



**WATAUGA COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-7190

WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA
Watauga High School Media Center
April 18, 2023

- | | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| 5:30 p.m. | 1. CALL TO ORDER | Board Chair |
| 5:32 p.m. | 2. CLOSED SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 3/13/2023B. Reportable Offenses – N.C.G.S.115C-288(g)C. Student Records - N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(1)D. Personnel – N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(6)E. Attorney-Client - N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(3) | Board Chair |
| 6:00 p.m. | 3. OPEN SESSION CALL TO ORDER /
MOMENT OF SILENCE | Board Chair |
| 6:03 p.m. | 4. DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA | Board Chair |
| 6:05 p.m. | 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT | Dr. Scott Elliott |
| 6:10 p.m. | 6. STUDENTS' REPORT | Ms. Mia Shanely
Ms. Ellary Smith |
| 6:15 p.m. | 7. SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE | Board Chair |
| 6:20 p.m. | 8. VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL UPDATE | Dr. Scott Elliott |
| 6:25 p.m. | 9. PUBLIC RECOGNITION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Band & Orchestra State and Regional Award RecipientsB. High Country MathCounts Team and Individual RecognitionsC. Servant's Heart Award | Ms. Meredith Jones
Dr. Stephen Martin
Dr. Scott Elliott |

6:35 p.m.	10. 2023-24 CURRENT EXPENSE AND CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET PROPOSAL	Ms. Ly Marze
6:45 p.m.	11. CONSENT AGENDA A. Approval of the Minutes for 3/13/2023 B. Proclamation: Resilient and Thriving Communities Week C. Field Trip Requests D. Declaration of Surplus E. Budget Amendment #5 F. Personnel Report	Dr. Scott Elliott
6:50 p.m.	12. BOARD RESOLUTION: Opposition to House Bill 219 “Charter School Omnibus”	Board Chair
6:55 p.m.	13. PUBLIC COMMENT	Board Chair
7:05 p.m.	14. POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ • 1320 Code of Ethics for School Board Members • 1323 Board Member Opportunities for Development • 3220 Technology in the Educational Program • 4130 Discretionary Admission • 4240/7312 Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety • 4300 Student Behavior Policies • 6125 Administering Medicines to Students • 6140 Student Wellness • 7130 Licensure	Dr. Wayne Eberle
7:45 p.m.	15: CLOSED SESSION: A. Personnel – N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(6)	Board Chair
8:45 p.m.	16. BOARD OPERATIONS	Board Chair
8:50 p.m.	17. BOARD COMMENTS	Board Chair
9:00 p.m.	18. ADJOURNMENT	Board Chair
	19. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION A. Next BOE Meeting: 05/8/2023	



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-7190

DATE: March 13, 2023

PRESENT:

- Gary Childers, Steve Combs, Marshall Ashcraft, Jason Cornett, Jay Fenwick, *BOE Members*
- Mia Shanely and Ellary Smith, *Student Board Representatives*
- Dr. Scott Elliott, *Superintendent*
- Dr. Stephen Martin, *Associate Superintendent*
- Mr. John Henning, *Board Attorney*

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Margaret E. Gragg Educational Center

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Gary Childers, Board of Education Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and asked for a motion to enter closed session. The motion was made by Marshall Ashcraft, seconded by Jay Fenwick, and approved by all Board members.

At 6:07 p.m., Steve Combs moved to return to open session, Marshall Ashcraft seconded, and all Board members approved. The open session was called to order at 6:12 p.m.

WELCOME/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dr. Childers welcomed those attending the meeting. He began with a request to observe a moment of silence.

DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

A recommendation was made to move agenda item #13 (Superintendent Search) to #7. Jason Cornett made a motion, Steve Combs seconded it, and it was unanimously approved.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Elliott welcomed the Board members, Ms. Shanely and Ms. Smith, Central Services personnel, Board Attorney Mr. John Henning, and the citizens and students joining the meeting.

- March 6-10 was National School Social Workers Week, and Dr. Elliott acknowledged the Social Workers for their dedication and service.

- “Empty Bowls” is March 18th at 4:30 p.m. at Watauga High School, and tickets are \$25. This is an annual benefit to support the Hunger and Health Coalition and to address food insecurity in our community.
- A Technology Showcase will be held at W.H.S. on March 20th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Students and staff from every school will be represented.
- “Shooting Stars” will have an art display at the Jones House starting on April 5, and a reception will be on April 28 at 5:00 pm. This will be a visual art event only.
- Congratulations to the Playmakers for their strong performance at the Southeastern Theater Conference in Lexington, KY two weeks ago.
- Spring sports are off to a great start.
- Positions for next school year will be posted starting this week.
- Pam Shirley (Director of After School) is retiring at the end of March, and Dr. Paul Holden (Director of Student Services) will retire at the end of April.
- Dr. Chris Blanton was announced as the next Assistant Superintendent, and he will start in this role July 1st.

Dr. Blanton shared a few words of appreciation.

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Mia Shanely and Ms. Ellary Smith spoke about a number of activities.

- Mountain-Con (Boone’s take on a Comic-Con) was March 11th at W.H.S. and hosted by Dana Lowery, Watauga High School’s Media Specialist. The event was a huge success with a turnout of over 670 people.
- Ms. Shanely and Ms. Smith had the opportunity to meet with 8th grade Student Council members at Green Valley Elementary School. The 8th graders shared that they are really looking forward to their trip (in partnership with GearUp) to the Outer Banks. Student Council has held many fundraisers this year (including “hat days” to support different causes, including the Tamara Stamey Memorial Fund). Green Valley had a girls’ basketball team again this year (after going a year without one due to not having enough members), and they also have a Green Valley cheer team, which is unique among the K-8 schools.
- DECA recently traveled with a group of 79 people to Greensboro. Almost every participant won proficiency awards, along with wins in almost every category. DECA will be sending five members to the international competition in Orlando, Florida in April.
- The Playmakers traveled to Lexington, Kentucky in early March for SETC, the Southeastern Theatre Conference. Two students, Elias Evans and Sage Park, won acting awards.
- Tickets for the musical “Mamma Mia” are on sale to the general public.
- The Sustainability Club recently held an art contest in which students were asked to create art in one of two categories, practice or purpose. Students made art from sustainable/recycled materials, or created art with a sustainable message. The \$5 entry fee paid by participating students will go towards the Sustainability Club’s goal of installing solar panels at Watauga High School.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE

Dr. Childers recapped that the first phase of the process included enlisting Campbell Shatley to help with the process, posting the announcement, conducting an online survey, facilitating a number of listening sessions (with community, faculty/staff in each of the schools, principals, and the Central Services team), and developing a leadership profile. There were over 600 responses to the survey.

There were 17 applications (which were due March 1st). Board members received the applications on March 6th, and semi-finalists were decided on March 13th. Campbell Shatley will do newspaper and social media searches, and a list of finalists will be determined by the end of April.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Ms. Meredith Jones recognized Keith Tu (8th grader at Parkway) as the Spelling Bee winner.

Ms. Jones recognized Sarah Holt (4th Grade Teacher at Blowing Rock) as the NCCTM (North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics) Outstanding Elementary Mathematics Teacher in our district.

Ms. Kelly Walker spoke of the NBPTS (National Board for Professional Teaching Standards) process, which is the most respected professional certification available in education. The Tamara Stamey Memorial Fund will help in providing funds for some WCS educators who choose to pursue this worthy endeavor because Ms. Stamey knew how much the process helped educators grow. Watauga County Schools currently has 21% (92 teachers) who are certified through NBPTS, and 36 others are working on their initial certification or maintenance of certification this year. There is a NBPTS Support Team to help educators with the process which consists of Jeannie Hicks, Barbara Myers, Keana Triplett, Kelly Walker, and Jamie Wilson.

- The eight educators recognized for achieving initial NBPTS certification were: Stephanie Ballance (*GreenValley/WHS*), Dan Crail (*WHS*), McKinley Kunz (*Bethel*), Chastity Schwarze (*WHS*), Olivia Tarnowski (*WHS*), Ashley Tate (*Green Valley/Mabel*), Megan Turner (*Hardin Park*), and Andrew Wilson (*WHS*).
- The five educators recognized for receiving NBPTS maintenance of certification were: Pace Cooper (*Mabel*), Lauren Harkey (*Valle Crucis*), Blakely Lord (*WHS*), Amy Smith (*WHS*), and Farzana Stanley (*Green Valley/Valle Crucis*).

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for 2/13/2023 and 2/14/2023
- B. Field Trip Requests
- C. Declaration of Surplus
- D. Budget Amendment #4
- E. Personnel Report

Steve Combs moved to approve the consent agenda. Jason Cornett seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no citizens who made public comments at the March Board meeting.

VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL UPDATE

There are monthly meetings between Watauga County Schools and the general contractor. There has been faster progress on grading and the site than anticipated, and vertical construction will be started by summer. Dr. Alison Schleede (Director of Technology) and her team are working on the multi-faceted technology aspects.

Dr. Bonnie Smith (Principal of Valle Crucis School) is Watauga County Schools' Principal of the Year.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN

Dr. Tierra Stark (CTE Director) gave an overview and update of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. All 6th-8th graders are served, and in this past year, there were 876 student participants and 960 enrollments. At Watauga High School and the Watauga Innovation Academy, there were 1043 student participants and 1711 enrollments. 23 teachers and 3 support personnel served these students.

A CTE concentrator is a student who has earned two or more credits in a Career Cluster pathway. There were 187 concentrators and 199 completions last year, which is an increase. The CTE offerings at WHS/WIA continue to expand, and Dr. Stark said the equipment offered to CTE students is on par with the offerings at Appalachian State University.

Programs:

- Agriculture
- Business, Finance, and Marketing
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Health Sciences
- Trade & Industrial

Areas of Celebration:

- Concentrator Cohort Graduation: 95% (above local benchmark and in line with state goal)
- Postsecondary Placement: 95% (above local benchmark and above state goal)
- Academic Proficiency in Math: 53.40% ~ increase of 11.9% (above local benchmark and above state goal)
- Program Quality: Attained Credential -- 63.70% ~ increase of 19.1% (above local benchmark and above state goal)

Areas for Growth:

- Academic performance in Reading Language Arts
- Nontraditional placement
- Academic proficiency in Science
- Program quality ~ Post-assessment proficiency

CTE funding was spent on maintenance of labs, instructional materials, student support materials, addition of a Middle School Career Development Coordinator, and technology innovations (Anatomage table). State and federal dollars for next year will be spent on post-secondary visits, field trips, CTSOs (Career Technical Student Organizations), credentials, instructional supplies, and personnel.

Dr. Stark also reported that due to recent additional state funding, CTE students can now take their credential exams for free, including necessary travel fees. Last year, 498 students (26.9% of potential) received CTE credentials, and those numbers are expected to grow next year with the additional funding.

POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ

- 4050 Children of Military Families
- 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability
- 3460 Graduation Requirements

- 3620 Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations
- 4100 Age Requirements for Initial Entry
- 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission
- 4155 Assignment to Classes
- 4700 Student Records
- 7241 Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

Jason Cornett moved to approve the policies as presented by Dr. Wayne Eberle (Director of Accountability and School Improvement), Steve Combs seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Policy 3226/4205 on Internet Safety (under Miscellaneous Information on the agenda) was for public notice, but it did not require any action.

CLOSED SESSION

Jay Fenwick moved to enter closed session at 7:45 p.m. under Attorney-Client - N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(3) and Personnel N.C.G.S. 143-318.11. Jason Cornett seconded, and all Board members approved.

OPEN SESSION:

A motion was made by Steve Combs to re-enter open session, and it was seconded by Marshall Ashcraft. The vote to approve was unanimous at 9:44 p.m.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Dr. Childers and Dr. Fenwick met with the Finance Committee this past week. Mr. Ashcraft expressed that there needs to be more emphasis on ways to help with recruitment and retention (i.e., housing, etc.).

Eight rising juniors have applied for the BOE Student Representative position. A special called BOE meeting will be held at Watauga High School on Tuesday, April 18th to conduct student interviews.

BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Childers stated that there is more pressure for local control with school calendars.

ADJOURNMENT

Steve Combs moved to adjourn, and the motion was seconded by Jason Cornett. The Board unanimously approved the motion at 10:02 p.m.

Resilient & Thriving Communities Week 2023
Watauga County Board of Education

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, resilient and thriving communities are vital to our community and state's future health, success, and prosperity to ensure a strong foundation for everyone at all ages and stages of life; and

WHEREAS, the science is clear that resilience is built, and that communities and systems play a key role in promoting safe, secure, nurturing environments for all; and

WHEREAS, adverse childhood and life experiences, adverse community environments, and adverse climate events impact overall quality of life and well-being of an entire community; and

WHEREAS, Healthy North Carolina 2030: A Path Toward Health by the North Carolina Institute of Medicine, in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, identifies reduction of adverse childhood experiences by 25% by 2030 as a goal; and

WHEREAS, it is our collective responsibility to collaborate in a nonpartisan fashion to promote positive experiences, secure relationships, and supportive environments to buffer stress and adversity, and to support local resilience coalitions, collaboratives, task forces, and initiatives across the state; and

WHEREAS, investing in policies, programs, and strategies that address adversity and strengthen community resilience is essential to the health of our community; and

WHEREAS, **Watauga County** encourages all individuals and all sectors, public and private, early childhood through post-secondary education, faith-based organizations, healthcare systems, justice systems, social service systems, businesses, and elected leaders to collaborate to strengthen our communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we, **members of the Watauga County Board of Education** do hereby proclaim **April 29 through May 6** as “**Resilient & Thriving Communities Week**” in our community, and commend its observance to all citizens.

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

This request is for a: ___ day trip ___ out of state day trip X overnight trip ___ overnight & out of state trip

Day trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the trip. Overnight trip requests must be submitted to the superintendent by the first day of each month. Overnight field trips require the prior approval of the principal, transportation director, superintendent, and Board of Education. All trips utilizing rental or charter vehicles require the prior approval of the transportation director. No employee will transport students in a personal vehicle and no employee or volunteer driver will transport students in a 12-15 passenger van. No more than five students will be transported by a school system employee or volunteer in any one vehicle other than a school bus or activity bus.

Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Matthew Carpenter, Lacrosse Coach School: WHS

Cell phone number: 704-608-4436 Grade(s): 9-12 Number of students: 27

Departure time/date: Friday 3/24, 1:30PM Return time/date: Saturday 3/25, 5:30PM

Educational purpose:

Trip destination including city, state, and all places to be visited: (attach detailed itinerary as needed)

Destination is Durham, NC. Places visited are Voyager High School for the tournament and the Durham Courtyard hotel.

