES - Brittney Cunningham
SMHS - Renee Miller
SCES - Kelly McKee
JCS - Jeffrey Ashe
BRS - Mona Wrenn
BREC - Leigh Foss
JCEC - Sabrina Hallman
SMES - Georgeanne Simmons
BOE - Ashley Taylor

B. Agenda Item: Student Support Services Update

Presenter: Mrs. Kelly Doppke, Student Support Services Director

Mrs. Doppke provided the board with an update of total services provided by School Counselors, Social Workers, Nurses and additional student support personnel, during COVID 19.

C. Agenda Item: Unaudited Financial Summary

Presenter: Mr. Jacob Buchanan, Assistant Superintendent, for Kristie Walker, CFO

Mr. Buchanan presented the Unaudited Financial Summary as of May 19, 2020 for Mrs. Kristie Walker, Chief Financial Officer.

ACTION AGENDA

A. Agenda Item: Budget Amendments

Presenter: Mr. Jacob Buchanan, Assistant Superintendent, for Mrs. Kristie Walker, CFO

Mr. Buchanan presented budget amendments to the Local Current Expense Fund, State Public School Fund, Federal Grant Fund, and Other Specific Revenue Fund and asked for board approval.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to approve the budget amendments and transfers to the Local Current Expense Fund, State Public School Fund, Federal Grant Fund, and Other Specific Revenue Fund.*

B. Agenda Item: Interim Budget Resolution for 2020-2021

Presenter: Mr. Jacob Buchanan, for Mrs. Kristie Walker

Mr. Buchanan presented the Interim Budget Resolution for 2020-2021 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 Interim Budget Resolution for 2020-2021.*

C. Agenda Item: Request for purchase Promethean ActivPanels

Presenter: Mr. Jeremiah Jackson, Chief Information Officer

Mr. Jackson presented the bids for the purchase of Promethean ActivPanels and asked for board approval to purchase these devices from NetSource. Ms. Tommie Saunooke and Mr. Tom Wahnetah of the ECBI provided grant funding to purchase these Promethean ActivPanels for Smoky Mountain High School and Smokey Mountain Elementary School.

Action: *Upon a motion by Mr. Wes Jamison and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the Promethean ActivPanels from NetSource for SMES and SMHS.*

D. Agenda Item: Local Testing Waiver

Presenter: Mr. Jacob Buchanan, for Mr. Adam Holt, Director of Testing and Accountability

Mr. Buchanan presented a request to waive the administration of local tests for JCPS for the 2019-2020 school year 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 Local Testing Waiver.*

E. Agenda Item: 2020-2021 Updated Calendar Approval Request

Presenter: Dr. Kevin Bailey, Executive Director of Human Resources

Dr. Bailey presented the legislative directed updated 2020-2021 school calendar 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 2020-2021 Updated Calendar.*

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 Mr. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA

Action: *Upon a motion made by Mrs. Abigail Clayton 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. Cauley, Jeremy – Assistant Principal, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Ray, Kathryn – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
3. Reece, Gretchen – EC Teacher, Blue Ridge School

Employee Resignations:

1. Bologna, Elizabeth – Teacher, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
2. Golden, Tori – Teacher, Fairview Elementary School
3. Henson, Karissa – Teacher Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
4. Nidiffer, Emilee – Teacher, Jackson County Early College

Administrator and Director Contract Renewals:

1. Bryson, April
2. Cauley, Jeremy
3. Cowan, Kheri
4. Crews, Meagan
5. Doppke, Kelly
6. Fernandez, Wanda
7. Francis, Josh
8. Graning, Evelyn
9. Jackson, Jeremiah
10. Jacobs, Melanie
11. Macaulay, Eleanor
12. Marr, Michelle
13. Metz, Dr. Tracie
14. Watson, Joshua
15. Whisnant, Holly

Teacher Contract Renewals:

Blue Ridge Early College

1. Accardo, Nicholas
2. Elkins, Brittany
3. Hawkins, Allison

4. Langford, Gerald
5. Littlefield, Aaron
6. Reece, Elijah
7. Sudia, Lee
8. Winston, Amy

Blue Ridge School

1. Cachine, Brittani
2. Holden, Josie
3. Smithdeal, Erica
4. Watkins, Susan
5. Westwood, Nicole

Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

1. Boughman, Kimberly
2. Brown, Eryn
3. Eller, Rena
4. Foxx, Kieran
5. Friesen, Cassandra
6. Harris, Whitney
7. Jones, Charles
8. Joyner, Alexandria
9. Parker, Lindsey
10. Pierce, Joshua
11. Pitcher, Beth
12. Pollack, Brad
13. Sutton, Natalie
14. Walawender, Cassandra

Fairview Elementary School

1. Barlowe, Rebecca
2. Crawford, Grace
3. Crawford, Nancy
4. Derks, Mark
5. Geary, Erica
6. Montieth, Kathryn
7. Mulligan, Tyler
8. Shew, Kirstyn
9. Smith, Steven
10. Spier, Ashley
11. Sullivan, Hannah
12. Thompson, Julie
13. Wilson, Erik

Jackson Community School

1. Dills, Monica
2. Geary, Saskia
3. Gilchrist, Marjorie
4. Hardin, Benjamin
5. McCardle, Judy

Jackson County Early College

1. Hallman, Sabrina

Scotts Creek Elementary School

1. Bailey, Amber
2. Callaway, Molly
3. Copeland, Heather
4. Gunter, Gertrude
5. Irons, Tiffiney
6. Long, Michelle
7. Medford, Julia
8. Medford, Sydney
9. Moore, Wanda
10. Platt, Hannah
11. Powell, Grace
12. Queen, Mackenize
13. Starnes, Alana
14. Trempe, Andrea

Smokey Mountain Elementary School

1. Brower, Brittany
2. Cherry, Gina
3. Cox, Rachel
4. Green, Melina
5. Miller, Scott
6. Noran, Nicola
7. Sandoval, Cassandra
8. Sink, James
9. Stiles, Maria

Smoky Mountain High School

1. Boone, Jerrod
2. Brindley, Richard
3. Buchanan, Emma
4. Capps, Zebulon
5. Day, Kaila
6. Eckard, Stefanie
7. Fox, Michale
8. Frizzell, Earl
9. Holt, Krystle
10. Kanwischer, Robert
11. Karcher, Susan
12. McRae, Steven
13. Naegler, Charae
14. Robinson, Joey
15. West, Heidi
16. Williams, Joshua
17. Wilson, Kellie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board of Education will hold a Special-Called Work Session on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss budget, at the Administrative Offices of the Board of Education, Sylva, North Carolina. This meeting will be conducted using telephone and/or online platform.

The Board of Education will hold a Special-Called Work Session on Tuesday, June 09, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss athletics, at the Administrative Offices of the Board of Education, Sylva, North Carolina. This meeting will be conducted using telephone and/or online platform.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is June 23, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administrative Offices of the Board of Education, Sylva, North Carolina. This meeting will be conducted using telephone and/or online platform.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, Chairperson Ali Laird-Large adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Alison Laird-Large, Chairperson

Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Secretary