See attached itinerary for addresses.

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: _____

Purpose of the trip is for the men's lacrosse team to participate in the Kirkley Cup lacrosse tournament.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: _____

Matthew Carpenter, Head Coach; Andrew Czerkowski, Assistant Coach; Brenden Moreland, Assistant Coach

Names of all non-school chaperones: _____

All chaperones have a background check completed: Yes Sponsoring teacher initials: MFC

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? X yes ___no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? _____

_____ No students with disabilities will be attending this trip.

Sponsoring Teacher Initials NA (If applicable) A safety/supervision plan for high risk and/or water activities has been shared with the parents. Please attach a copy of the plan to this form if applicable.

Transportation plan:

Mode of transportation: _____ Yellow bus with wheelchair lift _____ Yellow bus without wheelchair lift
_____ Activity bus with wheelchair lift X Activity bus without wheelchair lift _____ Rental car/mini-van
_____ Charter bus Other (Please explain) _____

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) _____

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: _____ Matthew Carpenter Round trip mileage: Est. 340 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ Est. \$50 Source of funds: Player paid

The sponsoring teacher has reviewed Board policies 3320, 3320-R, and 6315: Teacher initials: MFC

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: _____ Matthew G. Carpenter Date: 3 / 16 / 2023

Principal approval: _____ CABE Date: 3 / 16 / 2023

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: _____ [Signature] Date: 3 / 20 / 2023

Superintendent approval: _____ [Signature] Date: 3 / 20 / 23

Board of Education approval: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

DETAILED ITINERARY FOR MENS LACROSSE TRIP, 3/24-3/25

- **FRIDAY: Kirkley Cup Round 1**
 - 1:00PM, CLASS EARLY RELEASE
 - MEET AT THE LAX FIELD
 - 1:30PM, BUS LEAVES
 - 5:00PM, Stop for light dinner.
 - 5:30PM, Arrive, Voyager Academy, watch Northern v. Cary game.
 - 7:00PM, MEN'S GAME START v. Riverside
 - 9:00PM, return to hotel.
- **SATURDAY: Kirkley Cup Round 2**
 - 6:30AM, Wake players
 - 7:00AM, BREAKFAST, at the hotel
 - 7:45AM, Depart for Voyager Academy
 - 9:00AM or 11:00AM game start depending on if we win or lose Friday night.
 - 1:00PM Awards
 - 1:45PM Depart for WHS
 - 2:30PM Lunch Stop
 - 5:30PM Estimated arrival at WHS (players will inform parents of exact arrival when we are 45 mins out).

During the trip, other than stops for food, the team will be at one of the following locations:

Voyager High School
4302 Ben Franklin Blvd.
Durham, NC 27704

Courtyard Marriott Durham
1815 Front St.
Durham, NC 27705
919-309-1500

OTHER INFORMATION

1. Lodging details
 - a. We have a block of eight adjacent rooms on one floor booked at the courtyard.
 - b. All coaches will be in a separate room from students but on the same floor, monitoring students at all times. Strict rules will be put in place with students regarding leaving rooms, lights out, etc.
 - c. Students will sleep four to a room, in rooms with two queen beds each.
 - d. Only guys will be on this trip.
 - e. Each room has an enclosed bathroom, one for each group of four students.
2. Disciplinary Removal Plan
 - a. In the event that a student must be removed from activities due to disciplinary issues, Assistant Coaches Drew Czerkowski and Brenden Moreland will supervise the student in a manner that keeps the student apart from others but in proximity to the team (up in

the bleachers at the game, off to the side of the field, etc.) until we get on the bus to head home. In the event of particularly bad circumstances, we will contact Assistant Principal and AD Dustin Kerley to notify of the incident, and unless otherwise instructed, parents will be contacted and required to come retrieve their student. All parents will be made aware of this. We have no expectations whatsoever of this type of behavior on the trip but will be ready in the event something occurs.

3. Contact Information

- a. Matthew Carpenter, Head Lacrosse Coach
 - i. Mobile: 704-608-4436
 - ii. Email: carpenterm@wataugaschools.org
- b. Andrew Czerkowski, Assistant Lacrosse Coach
 - i. Mobile: 336-984-6631
 - ii. Email: andrewczerkowski1@gmail.com
- c. Brenden Moreland, Assistant Lacrosse Coach
 - i. Mobile: 828-434-5582,
 - ii. Email: brendenmoreland@icloud.com

4. Attending Student Roster

Last	First	Email	Phone	Grade
TEAM ROSTER				
Costner	Logan	coslog2764@wataugaschools.org	828-616-0107	9
Womack	Holden	womhol1336@wataugaschools.org	828-773-8084	9
Westerman	Ansel	wesans8267@wataugaschools.org	828-719-9175	9
Hodges	Aiden	hodgesaiden2132@gmail.com	828-260-6975	12
Abrams	Asher	abrash6067@wataugaschools.org	828-266-8842	11
Rominger	Jesse	romjes7330@wataugaschools.org	828-719-1333	12
Berke	Jace	berjac8978@wataugaschools.org		11
Gallagher	Austyn	galaus9979@wataugaschools.org		11
Lewis	Jack	lewjac6951@wataugaschools.org		11
Maiden	Kade	maiem06631@wataugaschools.org	828-260-9631	11
Hollis	Jacob	holiac1453@wataugaschools.org	828-434-5855	11
Brooks	David	davidbrooks0517@gmail.com	828-266-5217	10
Womack	Dury	womdur7383@wataugaschools.org	828-773-3360	11
Adams	Josh	adajos5112@wataugaschools.org		10
Lemus	Jordan	lemjor6460@wataugaschools.org	828-434-0896	10
Sutherland	Connor	concon0641@gmail.com	984-297-3993	11
Finch	Nyen	finnye6567@wataugaschools.org	828-719-5445	10
Martin	Brody	marbro0990@wataugaschools.org		11
Gover	Mason	govmas4402@wataugaschools.org	828-386-7328	11
Witte	Jeremy	witjer8203@wataugaschools.org	828-263-3222	11
Ruiz	Jesus	ruijes8762@wataugaschools.org	828-729-8962	10
Tunstill	Pierce	tunpie5574@wataugaschools.org	828-434-0456	9
Bouboulis	Alex	bouale9785@wataugaschools.org	828-266-8774	11
Link	Isaiah	linisa6348@wataugaschools.org		10
Sibaja	Roman	sibrom8577@wataugaschools.org	828-406-4374	11
Stetter	Aspen	steasp8744@wataugaschools.org	828-773-6367	11
Hicks	Caleb	hiccal9821@wataugaschools.org	828-457-1226	10

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

This request is for a: ___ day trip ___ out of state day trip ☒ overnight trip ☒ overnight & out of state trip

Day trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the trip. Overnight trip requests must be submitted to the superintendent by the first day of each month. Overnight field trips require the prior approval of the principal, transportation director, superintendent, and Board of Education. All trips utilizing rental or charter vehicles require the prior approval of the transportation director. No employee will transport students in a personal vehicle and no employee or volunteer driver will transport students in a 12-15 passenger van. No more than five students will be transported by a school system employee or volunteer in any one vehicle other than a school bus or activity bus.

Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Michael Neff School: Watauga High Track & Field

Cell phone number: 828.719.9204 Grade(s): _____ Number of students: _____

Departure time/date: April 7, 2023 @ 11:30am Return time/date: April 8, 2023 @ 11:00pm

Educational purpose:

Trip destination including city, state, and all places to be visited: (attach detailed itinerary as needed)

Spring Valley High School, Columbia SC

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: _____

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Michael Neff, Kevin Yandle, Adam Gilbert, Scott Townsend, Kim Kop
Matt Anderson, Thomas McDonough & Will Logan (All Members of the Coaching Staff)

Names of all non-school chaperones: _____

All chaperones have a background check completed: **YES** Sponsoring teacher initials: MN

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? ☒ yes ☐ no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? _____

Sponsoring Teacher Initials N/A (If applicable) A safety/supervision plan for high risk and/or water activities has been shared with the parents. Please attach a copy of the plan to this form if applicable.

Transportation plan:

Mode of transportation: _____ Yellow bus with wheelchair lift _____ Yellow bus without wheelchair lift
_____ Activity bus with wheelchair lift ☒ Activity bus without wheelchair lift _____ Rental car/mini-van
_____ Charter bus Other (Please explain) _____

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) _____

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: Michael Neff/Kevin Yandle Round trip mileage: 366 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 100.00 Source of funds: Track Boosters/Parents

The sponsoring teacher has reviewed Board policies 3320, 3320-R, and 6315: Teacher initials: MN

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Michael Neff Date: 04 / 02 / 2023

Principal approval: CASE Date: 4 / 5 / 2023

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 4 / 4 / 2023

Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 4 / 4 / 23

Board of Education approval: [Signature] Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Parent/Guardian Field Trip Information and Consent

- I. Description of Trip (an itinerary that provides the same information may be attached instead of filling out items A-E below) See section V if this is a multiple trip permission form.

A. Date/Purpose of trip Watauga Track? Field track meet.

- B. Trip destination and activities planned, including an itinerary and description of potentially hazardous activities, including but not limited to swimming/wading/boating.

Spring Valley High School
Columbia, SC

C. Means of transportation Activity Bus Cost \$75

- D. Arrangements for student supervision (include specific details if this trip includes activities without direct supervision such as at theme parks, museums or malls; or high risk/water activities.):

All Coaches will be attending (9).
Students will compete over 2 days.

E. Arrangements for meals during trip: Friday lunch on Road. Friday dinner
and Saturday Meals will be at or around Venue.

II. Conditions for participation

- A. All school rules and policies apply for this trip. The principal and/or trip sponsor may establish additional rules as deemed necessary to protect student safety and preserve the educational value of the trip for all participants.
- B. If the student violates school rules or policies or the instructions of teachers or other chaperones in a way that warrants his/her removal from the trip, the student's parent/guardian will immediately come take the student home at their expense upon the request of the trip sponsor.
- C. In the event the trip is postponed or cancelled, a refund of fees and deposits paid in advance is not guaranteed. However, the school will refund costs for which it is reimbursed by other parties or which are not paid by the school.
- D. By signing this form, the parent/guardian consents to the trip sponsor taking or arranging any emergency medical procedures or treatment that may be required during the trip, and accepts responsibility for the costs of any such treatment.

III. Student information

- A. Special instructions for this child – allergies, swimming ability if applicable to trip, disabilities or health concerns, etc.

- B. Medications: This student does _____ does not _____ have a medical condition that requires medication on a routine basis or in case of an emergency related to that condition. *If so, please attach a completed medication administration form.*

IV. Parent/guardian Consent and Contact Information

I have read and understood all of this form. I acknowledge that my child is not covered by any insurance provided through the school system and that I am responsible for the costs of any illness or injury resulting from my child's participation on this trip. By my signature below, I acknowledge and agree to all the above terms and conditions and give consent for my child, _____, to participate in this field trip.

Signature of parent/guardian

Date

Emergency contacts: *Please provide two emergency contacts for your child*

Name: _____ Relationship to student: _____

Best daytime phone #: _____ Other phone #: _____

Name: _____ Relationship to student: _____

Best daytime phone #: _____ Other phone #: _____

V. Multi-Trip Parent/Guardian Consent and Contact Information

A teacher may elect to send one consent form home for multiple in-county, day trips. The information for each trip (including purpose, activities, mode of transportation, supervision, meals, and cost) must be sent home at the same time with this form. You may give consent for all, some, or none of the trips listed here by your signature on each line.

Field Trip Name/Destination	Date	Parent Signature Giving Informed Consent

WATAUGA COUNTY SCHOOLS
USE OF BUSES AND DRIVERS FOR ACTIVITY TRIPS
Activity Trip Mileage and Driver's Wage Expense Form

NAME OF SCHOOL Watauga High Date of Trip 4/7-8/2023
DESTINATION Spring Valley HS (Columbia, SC) Bus Number _____
ACTIVITY TRIP SPONSOR Outdoor Track & Field (CIRCLE ONE)

TYPE OF BUS USED: ACTIVITY BUS YELLOW SCHOOL BUS (CIRCLE ONE)

Ending Trip Odometer Reading (no tenths) _____ # of Passengers 46
Beginning Trip Odometer Reading (no tenths) _____
Total Field Trip Miles* 366 x \$2.50 per mile = Total Charge \$ _____

Driver Michael Neff / Kevin Yandle

Wages: Hourly Rate \$ _____ x number of hours _____ total wages = \$ _____

Matching Social Security 7.65% (.0765 x total wages) _____

Retirement 24.50% [if applicable (.2450 * total wages)] _____

GRAND TOTAL of Reimbursement for Mileage and Salary

Person/School responsible for payment

Michael Neff / Track & Field

Please complete one (1) sheet per bus for each field trip and return, with time sheet attached, to the finance office.

A reimbursement check must be attached to this form before payment can be made to driver.

If someone other than your school is responsible for payment, please list the name of that person above.

**Do not calculate deadhead miles for fueling bus or to and from bus garage.*

**** A SERVICE CHARGE OF \$25.00 PER BUS, PER TRIP, WILL BE ASSESSED TO THE SCHOOL IF THE BUS IS NOT RETURNED IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION ****

Revised 07/18/22

School is responsible for obtaining approved driver.

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

This request is for a: ___ day trip ___ out of state day trip ☒ overnight trip ___ overnight & out of state trip

Day trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the trip. Overnight trip requests must be submitted to the superintendent by the first day of each month. Overnight field trips require the prior approval of the principal, transportation director, superintendent, and Board of Education. All trips utilizing rental or charter vehicles require the prior approval of the transportation director. No employee will transport students in a personal vehicle and no employee or volunteer driver will transport students in a 12-15 passenger van. No more than five students will be transported by a school system employee or volunteer in any one vehicle other than a school bus or activity bus.

Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Judd Pinnix School: Parkway

Cell phone number: 336-489-0708 Grade(s): 6-8th Number of students: 25

Departure time/date: 2:00 pm 5/11/23 Return time/date: 5/12/23 8:00 pm

Educational purpose:

Trip destination including city, state, and all places to be visited: (attach detailed itinerary as needed)

Kennerville NC Piedmont Horrors Band

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: Horror Band performance
for 2 days with practice / performance 2nd day

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Pinnix, Gilbert

Names of all non-school chaperones: Some Parents to be determined.

All chaperones have a background check completed:

Sponsoring teacher initials: _____

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? ☒ yes ☐ no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? _____

Sponsoring Teacher Initials JK (If applicable) A safety/supervision plan for high risk and/or water activities has been shared with the parents. Please attach a copy of the plan to this form if applicable.

Transportation plan:

Mode of transportation: _____ Yellow bus with wheelchair lift _____ Yellow bus without wheelchair lift
_____ Activity bus with wheelchair lift ☒ Activity bus without wheelchair lift _____ Rental car/mini-van
_____ Charter bus Other (Please explain) _____

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) _____

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: Gilbert Round trip mileage: 200 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 50⁰⁰ Source of funds: _____

The sponsoring teacher has reviewed Board policies 3320, 3320-R, and 6315: Teacher initials: _____

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: [Signature] Date: 4 / 6 / 2023

Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 4 / 6 / 23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 4 / 6 / 2023

Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 4 / 6 / 23

Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Declaration of Surplus Items - April 2023

Date Approved:

Bethel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
	0		0	0

Blowing Rock

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
200835	1	Smartboard 680		1
200837	1	Smartboard 680		1
500074	1	Smartboard 660		1
28990	1	Epson Powerlite 98H Projector		1
32964	1	Epson Powerlite 98H Projector		1
28722	1	Epson Powerlite 98H Projector		1
N/A	14	Speakers (14 of them)	14	
	20		14	6

Cove Creek

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
800422	1	DVD Player		1
800420	1	DVD Player		1
800421	1	DVD Player		1
800469	1	Printer- LJ 4240n		1
	4		0	4

Green Valley

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
28487	1	Projector- 575		1
	1		0	1

Hardin Park

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
N/A	1	Cash Register- Casio 210ER		1
N/A	1	Cash Register- Casio 116ER		1
	2		0	2

Mabel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
33216	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33219	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33220	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33711	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33222	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33751	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33218	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33224	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33226	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33225	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33221	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33227	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33223	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33217	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
51985	1	ITF- 6065U		1
	15		14	1

Parkway

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
N/A	3	Student Chairs		3
700222	1	Chromebook- EEE10.1 Atom		1
28701	1	Chromebook- Flip C100PA		1
28200	1	Thinkpad- 11e		1
	6		0	6

Valle Crucis

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
33301	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33304	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33305	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33307	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33308	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33309	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33315	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33317	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33318	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33319	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33320	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33321	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33322	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33323	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33324	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33325	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33327	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33328	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33330	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33333	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33343	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33344	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33347	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33348	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
33336	1	Lenovo 100e Chromebook	1	
	25		25	0

Watauga High School

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
900756	1	Desk Chair		1
907630	1	Small engine		1
906788	1	Battery tester- Snap on		1
907422	1	Engine Stand		1
900757	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900837	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
902815	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900745	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900765	1	Uphostered chair		1
900764	1	Uphostered chair		1

900838	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900748	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900854	1	Rolling Office Chair		1
900860	1	Rolling Office Chair		1

	14		0	14

Central Office

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
904619	1	Desktop Computer- Dell 755		1
	1		0	1

Technology Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
33166	1	Chromebook- 100e		1
33500	1	Chromebook- 300e		1
28883	1	Doc. Camera- Ipevo		1
33499	1	Chromebook- 300e		1
	4		0	4

Transportation Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
	0		0	0

Maintenance Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
	0		0	0

Child Nutrition

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
	0		0	0



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail, Boone, NC 28607

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Scott Elliott, Superintendent
Members, Watauga County Board of Education

FROM: Ly Marze, Finance Officer

DATE: April 18, 2023

RE: 2022-23 Budget Amendment #5

Attached is Budget Amendment #5 that changes totals in Watauga County Schools 2022-23 adopted budget.

After approval of this Budget Amendment, the budget for all funds will appear as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>Amendments</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
Local Current Expense	\$ 15,103,022	\$ 0	\$ 15,103,022
State Public School	35,637,463	97,868	35,735,331
Federal Grants	2,361,780	0	2,361,780
School Nutrition	2,275,000	0	2,275,000
Extended Learning Centers	631,416	0	631,416
Capital Outlay	1,889,425	175,000	2,064,425
Special Revenue/Scholarship	553,000	17,400	570,400
Total	\$ 58,451,106	\$ 290,268	\$ 58,741,374

Watauga County Schools
BUDGET AMENDMENT #5
April 18, 2023

Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

BA #5-1 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget state transfers and additional state allotment dollars as reflected in DPI revisions #43-49.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1.5350.016.121	Summer Reading Camp	50,795
1.5210.032.121	Children with Disabilities	(4,162)
1.6550.056.165	Transportation	51,235
Total Appropriations		97,868

Revenues:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1.3100	State Allocation	97,868
Total Revenues		97,868

BA #5-2 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget for various grants and funds received.

Appropriations:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
4.5115.430.542	Computer Hardware	175,000
8.7200.353.451	Nutrition Services - Food Purchases	17,400
Total Appropriations		192,400

Revenues:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
4.3700.430	Federal Connectivity Fund	175,000
8.3700.353	Local Food for Schools Grant	17,400
Total Revenues		192,400



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail, Boone, NC 28607

April 18, 2023

To: Members, Watauga County Board of Education
Dr. Scott Elliott, Superintendent

From: Ms. Ly Marze, Finance Officer

Re: 2023-24 Current Expense and Capital Outlay Budget Proposal Discussion

Current Expense

The successful recruitment and retention of employees has become one of the top priorities in recent years not only for our school district but for all employers across the nation. We are asking for an investment of additional funds for increased recruitment efforts which could include funding for things such as onboarding bonuses for harder to fill positions or relocation and moving expenses for new employees. We are also asking for additional funds to help retain our valuable employees by increasing all locally paid salary supplements by 25%. The district's locally paid supplement has been held static for the last 14 years and with current inflationary conditions, bringing forward the supplement up to needed levels will tremendously assist us in recruiting and retaining our employees.

Salary and Benefits:

Estimated an average 5% salary increase for all employees plus a 25% increase in local supplements

Estimated increase in employer benefit rates of approximately 3.5%

Retirement rate from 24.50% to 25.36%

Hospitalization rate from \$7,397 to \$7,656

Maintaining our quality workforce requires us to hire at competitive rates and to consistently meet unfunded state salary mandates. As such, the chief contributor to our increased request over last year in the overall budget is the cost to hire, employ, and retain our quality staff.

Also, in response to national increased costs, we have improved the formula amounts allotted to our schools so that they may have the funds necessary for effective classroom instruction.

Formulas used for school allotments:

School	ADM (5th Month PMR from 2022-23)	Visual Art Classes (\$250 + \$2 ADM)	PE Classes (\$250 + \$2 ADM)	Media Centers (\$650 + \$4 ADM)	Instructional Needs (\$2,000 + \$26 ADM)	Furniture & Equipment (\$1,250 + \$10 ADM)
Bethel	123	\$ 496	\$ 496	\$ 1,142	\$ 5,198	\$ 2,480
Blowing Rock	409	1,068	1,068	2,286	12,634	5,340
Cove Creek	281	812	812	1,774	9,306	4,060
Green Valley	286	822	822	1,794	9,436	4,110
Hardin Park	846	1,942	1,942	4,034	23,996	9,710
Mabel	143	536	536	1,222	5,718	2,680
Parkway	647	1,544	1,544	3,238	18,822	7,720
Valle Crucis	332	914	914	1,978	10,632	4,570
Watauga Virtual	45	0	0	0	3,170	1,700
Watauga High	1,469	0	0	6,526	40,194	15,940
Totals	4,581	\$ 8,134	\$ 8,134	\$ 23,994	\$ 139,106	\$ 58,310

Capital Outlay

The capital component of the budget reflects our commitments to providing a safe and healthy environment for students and school personnel and performing needed repairs and upkeep of the district's facilities and property. The growing need for building repairs and renovations must be addressed to ensure appropriate facilities for our students and avoid the increased costs of deferred maintenance.

As costs continue to rise, we must ask for an increase in our current capital budget which has been held level by the county at \$450,000 for several years. Our current capital requests for the 2023-24 year is \$750,000 which at least gets us closer to what will be a more realistic budget for our needs. The increase will help cover such items from deferred maintenance on our playgrounds to newer specific needs such as procuring vape detectors for our schools. Long term capital budget funds will support larger building renovation needs such as replacing roofs across the district. Lottery Repair and Renovation funds will be used for electrical upgrades for several schools as well as providing a much needed VOIP system at Hardin Park. Many deferred maintenance needs at our auxiliary service buildings also need to be addressed this year.

There are several other items in the capital budget request that are not highlighted here but are no less important. All these facility and capital needs are significant and necessary to safeguard the integrity of the physical environment and to provide the necessary tools to give our students and staff the best and safest place to learn and work.

The capital budget for 2023-24 is requested to be as follows.

Funding Source	Proposed Request
Lottery	\$ 355,000
Lottery R&R	589,932
Current Capital	750,000
CIP Reserves	280,000
Long Term Capital	4,000,000
Total Capital Outlay	\$ 5,974,932

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	4/18/2023 PERCENT INCREASE
DESCRIPTION					
5100	REGULAR INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES				
1	Salary - Local Positions	2,280,422	2,394,443	114,021	5.00%
2	Salary - JROTC	135,611	138,767	3,156	2.33%
3	JROTC Program Funds	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
4	PreK Program	135,000	135,000	-	0.00%
5	Substitute Teacher Salaries	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%
6	Substitutes for Area Level Meetings	65,000	65,000	-	0.00%
7	Mentor Stipends	41,000	41,000	-	0.00%
8	District-wide Supplies/Materials	25,000	25,000	-	0.00%
9	Diagnostic Screeners/Online Intervention Resources	102,000	102,000	-	0.00%
10	New Classroom Needs	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
11	Piano Tuning and Repairs	4,000	4,500	500	12.50%
12	Instrument Repairs	4,000	4,000	-	0.00%
13	Itinerant Teacher Travel	8,000	8,000	-	0.00%
14	Homebound Services	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
15	Workers Compensation Insurance	75,000	125,000	50,000	66.67%
16	Unemployment Insurance	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
17	Life Insurance	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
18	Employee Assistance Program	3,500	3,500	-	0.00%
19	Disability	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
20	Social Security	197,908	206,872	8,964	4.53%
21	Retirement Cost	597,985	656,624	58,639	9.81%
22	Hospital Insurance	532,584	551,232	18,648	3.50%
		4,290,009	4,543,937	253,928	5.92%
5200	SPECIAL POPULATIONS SERVICES				
23	Salary - Exceptional Children	528,055	554,457	26,403	5.00%
24	Social Security	40,396	42,416	2,020	5.00%
25	Retirement Cost	127,736	140,610	12,874	10.08%
26	Hospital Insurance	140,543	145,464	4,921	3.50%
		836,730	882,948	46,218	5.52%
5400	SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SERVICES				
27	Salary - Principals	38,089	-	(38,089)	-100.00%
28	Travel - Principals	10,800	10,800	-	0.00%
29	Salary - Assistant Principals	66,803	70,143	3,340	5.00%
30	Salary - Office Personnel	536,046	562,848	26,802	5.00%
31	Longevity	3,077	3,077	-	0.00%
32	Visual Arts Education Supplies and Materials				
	Bethel	-	496	496	100.00%
	Blowing Rock	-	1,068	1,068	100.00%
	Cove Creek	-	812	812	100.00%
	Green Valley	-	822	822	100.00%
	Hardin Park	-	1,942	1,942	100.00%
	Mabel	-	536	536	100.00%
	Parkway	-	1,544	1,544	100.00%
	Valle Crucis	-	914	914	100.00%
33	Physical Education Supplies and Materials				
	Bethel	438	496	58	13.24%
	Blowing Rock	928	1,068	140	15.09%
	Cove Creek	686	812	126	18.37%
	Green Valley	876	822	(54)	-6.16%
	Hardin Park	1,942	1,942	-	0.00%
	Mabel	470	536	66	14.04%
	Parkway	1,330	1,544	214	16.09%
	Valle Crucis	862	914	52	6.03%

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24		2022-23	2023-24	CHANGE	4/18/2023
DESCRIPTION		ADOPTED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
34	Media Center Supplies and Materials				
	Bethel	1,076	1,142	66	6.13%
	Blowing Rock	2,056	2,286	230	11.19%
	Cove Creek	1,572	1,774	202	12.85%
	Green Valley	1,952	1,794	(158)	-8.09%
	Hardin Park	4,084	4,034	(50)	-1.22%
	Mabel	1,140	1,222	82	7.19%
	Parkway	2,860	3,238	378	13.22%
	Valle Crucis	1,924	1,978	54	2.81%
	Watauga High	6,264	6,526	262	4.18%
35	School Needs, Staff Development, and Supplies				
	Bethel	5,244	5,198	(46)	-0.88%
	Blowing Rock	11,614	12,634	1,020	8.78%
	Cove Creek	8,468	9,306	838	9.90%
	Green Valley	10,938	9,436	(1,502)	-13.73%
	Hardin Park	24,796	23,996	(800)	-3.23%
	Mabel	5,660	5,718	58	1.02%
	Parkway	16,840	18,822	1,982	11.77%
	Valle Crucis	10,756	10,632	(124)	-1.15%
	Watauga Virtual	3,242	3,170	(72)	-2.22%
	Watauga High	38,966	40,194	1,228	3.15%
36	Social Security	50,093	49,485	(608)	-1.21%
37	Retirement Cost	155,787	161,307	5,520	3.54%
38	Hospital Insurance	125,749	130,152	4,403	3.50%
		1,153,428	1,167,180	13,752	1.19%
5500	CO-CURRICULAR SERVICES				
39	Middle School Athletics				
	Coaching Supplements	47,000	47,000	-	0.00%
	Transportation	24,000	20,000	(4,000)	-16.67%
	Catastrophic Insurance	6,175	1,800	(4,375)	-70.85%
	Supplies	14,000	14,000	-	0.00%
	Contract Services	16,000	16,000	-	0.00%
40	WHS Athletics				
	Coaching Supplements	115,000	115,000	-	0.00%
	Transportation	20,000	35,000	15,000	75.00%
	Catastrophic Insurance/NCSHAA Dues	13,000	13,000	-	0.00%
	Athletic Complex	20,000	20,000	-	0.00%
	Athletic Drug Testing	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
41	Cultural Arts Program	15,800	15,800	-	0.00%
42	Social Security	12,393	12,393	-	0.00%
43	Retirement Cost	39,188	41,083	1,895	4.84%
		345,556	354,076	8,520	2.47%
5800	SCHOOL-BASED SUPPORT SERVICES				
44	Salary - School Nurses	83,819	-	(83,819)	-100.00%
45	Salary - School Counselors	90,312	94,827	4,516	5.00%
46	Salary - Student Services /Data Managers	182,080	191,184	9,104	5.00%
47	Longevity	2,592	2,717	125	4.82%
48	Salary - Mental Health Specialist	32,000	50,820	18,820	58.81%
49	Student Assistance and Risk Assessment Program	4,000	4,000	-	0.00%
50	Mountain Alliance Partnership	9,000	9,000	-	0.00%
51	Supplies and Materials for School Nurses	2,200	2,500	300	13.64%
52	Supplies and Materials for Social Workers	500	500	-	0.00%
53	Safe Schools Program	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%
54	OSHA/Employee Safety	500	500	-	0.00%
55	ASU Clinical Screenings	700	700	-	0.00%
56	Cognia Accreditation	-	-	-	0.00%

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24					4/18/2023
DESCRIPTION		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
57	Staff Development for Departments and Programs				
	Administrative	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
	Countywide	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
	National Board Academy	3,000	3,500	500	16.67%
	K-3 Staff Development	5,750	11,000	5,250	91.30%
	4-8 Staff Development	11,500	11,500	-	0.00%
	9-12 Staff Development	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%
	School Support/MTSS Staff Development	3,500	3,500	-	0.00%
	Instructional Support Staff Development	3,500	3,500	-	0.00%
	ITF/Media Staff Development	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
	AIG	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%
	Science and Chemical Safety	500	500	-	0.00%
	School Nurses	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
58	Staff Development/Travel for Departments and Directors				
	Superintendent	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
	Assistant Superintendent/Personnel	3,450	3,450	-	0.00%
	K-3 Curriculum	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
	4-8 Curriculum	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
	School Support/MTSS	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
	Instructional Support	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
	Testing	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
	Student Services	5,100	5,100	-	0.00%
	Exceptional Children	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%
	Finance	3,800	4,000	200	5.26%
	Technology	9,000	9,000	-	0.00%
	Maintenance	7,000	7,500	500	7.14%
	Transportation	4,800	4,800	-	0.00%
	School Nutrition	1,500	2,000	500	33.33%
	Public Relations	1,200	1,200	-	0.00%
59	Social Security	27,448	22,088	(5,361)	-19.53%
60	Retirement Cost	86,794	73,221	(13,573)	-15.64%
61	Hospital Insurance	66,573	45,936	(20,637)	-31.00%
		693,618	610,043	(83,575)	-12.05%
6110	CURRICULAR SUPPORT SERVICES				
62	Salary - District Personnel	270,481	284,005	13,524	5.00%
63	Social Security	20,692	21,726	1,035	5.00%
64	Retirement Cost	65,429	72,024	6,594	10.08%
65	Hospital Insurance	22,191	22,968	777	3.50%
		378,794	400,724	21,930	5.79%
6400	TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SERVICES				
66	Salary - Technology and Instructional Support	256,336	269,152	12,817	5.00%
67	Longevity	1,530	1,530	-	0.00%
68	Technical Operating Contracts	160,000	160,000	-	0.00%
69	Communication Systems	60,000	60,000	-	0.00%
70	Technology Repairs, Supplies and Wiring Needs	25,000	25,000	-	0.00%
71	Visitor Management Systems	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
72	Maintenance Agreements	30,000	30,000	-	0.00%
	Scribbles Contract	-	75,000	75,000	100.00%
73	Social Security	19,727	20,707	980	4.97%
74	Retirement Cost	62,378	68,645	6,267	10.05%
75	Hospital Insurance	36,985	38,280	1,295	3.50%
		661,955	758,315	96,360	14.56%

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24		2022-23	2023-24	CHANGE	4/18/2023
DESCRIPTION		ADOPTED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
6500	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES				
76	Salary - Maintenance	640,903	672,948	32,045	5.00%
77	Salary - Transportation	65,592	68,871	3,280	5.00%
78	Longevity	9,613	9,836	223	2.32%
79	Electricity	625,000	625,000	-	0.00%
80	Heating Fuel	265,000	400,000	135,000	50.94%
81	Water/Sewer	45,000	50,000	5,000	11.11%
82	Solid Waste Services	20,000	20,000	-	0.00%
83	Building Telephones and Cell Service	125,000	125,000	-	0.00%
84	Postage	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
85	Maintenance Supplies	200,000	210,000	10,000	5.00%
86	Maintenance Fees	172,000	175,000	3,000	1.74%
87	Custodial Supplies	105,000	110,000	5,000	4.76%
88	AHERA Inspection and Abatement of Asbestos	4,000	25,000	21,000	525.00%
89	Elevator Maintenance	7,500	7,500	-	0.00%
90	Water System Maintenance	32,500	32,500	-	0.00%
91	Painting	30,000	70,000	40,000	133.33%
92	Transportation - Service and License Agreements	14,600	14,600	-	0.00%
93	Hazardous Waste Disposal	2,600	1,600	(1,000)	-38.46%
94	Garage/Transportation Supplies	2,950	8,000	5,050	171.19%
95	Vehicle Repair Parts	23,000	31,000	8,000	34.78%
96	Gas	41,000	50,000	9,000	21.95%
97	Oil	1,300	3,000	1,700	130.77%
98	Tires	4,100	5,000	900	21.95%
99	License/Title Fees	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
100	Drug Testing	5,500	4,500	(1,000)	-18.18%
101	Bus Lift Maintenance	2,100	500	(1,600)	-76.19%
102	Social Security	54,782	57,502	2,719	4.96%
103	Retirement Cost	173,226	190,620	17,393	10.04%
104	Hospital Insurance	118,352	122,496	4,144	3.50%
		2,799,619	3,099,473	299,855	10.71%
6600	FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES				
105	Salary - Finance	155,405	163,176	7,770	5.00%
106	Salary - Personnel	84,325	88,542	4,216	5.00%
107	Classified Salary Revision	500,000	-	(500,000)	-100.00%
108	Supplements				
	Certified Staff	937,876	1,240,011	302,135	32.21%
	Classified Staff	241,576	316,024	74,448	30.82%
	School Administrators	80,130	100,163	20,033	25.00%
	Directors	37,910	55,250	17,340	45.74%
	School Nutrition	35,487	45,978	10,491	29.56%
109	Finance Office Supplies	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
110	Recruitment	13,000	50,000	37,000	284.62%
111	Employee License Renewal Fees	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
	Pearson Exams, School Nurse Exams, etc.	2,500	2,500	-	0.00%
	National Boards Support	-	25,000	25,000	100.00%
112	Workers Comp Drug Screenings	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%
113	Pre-employment Screenings	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%
	Background Checks	-	45,000	45,000	100.00%
114	Awards Program	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
115	Beginning Teachers Program	4,000	4,000	-	0.00%
116	NC New Teacher Support Program	11,000	-	(11,000)	-100.00%
117	Liability Insurance	17,500	18,000	500	2.86%
118	Vehicle Insurance	23,000	23,000	-	0.00%
119	Property Insurance	84,000	90,000	6,000	7.14%
120	Fidelity Bonds	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
121	Social Security	120,312	146,037	25,725	21.38%
122	Retirement Cost	380,438	484,117	103,679	27.25%
123	Hospital Insurance	44,382	45,936	1,554	3.50%
		2,799,342	2,969,233	169,891	6.07%

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24					4/18/2023
DESCRIPTION		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
6700	ACCOUNTABILITY SERVICES				
124	Supplies and Materials for Testing Department	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
		6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
6900	POLICY, LEADERSHIP, AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES				
125	Salary - District Personnel	317,279	333,143	15,864	5.00%
126	Board of Education Staff Development	20,000	20,000	-	0.00%
127	Board of Education Compensation	23,000	23,000	-	0.00%
128	Board of Education Travel	7,500	7,500	-	0.00%
129	Legal Services	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%
130	Audit Services	40,000	40,000	-	0.00%
131	Membership Fees	60,000	60,000	-	0.00%
132	Public Relations Supplies	3,500	3,500	-	0.00%
133	Social Security	26,605	27,819	1,214	4.56%
134	Retirement Cost	76,750	84,485	7,735	10.08%
135	Hospital Insurance	29,588	30,624	1,036	3.50%
		654,222	680,071	25,849	3.95%
8100	PAYMENT TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS				
136	Transfer to Charter Schools	483,749	502,147	18,398	3.80%
TOTAL CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET		15,103,022	15,974,147	871,124	5.77%

CURRENT EXPENSE FUND 2023-24					4/18/2023
		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
SOURCE OF FUNDS					
	Fines and Forfeitures	323,000	225,000	(98,000)	-30.34'
	County Appropriation - General	14,296,273	15,246,999	950,726	6.65'
	County Appropriation - Charter Schools*	483,749	502,147	18,398	3.80'
	CURRENT EXPENSE REVENUE TOTAL	15,103,022	15,974,147	871,124	5.77'
	Local Revenue	14,619,273	15,471,999		
	Allotted ADM per DPI	4,654	4,745		
	Local Revenue per ADM	3,141	3,261		
	Projected Charter School ADM	154	154		
	Total Budget for Charter Schools*	483,749	502,147		
		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
	Current Expense County Appropriation	14,780,022	15,749,147	969,124	6.56'

CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND 2023-24		4/18/2023
DESCRIPTION		2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET
CATEGORY I		
1	Carpet & Tile Replacements	Lottery 45,000
2	Replace Kitchen/Cafeteria Equipment	Lottery 65,000
3	Gym Floors - Refinishing	Lottery 45,000
4	Door/Window Replacements	Lottery 20,000
5	Roof Renovations/Replacements	Lottery 100,000
6	Pavement and Sidewalk Maintenance/Repair	Lottery 80,000
7	Electrical Upgrades - Mabel, Hardin Park, Parkway	Lottery R&R 489,932
8	VOIP - Hardin Park	Lottery R&R 100,000
9	Roof Replacements - Hardin Park, Green Valley, Parkway	Long Term Capital 2,000,000
10	"Phase 1" Renovations	Long Term Capital 2,000,000
11	Upgrade Central Food Storage	CIP Reserves 25,000
12	Playground Updates/Renovations	CIP Reserves 30,000
13	Heavy Vehicle Lift Replacement	CIP Reserves 80,000
14	Security Cameras	CIP Reserves 25,000
15	HVAC/Sewer Pumps	CIP Reserves 25,000
16	Weight Room Updates - Watauga High	CIP Reserves 95,000
17	Parts Room Renovation - Transportation and Maintenance	Current Capital 35,000
TOTAL CATEGORY I		5,259,932
CATEGORY II		
1	1:1 Devices	Current Capital 300,000
2	Classroom Presentation Technology	Current Capital 80,000
3	Facilities - Furniture/Equipment	Current Capital 66,000
	Vape Detectors	Current Capital 10,000
4	Custodial Equipment	Current Capital 18,000
5	Maintenance Equipment	Current Capital 10,000
	Trailer Mounted Pressure Washer	Current Capital 20,000
6	Transportation Equipment	Current Capital 6,000
7	Classroom Furniture Replacements	Current Capital 30,000
8	Band Equipment	Current Capital 15,000
9	Arts Programs	Current Capital 15,000
10	Cafeteria Tables	Current Capital 15,000
TOTAL CATEGORY II		585,000
CATEGORY III		
1	Maintenance Vehicle Replacements	Current Capital 130,000
2	Activity Bus Replacements	Current Capital -
TOTAL CATEGORY III		130,000
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET TOTAL		5,974,932

CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND 2023-24					4/18/2023	
SOURCE OF FUNDS			2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
NC Public School Building Lottery Fund			300,000	355,000	55,000	18.33%
NC Public School Building Lottery R&R Fund			-	589,932	589,932	100.00%
County Appropriation			1,015,000	5,030,000	4,015,000	395.57%
CAPITAL OUTLAY TOTAL			1,315,000	5,974,932	4,659,932	354.37%

CURRENT EXPENSE AND CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND REVENUE 2023-24					4/18/2023
SOURCE OF FUNDS		2022-23 ADOPTED BUDGET	2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YR	PERCENT INCREASE
Fines and Forfeitures		323,000	225,000	(98,000)	-30.34%
NC Public School Building Lottery Fund		300,000	355,000	55,000	18.33%
NC Public School Building Lottery R&R Fund		-	589,932	589,932	100.00%
County Appropriation		15,795,022	20,779,147	4,984,124	31.56%
TOTAL		16,418,022	21,949,079	5,531,056	33.69%

Resolution by the Watauga County Board of Education
Opposing House Bill 219, "Charter School Omnibus"

Current Law Provides Equal Local Funding for all K-12 Public School Students

WHEREAS, North Carolina operates two (2) primary systems of public education, charter schools and public schools operated by local school boards ("local school districts");

WHEREAS, charter schools are not legally required to pay any funds to local school districts regardless of the source of revenue including federal funds, grants, and gifts;

WHEREAS, over the past twenty (20) years the courts of North Carolina and the General Assembly have confronted the issue of fair funding for students attending charter schools and local school districts in a manner that has created equal K-12 funding and put an end to contentious litigation caused by the original charter funding model;

WHEREAS, local funding given to local school districts and placed in the district's Local Current Expense Fund (designated by the State as Fund 2) is shared with charter schools on an equal per pupil basis including county appropriations, fines and forfeitures, and special school tax dollars flowing to a charter school located in the taxing district;

WHEREAS, the current law recognizes that local school districts receive certain funds that should not be apportioned or "shared" with charter schools because 1) the charter school does not provide the program or service for which the funds are received, 2) the funds are simply a reimbursement to the local school district for unrestricted monies already spent including revenues previously shared with charter schools, and/or 3) the monies are legally restricted and cannot be shared;

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-426(c) contains the list of funds not shared with charter schools as follows: reimbursements, indirect costs, tuition, fees for actual costs, sales tax revenues distributed using the ad valorem method pursuant to G.S. 105-472(b)(2), sales tax refunds, gifts and grants restricted as to use, trust funds, federal appropriations made directly to local school administrative units under G.S. 160A-700, and funds received for prekindergarten programs; in addition, the appropriation or use of fund balance or interest income by a local school administrative unit shall not be construed as a local current expense appropriation;

WHEREAS, House Bill 219, Part VII, deletes the list of protected funds with the exception of trust funds, federal grants restricted as to use, and special programs;

WHEREAS, **by deleting the list of protected funds, House Bill 219 creates unequal rather than equal local funding for K-12 education**, including but not limited to, the following revenues:

1) Fund Balance: Charter schools do not have to share their savings account (i.e., Fund Balance) with local school districts. This is money saved by local school districts from prior years during which eligible revenues were already shared with charter schools. "Sharing"

such funds a second time would be **double-dipping and a windfall to charter schools** at the expense of local school district students;

2) **Federal Reimbursements:** **Charter schools do not have to share any federal reimbursements with local school districts. By law, many federal programs require schools to spend unrestricted revenues on specific purposes before getting reimbursed that amount by the federal government.** Thus, no new money is received and any unrestricted revenues used for the federal program derive from funds that have already been shared with charter schools. "Sharing" such funds a second time would be **double-dipping and a windfall to charter schools** at the expense of local school district students;

3) **Pre-K Classroom Funds:** Charter schools can **apply for these funds directly** and they **do not have to share them with a local school district.** By law, NC Pre-K dollars and Smart Start dollars cannot be given to charter schools directly by a local school district. Thus, if HB 219 passes school districts would be forced to use even more unrestricted local dollars to pay charter schools a proportionate share of these funds, resulting in charter school students getting a higher amount of K-12 dollars simply because the local school district chose to assist the community by operating one or more Pre-K classrooms. "Sharing" such funds a second time would be **double-dipping and a windfall to charter schools** at the expense of local school district students;

4) **Tuition and Fees for Actual Costs:** If a charter school chooses to allow public use of its facilities, operate a summer program, before school program, or after school program it can charge fees that are **not shared with the local school district.** Local school districts charge such fees to cover the additional costs of facility use and/or extra programming because these activities are beyond the normal operating costs for K-12 education. "Sharing" such funds would be a **windfall to charter schools** at the expense of local school district students; and

5) **Sales Tax Refunds:** **Charter schools are reimbursed 100% of state and local sales tax amounts they pay and do not have to share these funds with local school districts.** Local school districts only receive a reimbursement of local sales tax amounts paid by the school district. This is another reimbursement. "Sharing" such funds a second time would be **double-dipping and a windfall to charter schools** at the expense of local school district students;

WHEREAS, if HB 219 passes, the total financial impact to the Watauga County Schools in lost K-12 operating funds based on FY 2022-23 will be substantial;

WHEREAS, if HB 219 passes, the **total financial impact to all local school districts could expand significantly over time** and lead to egregious results based on future increases in charter school enrollments of both in-person and virtual school students; and

WHEREAS, HB 219 contains other provisions that will cause uncertainty and encourage future litigation in a currently, well-settled area of the law, such as the current law prohibiting supplemental school tax dollars from leaving the tax district approved by voters.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Board of Education opposes House Bill 219, and favors the current law that fairly and equally apportions local funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

1. The Chair and Superintendent are authorized to disseminate this Resolution to members of the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor; and
2. The Board encourages parents, students, and other community members to contact their North Carolina legislators to oppose House Bill 219.

Adopted by the Watauga County Board of Education this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Dr. Gary Childers, *Chair*

Attest:

Dr. Scott Elliott, *Superintendent*

CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Policy Code:

1320

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) recognizes that, collectively and individually, all members of the board must adhere to a code of ethics as required by G.S. 160A-86 and G.S. 115C-47(57).

A. BOARD MEMBER ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS

Members of the board shall strive to improve public education and to that end the following standards will guide each board member in the performance of his or her official duties:

1. the need to obey all applicable state and federal laws regarding official actions taken as a board member;
2. the need to uphold the integrity and independence of the board member’s office;
3. the need to avoid impropriety in the exercise of the board’s and board member’s official duties;
4. the need to perform faithfully the duties of the office; and
5. the need to conduct the affairs of the board in an open and public manner, complying with all applicable laws governing open meetings and public records.

B. SPECIFIC BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS

In order to implement the above standards, each member of the board commits to do the following:

1. attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
2. endeavor to make policy decisions while always keeping in mind the objective of providing students the opportunity to receive a sound basic education and only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;
3. attempt to make decisions only after full discussion of available facts at a public meeting, and in terms of the best interests or the educational welfare of children;
4. render all decisions based on the available facts and independent judgment and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
5. recognize that authority rests with the whole board and that individual board members have no legal status to act for the board outside a meeting;

6. model civility and integrity to students, employees and all elements of the community by encouraging the free expression of opinion by all board members; ~~and~~-engaging in respectful dialogue with fellow board members on matters being considered by the board; and complying with all board policies that set expectations for conduct, regardless of whether the policies expressly require compliance by board members;
7. respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law and refrain from unauthorized disclosure of matters discussed in closed session;
8. work with other board members to establish effective board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the superintendent;
9. communicate to other board members and the superintendent expressions of public reaction to board policies and school programs;
10. learn about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by the state and national school boards associations;
11. comply with North Carolina General Statute 115C-50 by earning the required 12 hours of training every two years;
12. comply with G.S. 160A-87 by earning two hours of ethics education within 12 months of election or appointment to the board;
13. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school employees and avoid allowing personal relationships and biases to influence decision making;
14. support the regular and impartial evaluation of all personnel;
15. support school personnel in the performance of duties;
16. refrain from investigating or attempting to resolve complaints received personally, but instead direct the complainant to follow the board's complaint or grievance process to resolve concerns;
17. avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest and refrain from using the board member's position on the board for personal or partisan gain;
18. as stated in board policy 1321, Board Member Conflict of Interest, refrain from participating in, deliberating on, voting on, or attempting to influence any person with respect to any matter pertaining to the employment with the board of the board member's spouse, including but not limited to hiring, transfer, promotion, demotion, suspension, discipline, performance evaluation, or review or

investigation of a complaint of any kind;

19. refuse to represent special interest or partisan politics or to use the schools for personal gain;
20. take no private action that will compromise the board or administration;
21. seek systematic communication between the board and the school community; and
22. remember always that a board member's first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending the public schools.

All newly elected board members are expected to sign a code of ethics statement that includes these provisions at the organizational meeting of the board.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47(1), -47(57), -50; 160A-86, -87; *Leandro v. State*, 346 N.C. 336 (1997)

Cross References: Board Member Conflict of Interest (policy 1321), Board Member Opportunities for Development (policy 1323)

Adopted: October 12, 2015

Replaces: Board policy 1.01.10, Code of Ethics for Board of Education Members

Revised: January 28, 2016; March 8, 2021; {DATE}

BOARD MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Policy Code:

1323

Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) members are encouraged to participate in school board development activities designed for them. New board members will have the opportunity and will be encouraged to attend orientation programs for new board members sponsored by the state and national school board associations. It is the responsibility of the board to provide new board members with a thorough orientation to board policies, practices and duties.

Each board member must fulfill the legal requirement to receive a minimum of 12 hours of training every two years.

All board members must receive a minimum of two hours of ethics education within 12 months after initial election or appointment to office and again within 12 months after each subsequent election or appointment to office. This education must address the laws and principles that govern conflicts of interest and ethical standards for local government officials. The superintendent shall maintain records verifying that each board member has participated in the required ethics education. The ethics education required under this paragraph may be counted towards the 12-hour training requirement.

Unless otherwise approved by the board, such training must be provided by the following entities: the school system, the North Carolina School Boards Association, the Consortium of State School Boards Associations, ~~National School Boards Association~~, the School of Government or the Department of Public Instruction. If a board member wishes to receive training credit or be reimbursed for attending training offered by another entity, he or she must obtain prior approval from the board.

Funds for participation will be budgeted annually, and reimbursement for expenses will be made in accordance with law and applicable board policy.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-50; 160A-86, -87

Cross References: Code of Ethics for School Board Members (policy 1320)

Adopted: October 12, 2015

Revised: January 28, 2016; {DATE}

TECHNOLOGY IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Policy Code:

3220

In alliance with the North Carolina Digital Learning Plan, ~~state school technology goals~~, the Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") is committed to establishing and supporting effective digital teaching and learning practices supported by contemporary 21st-century information and communications technology systems to foster globally competitive, ~~healthy, and responsible students prepared for modern life~~. The board recognizes the benefits of digital and technology-enabled and -enhanced teaching and learning resources that provide the ability to make data more accessible, personalize learning, easily customize curriculum, provide access to current information, and enable access to quality materials at a lower cost than traditional materials. To that end, the board supports classroom digital and technology-enabled and -enhanced teaching and learning resources that are aligned with the current statewide instructional standards, ~~as they become available~~. In addition, to the extent funding permits, the board will endeavor to ensure that all students have access to personal digital and technology-enabled teaching and learning devices to foster the ~~21st-century~~ skills necessary for future-ready learners.

The board expects that information and communications technologies will be integrated seamlessly across the curriculum and used to support increased student achievement, and instructional innovation, and to prepare students to be successful in college, in careers, and as globally engaged, productive citizens. ~~Such technologies will also be used to support programs and activities that promote safe schools and healthy and responsible students.~~ The curriculum committee should provide suggestions in the curriculum guides referenced in policy 3115, Curriculum and Instructional Guides, for integrating technological resources (as defined in Section A below) into the educational program. School administrators and teachers are encouraged to develop additional strategies for integrating technological resources across the curriculum and utilizing the power of technology to personalize learning and improve learning outcomes while making more efficient use of resources. The strategies should be included in the school improvement plan if they require the transfer of funds or otherwise relate to any ~~mandatory or optional~~ components of the school improvement plan.

The superintendent shall oversee development of the school system's digital teaching and learning vision as part of the school system's strategic plan and a yearly action plan that aligns to the vision, integrate digital planning to support teaching and learning needs into school system strategic planning efforts and The development and ongoing review of the vision and the action plan will include various stakeholders such as curriculum leaders, teachers, administrators, students, parents, and representatives from technology services, instructional technology, finance, and other departments as required. The action plan will include adequate data privacy protections to secure student data and will take into account the level of out-of-school Internet access for students.

The superintendent ~~may~~ shall establish relationships with businesses and seek grants and other funding sources in an effort to acquire additional technological resources for the educational program and to support continuous out-of-school Internet access for students.

A. SELECTION OF TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Technological resources are information and communications technologies including, but are not limited to, the following: (1) hardware, including both fixed and mobile technologies and devices such as desktop computers, laptops, netbooks, tablets, e-readers, smartphones, and gaming devices; (2) software, including cloud-based and web-based applications, programs, and platforms; (3) network and telecommunications systems and services; (4) Internet access; (5) multimedia equipped classrooms; (6) computer classrooms and laboratories; and (7) other existing or emerging mobile communications systems. All technological resources must be purchased and used in a manner consistent with applicable law and board policy, including laws and policies related to copyright, public records, bidding, and other purchase requirements, accessibility for students with disabilities, staff duties, and standards for student behavior.

Technological resources must meet or exceed the following standards before they may be considered for implementation.

1. Technological resources must support the current statewide instructional standards or the programs of the school system.
2. Technological resources must support the current use of learning and instructional management technologies in the school.
3. Technological resources must be compatible with the condition of the network and other infrastructure resources. The technology director shall set minimum standards for technological resources that are purchased or donated. Upgrading, hardware conditions, and similar requirements must be maintained to the highest standards.
4. There must be sufficient staff to operate and maintain the technological equipment, programs, and systems.
5. There must be adequate funds budgeted to implement and support the technological resources and to train instructional staff to use the resources to improve educational outcomes.

Procurement of technological resources should be done in collaboration with teachers and technical support staff, as appropriate. Whenever possible, a pilot period to test the resource should occur prior to full purchase.

B. DEPLOYMENT OF TECHNOLOGY TO SCHOOLS

The superintendent shall oversee the development of the school system's technology deployment and refresh plan. The plan will be designed to ensure organized, effective, ~~and efficient, and sustainable~~ means of deploying and maintaining technology resources and will establish appropriate refresh/replacement cycles.~~new information and communications technologies.~~ The superintendent shall develop procedures that outline the strategy of the technology deployment and refresh plan.

C. BRING YOUR OWN TECHNOLOGY (BYOT) INITIATIVE

The superintendent is authorized to investigate and develop a plan to allow staff and students the option to use their personal electronic devices in place of or along with their school system assigned devices. The plan should address, at a minimum, the instructional use of personal devices, compatibility requirements, access limitations or requirements, content filtering, security, and other issues as recommended by the technology director. The plan should assign personal responsibility to the user for repair and replacement of damaged or stolen devices and for any data or other charges arising from use of a personal device. The plan should require a written agreement for the use of personal technology devices from each student and staff member who wishes to participate in the BYOT initiative. The plan should ensure that students who are unable to bring in outside technology will be able to access and utilize school equipment so that no student is excluded from instruction due to lack of access to technology.

D. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND OTHER COLLABORATIVE TOOLS

The superintendent is authorized to permit instructional personnel to incorporate email, social networking sites, blogs, wikis, video sharing sites, podcasts, video conferencing, online collaborations, instant messaging, texting, virtual learning environments, and/or other forms of direct electronic communications or Web 2.0 applications for educational purposes to the extent the superintendent deems appropriate and in accordance with policy 7335, Employee Use of Social Media. The superintendent shall establish parameters and rules for use of these tools and shall require instruction for students in how to use such tools in a safe, effective, and appropriate way. Instructional personnel shall make all reasonable attempts to monitor student online activity and shall otherwise comply with the requirements of policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use, when using these tools.

E. TECHNOLOGY-RELATED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The superintendent shall plan a program of ~~technology-enabled~~ professional development for digital teaching and learning that prepares the instructional staff—administrators, teachers, coaches, school library media coordinators, and technical support staff to for ~~utilizing~~ digital tools and resources in accordance with the N.C. Digital Learning Competencies for Teachers and Administrators. Professional development shall emphasize technology integration and continuous improvement, including the use of ongoing technology-integrated online-learning activities throughout the course of study and the provision of personalized learning. Professional development shall also address the ethical, legal, and practical issues related to social networking and mobile devices in the classroom and other topics deemed necessary by the superintendent or technology director. To the extent possible, job-specific professional development opportunities should be made available, as well as professional development that is personalized to meet the needs of individual staff.

School improvement teams should identify any staff development appropriations for technology-related professional development in their school improvement plans. The superintendent and technology director should assist schools in coordinating staff development needs as provided in policy 7800, Professional and Staff Development.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-522, -528; 143B-1341; State Board of Education Policy SBOP-018

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 7800), Curriculum and Instructional Guides (policy 3115), Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), Internet Safety (policy 3226/4205), Copyright Compliance (policy 3230/7330), School Improvement Plan (policy 3430), Integrity and Civility (policy 4310), Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition (policy 5070/7350), Network Security (policy 6524), Staff Responsibilities (policy 7300), Employee Use of Social Media (policy 7335), Gifts and Bequests (policy 8220)

Other References/Resources: North Carolina Digital Teaching and Learning Competencies for Teachers and Administrators, available at <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/digital-teaching-and-learning/digital-teaching-learning-standards#digital-learning-competencies-for-educators>; North Carolina State School Technology Plan (Division of Instructional Technology) (current version) The North Carolina Digital Learning Plan (2022), available at <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/digital-teaching-and-learning/digital-learning-initiative#:~:text=The%20North%20Carolina%20Digital%20Learning%20Plan%20describes%20the,Learning%20Initiative.%202022%20North%20Carolina%20Digital%20Learning%20Plan>

Adopted: August 3, 2015

Revised: August 14, 2017 (Legal references only); May 21, 2018; {DATE}

Replaces: Board policy 4.01.35, Media Technology and Advisory Committee

Enrollment in the school system generally is limited to those students who meet the domicile or residence requirements outlined in policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements. However, on occasion, special circumstances may warrant a student's enrollment in a different school system. The board, in its discretion, may admit non-domiciled students into the school system and may release domiciled students to another school system in accordance with this policy.

All discretionary admissions decisions will be made in a manner that is not arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory, prohibited by state or federal law, or for personal or political reasons.

~~The superintendent or designee shall approve or deny requests for admission to the school system for students who do not meet the domicile or residence requirements outlined in policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements. Applications from residents of Watauga County will be given consideration before others.~~

A. ADMISSION CRITERIA

The board may choose to admit a~~A non-domiciled student may be admitted and enrolled, at the discretion of the superintendent, only~~ if the following conditions are met.

1. The parent, legal guardian, legal custodian, or other adult meeting the requirements of Board policy 4120, section C.6, ~~must submit a request in writing that explains in writing why, in the opinion of the parent, legal guardian or legal custodian, the student needs to attend school in the school system. An explanation of need will be considered valid grounds for discretionary admission only if there are compelling, specific circumstances indicating that the student should attend school in the school system.~~ may be considered when:
 - a. ~~there are compelling, specific circumstances indicating that the student should continue his or her education in the school system (as, for example, when the student is in his or her senior year when the parent, legal guardian or legal custodian becomes domiciled outside the school system);~~
 - b. ~~there is an extraordinary, compelling, specific family need (as, for example, when a parent, legal guardian or legal custodian is clearly unable to care for the child); or~~
 - c. ~~another extraordinary, specific, and compelling need or hardship is demonstrated.~~

Any reason having to do with athletics or participation in athletics is not a valid or sufficient explanation of need.

2. The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") must have determined that space is available in the school system and in the particular school or program in which the student seeks to enroll.

3. The student must demonstrate that he or she was in good standing in the previous school attended by that student, in terms of academics, discipline, and other measures of standing and progress in the school system. The student also must satisfy the requirements in policy 4115, Behavior Standards for Transfer Students.
4. ~~With the initial application, t~~The student must furnish a transcript and other student record data, including evidence of compliance with the North Carolina immunization requirements.
5. If the student is transferring from another school system in North Carolina, the student must submit a release approved by the board of education of the ~~other~~ school system from which the transfer is being made. If the student's discretionary admission request is granted, the admission will be subject to the terms and conditions agreed to in writing between the board and the board of education of the other school system.
6. If the student does not reside within the assignment area of the school the student will attend, the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian must agree to provide transportation to and from school.
- 7.6. If the student is asserting residency in the geographic area served by the school system, sufficient evidence, such as a copy of utility bills, must be provided ~~with the initial application, such as a copy of utility bills.~~

B. DISCRETIONARY ADMISSION DECISIONS

1. FinalApplication and Decisions

Non-domiciled students who meet the admission criteria may submit a written application for discretionary admission to the superintendent or designee. The application must be accompanied by all required supporting documents, as described above in Section A. After reviewing the application and supporting documents, the superintendent or designee shall make a recommendation to the board to approve or deny the discretionary admission request. Admission may be granted based upon the information contained in the application and supporting documents. Nonresident students who are admitted based upon false or misleading information on their application will have their application voided and acceptance rescinded.

The board will provide~~superintendent or designee shall send~~ a written response to an applicant within ~~40~~30 working days of receipt of the information required under this policy. Final decisions regarding discretionary admissions may be delayed until the board has determined whether space is available in the requested school. Therefore, the written response may provide either a final decision or a notification

that a final decision is pending until the board determines space availability.

2. Appeals

A final decision may be appealed to the board in accordance with the procedures of section E.5 in policy 4010, Student and Parent Grievance Procedure.

3. Renewals

For the renewal of admission in subsequent school years, the student must continue to meet all admission criteria and ~~must~~ be in good standing in terms of academics, attendance, discipline, and other measures of standing and progress in the school system.

C. RELEASE TO ANOTHER SCHOOL SYSTEM

A student domiciled in the school system may request a release from the board to attend a school in a different school system in North Carolina. The student must have both approval of the board to release the student and approval of the receiving board of education to admit the student. The decision whether to admit the student is made under the policies of the receiving board of education.

The superintendent or designee ~~may~~shall develop and administer a procedure to implement this policy.

Legal References: G.S. 7B, art. 35; 35A, art. 6; 50-13.1 to 13.3; 115C-231, -364 to -366.1

Cross References: Student and Parent Grievance Procedure (policy 4010), Behavior Standards for Transfer Students (policy 4115), Domicile or Residence Requirements (policy 4120), Tuition for Discretionary Admissions (policy 4135)

Adopted: April 13, 2015

Replaces: Policy 5.02.60, Tuition for Discretionary Admission (in part); {DATE}

CHILD ABUSE AND RELATED THREATS TO CHILD SAFETY

Policy Code: 4240/7312

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) is concerned with the health, safety, and welfare of all children and recognizes the legal and ethical obligations that school employees, contractors, and volunteers have to report known or suspected maltreatment of children. North Carolina has two separate systems that mandate reports to state authorities of suspected child abuse, neglect, dependency, or maltreatment and a third system for mandated reporting of certain crimes against juveniles to local law enforcement.

When a parent or other caretaker is suspected to have caused a child to be abused, neglected, or dependent, this information must be reported to the county child welfare agency. Suspected human trafficking, involuntary servitude, and sexual servitude of a child and death of a child as a result of maltreatment are special forms of child abuse under law and must be reported to the county child welfare agency, regardless of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. By contrast, suspected child maltreatment by a caregiver in a child care facility, including in a licensed preschool classroom or other licensed classroom or program operated by the school system, must be reported to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE). When the source of the harm or threat of harm to the child is uncertain, a report should be made to both the county child welfare agency and the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education DCDEE.

In addition, state law mandates reports to local law enforcement when a child is a victim of certain violent offenses, sexual offenses, or misdemeanor child abuse. An adult who knows or reasonably should have known of any of these offenses inflicted upon a child must report that information immediately.

The board supports all employees who in good faith make a report under North Carolina’s mandated reporting laws.

The superintendent shall develop any necessary procedures for making a report or otherwise implementing this policy.

A. DUTY TO REPORT CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

A school employee, contractor, or volunteer is legally required to report to local law enforcement when the employee or volunteer knows or reasonably should know that a child has been a victim of any of the following crimes:

1. a sexual offense (which for purposes of this policy, the board interprets to mean any offense that relates to inappropriate sexual ~~contact with~~ conduct with or involving a child);

2. an offense that inflicts serious bodily injury or serious physical injury upon the child by nonaccidental means;
3. an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit either offense described above, or aiding and abetting either offense; or
4. misdemeanor child abuse, which occurs when a parent or any other person providing care or supervision to a child who is under the age of sixteen (1) inflicts or allows to be inflicted physical injury to the child by nonaccidental means or (2) creates or allows a substantial risk of physical injury to the child by nonaccidental means.

Compliance with this reporting requirement does not relieve the employee or volunteer from his or her duty to report pursuant to Sections B and C of this policy. The employee, contractor, or volunteer also shall immediately report the case to the principal.

A school employee, contractor, or volunteer is immune by statute from any state civil and/or criminal liability when making a report in good faith under this Section. An employee who fails to report or who prevents another person from making a report is subject to disciplinary action by the school system and civil and criminal action under the law. A volunteer or contractor who fails to report or prevents another person from making a report may be restricted from school property or lose the privilege of volunteering for or contracting with the school system and is subject to civil and criminal action under the law.

B. DUTY TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT, DEPENDENCY, OR DEATH AS A RESULT OF MALTREATMENT TO THE COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AGENCY

A school employee, contractor, or volunteer who knows or has cause to suspect that (1) a parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker of a child has caused the child to be abused, neglected, or dependent, or (2) that a child has died as a result of maltreatment or been a victim of human trafficking, involuntary servitude, or sexual servitude by any person is legally required to report the case to the director of social services. The employee, contractor, or volunteer also shall immediately report the case to the principal. Any doubt about reporting a suspected situation must be resolved in favor of reporting, and the report must be made immediately.

A school employee, contractor, or volunteer is immune by statute from any civil and/or criminal liability when making a report in good faith under this Section. An employee who fails to report or who prevents another person from making a report is subject to disciplinary action by the school system and civil and criminal action under the law. A volunteer or contractor who fails to report or prevents another person from making a report may be restricted from school property or lose the privilege of volunteering for or contracting with the school system and is subject to civil and criminal action under the law.

C. DUTY TO REPORT CHILD MALTREATMENT IN A CHILD CARE FACILITY TO THE DIVISION OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY EDUCATION

A school employee, contractor, or volunteer who has cause to suspect that a child in a child care facility has been maltreated by a caregiver or has died as a result of maltreatment occurring in a child care facility is legally required to report the case to the ~~Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE).~~

A "child care facility" includes any DHHS-licensed classroom or program operated by the school system, including for example, licensed pre-school or Title I classrooms, licensed afterschool programs, and licensed developmental day programs.

Any doubt about reporting a suspected situation or uncertainty whether the child's care is being provided in a child care facility must be resolved in favor of reporting, and the report should be made immediately.

An employee making a report to DCDEE also shall immediately report the case to the principal. If the suspected maltreatment occurred in a licensed preschool classroom or other licensed classroom or program operated by board, the principal shall immediately notify the superintendent of the suspected maltreatment. No reprisals of any kind may be taken against an employee who makes a good faith report of child maltreatment occurring in any licensed preschool classroom or other licensed classroom or program operated by the board.

An employee who fails to make a report as required by law and this policy may be subject to disciplinary action by the school system. In addition, if the employee works in a licensed preschool classroom or other licensed classroom or program operated by the board, failure to report maltreatment of a child in the program or classroom may itself constitute child maltreatment and result in the employee being placed on the state child maltreatment registry. A volunteer or contractor who fails to report or prevents another person from making a report may be restricted from school property or lose the privilege of volunteering for or contracting with the school system.

D. DUTY TO REPORT LICENSED EMPLOYEES TO THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

In addition to the other reporting requirements of this policy, any administrator who knows or has reason to believe that a licensed employee has engaged in conduct that would justify automatic revocation of the employee's license pursuant to G.S. 115C-270.35(b) or involves physical or sexual abuse of a child shall report that information to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with subsection C.4 of policy 4040/7310, Staff-Student Relations.

D.E. COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES

1. The principal may establish a contact person in the school to act as a liaison with state and local agencies charged with investigating reports made pursuant to this policy.
2. Employees shall cooperate fully with agency personnel conducting an investigation.
3. In a case under the jurisdiction of local law enforcement in which the child's parent, guardian, or custodian is suspected of wrongdoing, employees shall permit the child to be interviewed by local law enforcement on school campuses during school hours. Otherwise, permission from the parent, guardian, or custodian must be obtained before the child may be interviewed by local law enforcement on school campuses during school hours.
4. In a case under the jurisdiction of social services, employees shall permit the child to be interviewed by social services on school campuses during school hours.
5. In a case under the jurisdiction of DCDEE concerning suspected child maltreatment by a caregiver in a child care facility, permission from the parent must be obtained before the child may be interviewed on school campus during school hours.
6. Employees shall provide confidential information to agency personnel, so long as the disclosure does not violate state or federal law.
7. Any confidential information disclosed by the investigating agency to employees must remain confidential and may be redisclosed only for purposes directly connected with carrying out the responsibilities of the school system or the employee.

E.F. SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Upon request and to the extent permitted by law, school system officials shall share with other agencies designated in G.S. 7B-3100(a) information that is relevant to (1) any assessment by the department of social services of a report of child abuse, neglect, dependency or death as a result of maltreatment; (2) the provision or arrangement of protective services in a child abuse, neglect, or dependency case by the department of social services; or (3) any case in which a petition is filed alleging that a juvenile is abused, neglected, dependent, undisciplined, or delinquent. School system officials and the designated agencies must continue to share such information until the protective services case is closed by the department of social services or, if a petition is filed, until the juvenile is no longer subject to the jurisdiction of juvenile court.

F.G. CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEX TRAFFICKING TRAINING PROGRAM

In even numbered years, the school system will provide a child sexual abuse and sex

trafficking education and awareness training program for teachers, instructional support personnel, principals, and assistant principals. The program will include at least two hours of training related to best practices from the field of prevention, the grooming process of sexual predators, the warning signs of sexual abuse and sex trafficking, how to intervene when sexual abuse or sex trafficking is suspected or disclosed, legal responsibilities for reporting sexual abuse or sex trafficking, and available resources for assistance. Designated school personnel shall participate in such training as required by law and board policy.

H. CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

In accordance with G.S. 115C-47(65) and State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003, the school system will provide information on child abuse and neglect, including age-appropriate information on sexual abuse, to students in grades 6 through 12. Such information will be provided in the form of (1) a document given to all students in grades 6 through 12 at the beginning of each school year and (2) a display posted in visible, high-traffic areas throughout each secondary school.

~~The superintendent shall develop any necessary procedures for making a report pursuant to this policy, for sharing information with designated agencies, and for cooperating with agency investigations.~~

~~In addition to the requirements of this policy, any administrator who knows or has reason to believe that a licensed employee has engaged in conduct that would justify automatic revocation of the employee's license pursuant to G.S. 115C 270.35(b) or involves physical or sexual abuse of a child shall report that information to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with subsection C.4 of policy 4040/7310, Staff-Student Relations.~~

Legal References: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; G.S. 7B-101, -301, -302, -309, -3100; 8-53.4; 14-208.6, -318.2, -318.4, -318.6; 110-90.2, -105.3, -105.4, -105.5; 115C-47(65), -270.35(b), -375.20, -400, -402; 126-5; 16 N.C.A.C. 6C.0373; 16 N.C.A.C. 6D .0403; State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 7800), Staff-Student Relations (policy 4040/7310), Student Records (policy 4700)

Adopted: July 14, 2014

Revised: July 9, 2018; September 9, 2019; January 13, 2020; March 12, 2020; August 9, 2021;

All decisions related to student behavior are guided by the board's educational objective to teach responsibility and respect for cultural and ideological differences and by the Watauga County Board of Education's (the "board") commitment to creating safe, orderly, and inviting schools. Student behavior policies are provided in order to establish (1) expected standards of student behavior; (2) principles to be followed in managing student behavior; (3) consequences for prohibited behavior; and (4) required procedures for addressing misbehavior. ~~Teachers, school-based administrators, parents, and law enforcement will be consulted when existing student behavior policies are revised or new such policies are created.~~ Input from teachers, school-based administrators, parents, and law enforcement agencies will be considered when existing student behavior policies are revised or when new policies are created.

A. PRINCIPLES

The reasons for managing student behavior are to (1) create an orderly environment in which students can learn; (2) teach expected standards of behavior; (3) help students learn to accept the consequences of their behavior; and (4) provide students with the opportunity to develop self-control. The following principles apply in managing student behavior.

1. Student behavior management strategies will complement other efforts to create a safe, orderly, and inviting environment.
2. Positive behavioral interventions will be employed as appropriate to improve student behavior.
3. Responsibility, integrity, civility, and other standards of behavior will be integrated into the curriculum.
4. Disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.
5. Consequences for unacceptable behavior will be designed to help a student learn to comply with rules, to be respectful, to accept responsibility for his or her behavior, and to develop self-control.
6. Strategies and consequences will be age and developmentally appropriate.

B. COMMUNICATION OF POLICIES

Board policies related to student behavior are codified mainly in the 4300 series. The superintendent shall incorporate information from such policies into a Code of Student Conduct (4300-R) that notifies students of the behavior expected of them, conduct that may subject them to discipline and the range of disciplinary measures that may be used by school officials. At the discretion of the superintendent, the Code of Student Conduct may include additional rules needed to implement the board's student behavior policies. To

elaborate further on processes for addressing student misbehavior and the use of intervention strategies and consequences, each school will create a student behavior management plan that is consistent with the law, board policies, and the Code of Student Conduct (see policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior). The Code of Student Conduct must incorporate by reference any additional student behavior standards, prohibited conduct or disciplinary measures identified in student behavior management plans developed by individual schools. The Code of Student Conduct must not impose mandatory long-term suspension or expulsion for specific violations unless otherwise provided in state or federal law.

At the beginning of each school year, principals shall make available to each student and parent all of the following: (1) the Code of Student Conduct; (2) any board policies related to behavior that are not part of the Code of Conduct; (3) any related administrative procedures; (4) any additional discipline-related information from the school's student behavior management plan, including behavior standards, prohibited conduct, or disciplinary measures; and (5) any other school rules. This information must be available at other times upon request and must be made available to students enrolling during the school year and their parents.

For the purpose of board policies related to student behavior, all references to "parent" include a parent, a legal guardian, a legal custodian, or another caregiver adult authorized to enroll a student under policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements.

C. APPLICABILITY

Students must comply with the Code of Student Conduct in the following circumstances:

1. while in any school building or on any school premises before, during, or after school hours;
2. while on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity;
3. while waiting at any school bus stop;
4. during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity;
5. when subject to the authority of school employees; and
6. at any other place or time when the student's behavior has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, students will not be disciplined for constitutionally protected behavior. School officials are encouraged to consult with senior administrators before regulating student expression that may be protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

D. CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS

Violations of the Code of Student Conduct must be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines established in the school's behavior management plan (see policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior).

1. Minor Violations

Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct are those less severe infractions involving a lower degree of dangerousness and harm. Examples of minor violations include the use of inappropriate or disrespectful language, noncompliance with a staff directive, dress code violations, and minor physical altercations that do not involve a weapon or an injury. Aggravating circumstances, however, may justify treating an otherwise minor violation as a serious violation.

Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in disciplinary measures or responses up to and including short-term suspension. Further information regarding the procedures for short-term suspensions is provided in policy 4351, Short-Term Suspension. Other disciplinary measures or responses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. parental involvement, such as conferences;
- b. isolation or time-out for short periods of time;
- c. behavior improvement agreements;
- d. instruction in conflict resolution and anger management;
- e. peer mediation;
- f. individual or small group sessions with the school counselor;
- g. academic intervention;
- h. in-school suspension;
- i. detention before and/or after school or on Saturday;
- j. community service;
- k. exclusion from graduation ceremonies;
- l. exclusion from extracurricular activities;

- m. suspension from bus privileges; and
- n. placement in an alternative school.

The student's parent is responsible for transportation that may be required to carry out a consequence. With the exception of suspension from bus privileges, if a parent is unable to provide transportation, another consequence will be substituted.

2. Serious Violations

Serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in any of the consequences that may be imposed for minor violations. In addition, serious violations that threaten to substantially disrupt the educational environment may result in long-term suspension, and serious violations that threaten the safety of students, school employees, or school visitors may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. Certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices may result in a 365-day suspension. Further information regarding the standards and procedures for long-term suspensions, 365-day suspensions, and expulsions is provided in policies 4351, Short-Term Suspension, and 4353, Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion. (See also policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety, for information regarding 365-day suspensions for certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices.)

E. ENFORCEMENT

The superintendent is responsible for supervising the enforcement of the Code of Student Conduct to ensure that school disciplinary policies are uniformly and fairly applied throughout the school system and consistent with students' constitutional rights.

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend. I; *Mahanoy Area School Dist. v. B.L.*, 594 U.S. ___, 141 S. Ct. 2038 (2021); G.S. 115C-47, -276(r), -288, -307, -390.1, -390.2

Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Counseling Program (policy 3610), Domicile or Residence Requirements (policy 4120), Student Behavior policies (4300 series)

Adopted: May 11, 2015

Revised: February 14, 2022; {DATE}

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) recognizes that students may need to take medication during school hours. This may enable students to attend school, improve or maintain their health status, and/or improve their potential for learning. School personnel may administer medication prescribed by a health care practitioner upon the written request of a student’s parent. In limited circumstances, as outlined in Section C, a student may be authorized to self-administer medications. To minimize disruptions to the school day, students should take medications at home rather than at school whenever feasible. School officials may deny a request to administer any medication that could be taken at home or when, in the opinion of the superintendent or designee in consultation with school nursing personnel, other treatment options exist and the administration of the medication by school personnel would pose a substantial risk of harm to the student or others.

For purposes of this policy, all references to “parent” include parents, legal guardians, and legal custodians. In addition, for purposes of this policy, the term “health care practitioner” is limited to licensed medical professionals who are legally authorized to prescribe medications under North Carolina law, such as doctors of medicine, doctors of osteopathic medicine, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners.

Unless otherwise indicated, the terms “medication” and “medicine” include any substance intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of any disease. The term includes all prescription medications and all such substances available over-the-counter without a prescription, such as drugs, herbs, alternative medicines, and supplements (hereinafter “over-the-counter drugs”). The administration of any prescription or over-the-counter drug to students by school employees is prohibited except when performed in accordance with Section A. The self-administration of any prescription or over-the-counter drug by students at school is prohibited and constitutes a violation of policy 4325, Drugs and Alcohol, except in the limited circumstances described in Section C.

The administration, including by parents, school employees, or self-administration, of any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) at school is prohibited unless ~~(1) authorized by and administered by a caregiver in accordance with G.S. 90-94.1 and G.S. 90-113.101 for the treatment of intractable epilepsy, or (2) the CBD or THC product is available by prescription only and has been approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA); and all requirements of this policy are met.~~

A. MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

1. Conditions for Administering Medication

Authorized school employees may administer medication to students when all of the following conditions are met. These conditions apply to all medications, including those available over-the-counter without a prescription.

- a. Parental Consent: The student's parent must make a signed, written request that authorizes school personnel to administer the medication to the student.
- b. Medication Authorization/Order: A health care practitioner must prescribe the medication for use by the student and provide explicit written instructions for administering the medication.
- c. Certification of Necessity: The student's health care practitioner must certify that administration of the medication to the student during the school day is necessary to maintain and support the student's continued presence in school.
- d. Proper Container/Labeling: If the medication to be administered is available by prescription only, the parent must provide the medication in a pharmacy-labeled container with the child's name, the name of the medication, the exact dose to be given, the time/frequency the medication is to be given, the route of administration, the number of doses in the container, and the expiration date of the medication. If the medication is available over-the-counter, it must be provided in the original container or packaging, labeled with the student's name.
- e. Proper Administration: A trained school employee must administer the medication pursuant to the health care practitioner's written instructions provided to the school by the student's parent, and in accordance with professional standards.

The board of education and its employees assume no liability for complications or side effects of medication when administered in accordance with the instructions provided by the parent and health care practitioner.

2. Procedures for Administering Medications

The superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of this policy. These procedures and a copy of this policy must be made available to all students and parents each school year and will be posted on the Watauga County School System website. The superintendent's procedures should be developed according to the guidelines listed below.

- a. The health and welfare of the student must be of paramount concern in all decisions regarding the administration of medication.
- b. Procedures for medication administration must be consistent with recommendations of the School Health Unit of the Children & Youth Branch of the N.C. Division of Public Health, as described in the *North Carolina School Health Program Manual*.

- c. Students with special needs are to be afforded all rights provided by federal and state law as enumerated in the *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*. Students with disabilities also are to be afforded all rights provided by anti-discrimination laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- d. Except as permitted by this policy, no student may possess, use, sell, deliver, or manufacture any drug or counterfeit drug prohibited by policy 4325, Drugs and Alcohol, nor be under the influence of any drug in violation of that policy.
- e. The board generally encourages school personnel to administer medication from a centralized location. However, in all instances, whether administered from a centralized location or multiple locations, any medications kept at school for a student must be kept in a locked and secure place. An exception to the requirement for locked storage may be made for emergency medications that must be immediately accessible. Access to controlled substances should be limited to the school nurse, school staff person authorized to administer medication, and the principal or designee.
- f. All school personnel who will be administering medications must receive appropriate training from the school nurse or other qualified health personnel that includes safety and administration procedures and documentation of the training will be available on request.
- g. Only medications clearly prescribed for the student may be administered by school personnel. At the time a parent brings a medication to school for administration, if school personnel have concerns regarding the appropriateness of the medication or dosage for a student, a confirmation should be obtained from the student's health care practitioner or another health care practitioner prior to administering the medication or allowing the student to self-administer the medication. Self-administration of a medication by a student is allowed only as specified in section C of this policy.
- h. Although efforts should be made not to disrupt instructional time, a parent has the right to administer medication to his or her child at any time while the child is on school property, unless otherwise prohibited by this policy.
- i. Written information maintained by school personnel regarding a student's medicinal and health needs is confidential. Parents and students must be accorded all rights provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and state confidentiality laws. Any employee who violates the confidentiality of the records may be subject to disciplinary action.

3. The school principal shall designate school staff to receive appropriate training and to administer medication in the absence of the school nurse or qualified nurse substitute. The principal will keep records of medication administered, including the time and name of the person administering the medication.
4. The School Nurse will:
 - a. Administer medication according to Watauga County School Board and School Health policies, School Nurse Standards of Practice, the North Carolina Nurse Practice Act, the NC School Health Program Manual, current addition, and North Carolina law regarding administration of medication;
 - b. Maintain current knowledge of the effective use of drugs and treatments used by the school aged child and the possible side effects;
 - c. Obtain all necessary training and possess the abilities to properly administer medication and perform treatments in the school setting, to monitor potential side effects, and to properly document such.

B. EMERGENCY MEDICATION

Students who are at risk for medical emergencies, such as those with diabetes, asthma, or severe allergies, must have an emergency health care plan developed for them to address emergency administration of medication. Students must meet the requirements of subsection A.1, above, including providing authorization and instructions from the health care practitioner and written consent of the parent, in order for emergency medication to be administered by school personnel while the student is at school, at a school sponsored activity, and/or while in transit to or from school or a school-sponsored event.

C. STUDENT SELF-ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS

The board recognizes that students with certain health conditions like diabetes or asthma, or an allergy that could result in an anaphylactic reaction, may need to possess and self-administer medication on school property in accordance with their individualized health care plan or emergency health care plan.

The board also recognizes that students with diabetes may need to possess and self-administer certain medication on school property. Students are prohibited from self-administering medication at school unless (1) the medicine has been prescribed for the treatment of diabetes, asthma or anaphylactic reactions, including insulin or a source of glucose, a prescribed asthma inhaler, or a prescribed epinephrine auto-injector; (2) the medicine is administered in accordance with the student's individualized health care plan or emergency health care plan and any relevant administrative regulations; and (3) the requirements of this section are met. "Diabetes medication" means a medication prescribed

for the treatment of diabetes and includes insulin or glucose. The superintendent shall develop procedures for the possession and self-administration of such medication by students on school property, during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, and/or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events.

1. Authorization to Self-Administer Medication

Before a student will be allowed to self-administer medication pursuant to this section, the student's parent must provide to the principal or designee all of the documents listed below:

- a. written authorization from the student's parent for the student to possess and self-administer the medication;
- b. a written statement from the student's health care practitioner verifying that:
 - 1) the student has diabetes or asthma, or an allergy that could result in anaphylactic reaction;
 - 2) the health care practitioner prescribed the medication for use on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events; and
 - 3) the student understands, has been instructed in self-administration of the medication, and has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the medication and any accompanying device, and has been determined to be competent for self-administration;
- c. a written treatment plan and written emergency protocol formulated by the prescribing health care practitioner for managing the student's diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis episodes and for medication use by the student;
- d. a statement provided by the school system and signed by the student's parent acknowledging that the board of education and its employees and agents are not liable for injury arising from the student's possession and self-administration of the medication; and
- e. any other documents or items necessary to comply with state and federal laws.

Prior to being permitted to self-administer medication at school, the student also must demonstrate to the school nurse, or the nurse's designee, (1) the skill level necessary to use the medication and any device necessary for its administration; and (2) sufficient knowledge and maturity to be independent in the management of the medication with no oversight from school staff.

The student's parent must provide to the school backup medication that school personnel are to keep in a location to which the student has immediate access in the event the student does not have the required medication.

All information provided to the school by the student's parent must be reviewed by the school nurse and kept on file at the school in an easily accessible location. Any permission granted by the principal or designee for a student to possess and self-administer medication will be effective only for the same school for 365 calendar days. Such permission must be renewed each school year.

2. Responsibilities of the Student

A student who is authorized in accordance with this policy to carry medication for self-administration must carry the medication in the original labeled container with the student's name on the label.

3. Consequences for Improper Use

A student who uses his or her medication in a manner other than as prescribed or who permits another person to use the medication may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school disciplinary policy. However, school officials shall not impose disciplinary action on the student that limits or restricts the student's immediate access to the diabetes, asthma, or anaphylactic medication.

The board does not assume any responsibility for the administration of medication to a student by the student, the student's parent, or any other person who is not authorized by this policy to administer medications to students.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12134, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. pt. 300; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. -705(20), -794, 34 C.F.R. pt. 104; G.S. 90-94.1, ~~113.101~~; 115C-36, -307(c), -375.1, -375.2, -375.2A, -375.3; *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*, State Board of Education Policy EXCP-000

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), Drugs and Alcohol (policy 4325), Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injector Devices (policy 5024/6127/7266)

Other Resources: *North Carolina School Health Program Manual* (N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Div. of Public Health, School Health Unit, 2020), available at <https://publichealth.nc.gov/wch/cy/schoolnurses/manual.htm>

Adopted: April 11, 2016

Revised: August 14, 2017 (Legal references only); July 9, 2018; April 8, 2019; June 8, 2020;

| September 13, 2021; {DATE}

Replaces: Board policy 5.03.10, Medication Administration

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) recognizes that it is important for students to maintain their physical health and receive proper nutrition in order to take advantage of educational opportunities. The board further recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to a student’s physical well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. As part of that commitment, the board directs the superintendent to oversee the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of this policy and other school system efforts to encourage students to be healthy and active, including compliance with the State Board of Education’s Healthy Active Children Policy, SHLT-000, as further described in Section F, below. The superintendent may designate a school system official to carry out this responsibility (“lead wellness official”).

The superintendent or designee shall make the most current version of this policy available to members of the school community and the public by posting it on the school system website and/or by distributing it annually through other means reasonably intended to reach the school community and public. In addition, the superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of this policy to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) when requested to do so.

A. SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The board will maintain a school health advisory council to help plan, update, implement, promote, and monitor this policy as well as to address other health and nutrition issues within the school system. The council serves as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and works in conjunction with the lead wellness official charged with oversight of this policy and the school system’s efforts to promote student and employee health and wellness in compliance with state and federal requirements. The council is authorized to examine related research and laws, assess student needs and the current school environment, review existing board policies and administrative regulations, collaborate with appropriate community agencies and organizations, and help raise awareness about student health issues. The council also may make policy recommendations to the board related to this policy and other policies concerning student wellness and in conjunction with the lead wellness official, shall periodically review and suggest revisions to this policy. In addition, the council may assist in the development of a plan for measuring and assessing implementation of this policy and in developing methods to inform and update the public about the content and implementation of this policy as described in Sections F and G, below.

The council will be composed of representatives from the school system, the local health department, and the community. The council must include members of each of the following groups: the school board, school system administrators, school system food service representatives, physical education teachers, school health professionals, students, parents or guardians, and the public. The council will provide information to the board about the following areas or concerns: (1) physical activity, (2) health education, (3)

employee wellness, (4) health services, (5) social and emotional climate, (6) nutrition environment and services, (7) counseling, psychological, and social services, (8) physical environment, (9) family engagement, and (10) community involvement.

The council shall provide periodic reports to the board and public regarding the status of its work. In addition, the council shall assist the lead wellness official in creating an annual report that includes the minutes of physical activity and the minutes of physical education and/or healthful living education received by students in the system each school year, as well as any other information required by the State Board of Education or NCDPI.

B. NUTRITION PROMOTION AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

The board believes that promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement. The general goals of nutrition promotion and nutrition education are (1) to provide appropriate instruction for the acquisition of behaviors that contribute to a healthy lifestyle for students and (2) to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students.

The board will provide nutrition education within the Healthful Living Standard Course of Study and the grade level expectations outlined in the Healthful Living Essential Standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Nutrition education should be designed to provide all students with the knowledge and skills needed to lead healthy lives. Students should learn to address nutrition-related health concerns through age-appropriate nutrition education lessons and activities.

Nutrition education and promotion should extend beyond the school environment by engaging and involving families and communities. School system personnel may coordinate with agencies and community organizations to provide opportunities for appropriate student projects related to nutrition. School system personnel are to work to disseminate and promote consistent nutrition messages throughout the school system, schools, classrooms, school dining areas, homes, community, and media.

In conjunction with the school health advisory council, the board establishes the following additional specific evidence-based goals and strategies for nutrition promotion and education. The board will periodically measure and report progress toward meeting these goals.

- Teachers will integrate nutrition education into the curriculum as appropriate.
- Nutrition education will promote fruits, vegetables, whole-grain products, low-fat dairy products, healthy food preparation methods, and appropriate portion sizes.
- Nutrition and health posters, signage, and/or displays will be exhibited in the cafeteria food service and dining areas and will be rotated, updated, or changed as new or additional information is available.

- Students will have opportunities to taste foods that are low in saturated and trans fats, sodium, and added sugar.
- School personnel will strive to provide a pleasant eating experience for students and adults by adopting the following practices:
 - Student input is solicited for meal choices.
 - Nutrient analysis is available to teachers, parents, students, and health professionals when possible.
 - Adequate time to eat is provided. The recommended eating time for each child after being served is 15 minutes for breakfast and 20 minutes for lunch. School personnel will schedule enough time, lunch periods, and serving lines so students do not have to spend excessive time waiting in line.
 - Adult supervision and role modeling is available during the meal service times to encourage students to eat meals.
 - Drinking fountains will be available for students to get water at meals and throughout the day.

C. NUTRITION STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL

Consistent with policy 6200, Goals of School Nutrition Services, all foods available in the system's schools during the school day that are offered to students should help promote student health, reduce childhood obesity, provide a variety of nutritional meals, and promote lifelong healthy eating habits. All foods and beverages sold at school must meet the nutrition standards established in policy 6230, School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards, including the following:

1. School Lunch, Breakfast and Snack Programs

Foods provided through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast, or After School Snack Programs must comply with federal and state nutrition standards. The director of child nutrition shall ensure that school system guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law.

2. Competitive Foods

All foods sold on school campuses in areas that are accessible to students during the school day (defined as the period from midnight through 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) in competition with the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs ("competitive foods") must comply with the federal Smart

Snacks in School standards. Competitive foods include food, snacks and beverages from a la carte menus, vending machines, and outside suppliers, as well as foods or beverages sold in school stores and at fund-raisers. Vending machine sales also must comply with the requirements of G.S. 115C-264.2 and ~~Eat Smart: North Carolina's Recommended Standards for All Foods Available in Schools~~.

3. Other Foods Available on the School Campus During the School Day and After the School Day

School principals shall establish rules for foods and beverages brought from home for classroom events or parties during the school day or for extracurricular activities after the school day. The board encourages principals to establish rules that are consistent with the Smart Snacks in School standards.

Fundraising activities that involve the sale of foods and/or beverages to students during the school day (from midnight until 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) must comply with the Smart Snack Rules and may not be conducted until after the end of the last lunch period. See policy 6230, School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards.

School principals may establish standards for fund-raising activities conducted after the school day (beginning 31 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) that involve the sale of food and/or beverages. The board encourages alternative fundraising activities such as non-food items or physical activity.

4. Food and Beverage Marketing

Food and beverage marketing on school campuses during the school day must meet federal and state standards. In accordance with these standards, only foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snack standards (as described in subsection C.2, above) may be marketed or advertised on school campuses during the school day. To comply with this requirement, existing supplies, materials, or equipment that depict noncompliant products or logos will be replaced or removed in accordance with normal lifecycles or as otherwise would occur in the normal course of business.

D. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

1. Goals of the Physical Education Program

The goal of the physical education program is to promote lifelong physical activity and provide instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation in physical activity. To address issues such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, and Type II diabetes, students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade must have the opportunity to participate in physical activity as part of the

system's physical education curriculum. The goal for elementary schools is to provide 150 minutes weekly of quality physical education with a certified physical education teacher. The goal for middle schools is to provide 225 minutes weekly of Healthful Living Education, divided equally between health and physical education with certified health and physical education teachers.

2. The Physical Education Course

The physical education course should be designed to foster support and guidance for being physically active, help students know and understand the value of being physically fit, and teach students the types of activities that contribute to total fitness. The course is to be taught in an environment where students can learn, practice, and receive assessment on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge as defined in the North Carolina Healthful Living Standard Course of Study. Students should be engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for fifty percent or more of class time. Class for physical education should be equivalent in size to those of other academic classes.

3. Physical Activity Requirements and Goals

School personnel should strive to provide opportunities for age- and developmentally-appropriate physical activity during the day for all students so that students can learn how to maintain a physically active lifestyle. Schools must provide a minimum of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily for kindergarten through eighth-grade students. Such activity may be achieved through a regular daily physical education class as described in Sections D.1 and D.2 above, or through recess, dance, classroom energizers and/or other curriculum-based physical activity programs of at least 10 minutes duration, that, when combined, total 30 minutes of daily physical activity. Principals shall work with teachers to ensure that students meet the minimum physical activity requirement. The board will periodically measure and report progress toward meeting these goals.

To ensure that students have ongoing opportunities for physical activity and maintain a positive attitude towards physical activity, structured/unstructured recess and other physical activity may not be taken away from students as a form of punishment. In addition, severe and inappropriate exercise may not be used as a form of punishment for students.

In conjunction with the school health advisory council, the board establishes the following additional specific evidence-based goals and strategies for physical activity:

- K-8 schools and the high school will provide extra-curricular activities that enable students to select from a variety of sports and other active endeavors.

- Teachers will incorporate opportunities for physical activity in the classroom when possible.
- The K-8 schools will provide annual fitness testing for students in grades 3 through 8.

E. OTHER SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE WELLNESS

In addition to the standards discussed above, the board adopts the following goals for school-based activities designed to promote wellness:

1. Schools will provide a clean and safe meal environment.
2. Students will be provided adequate time to eat meals.
3. Drinking water will be available at all meal periods and throughout the school day.
4. Professional development will be provided for school system nutrition staff.
5. To the extent possible, the school system will utilize available funding and outside programs to enhance student wellness.
6. Food will not be used in the schools as a reward or punishment.
7. As appropriate, the goals of this wellness policy will be considered in planning all school-based activities.
8. Administrators, teachers, school nutrition personnel, students, parents or guardians, and community members will be encouraged to serve as positive role models to promote student wellness.
9. Teachers are encouraged to serve as role models by being physically active alongside their students during physical classroom activities.
10. Each school will annually hold a health fair to provide information supporting healthy lifestyle choices and practices.

F. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW OF POLICY

1. Oversight and Monitoring of Implementation and Progress

The lead wellness official, in conjunction with the school health advisory council, shall oversee the implementation of this policy and monitor system schools,

programs, and curricula to ensure compliance with and to assess progress under this policy, related policies, and established guidelines or administrative regulations. Each principal shall be responsible for and shall report to the lead wellness official regarding compliance and measurements of progress in his or her school. Staff members responsible for programs related to student wellness also shall report to the lead wellness official regarding the status of such programs.

2. Review of Policy

The lead wellness official shall work with members of the school health advisory council to periodically review and update this policy based on the triennial assessment of the school system's compliance with the policy (see subsection F.4. below), progress toward meeting the policy goals, and other relevant factors. The lead wellness official shall document the review process and participants, and the method used to notify the school health advisory council and/or other stakeholders of their ability to participate.

3. Annual Reporting

The lead wellness official shall prepare annual written reports to the superintendent and NCDPI/State Board of Education that provide all information required by the superintendent and/or the state pertaining to the school system's efforts to comply with this policy and SBE Policy SHLT-000.

4. Triennial Assessment

Beginning with school year 2017-18, and at least once every three years thereafter, the superintendent or designee shall report to the board and public on the system's compliance with laws and policies related to student wellness, the implementation of this policy, and progress toward meeting the goals of the policy. At a minimum, the superintendent or designee shall measure and report the following:

- 1) the extent to which the individual schools are in compliance with this policy;
- 2) the extent to which the board's wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies and meets state and federal requirements; and
- 3) a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

The report may also include the following items:

- 4) a summary of each school's activities undertaken in support of the policy goals;
- 5) an assessment of the school environment regarding student wellness issues;
- 6) an evaluation of the school nutrition services program;
- 7) a review of all foods and beverages sold in schools for compliance with established nutrition guidelines;
- 8) a review of guidelines for foods and beverages available, but not sold, during the school day, as described in subsection c.3, above;
- 9) information provided in the report from the school health advisory council, as described in Section A, above; and
- 10) suggestions for improvement to this policy or other policies or programs.

G. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

1. The school system will publish contact information for the lead wellness official on the school system website.
2. The lead wellness official shall assist the school health advisory council with annually informing and updating the public about this policy and its implementation and State Board Policy SHLT-000.
3. The superintendent or designee shall make public the results of the triennial assessment described in subsection F.4. of this policy.
4. All information required to be reported under this section and any additional information required by the state to be reported publicly shall be widely disseminated to students, parents, and the community in an accessible and easily understood manner, which may include by posting on the school system website.

H. RECORDKEEPING

The superintendent shall maintain records to document compliance with this policy and all federal and state requirements. These records, at a minimum, must include:

1. a written copy of this policy and any updates;
2. the most recent triennial assessment for each school;

3. documentation demonstrating:
 - a. the efforts to review and update this policy, as described in subsection F.2 of this policy;
 - b. how this policy and information about the most recent triennial assessments have been made available to the public, as described in Section G;
 - c. compliance with the annual reporting requirements of subsection F.3; and
 - d. other efforts to involve the school health advisory council and/or other community members in the implementation of or assessment of compliance with this policy.

Legal References: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, 42 U.S.C. 1751; Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, P.L. 111-296; National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*; 7 C.F.R. 210.11, 210.12, and 210.31; G.S. 115C-264.2, ~~264.3~~; 16 N.C.A.C. 6H .0104; State Board of Education Policies SHLT-000, CHNU-002, ~~*Eat Smart: North Carolina's Recommended Standards for All Foods Available in Schools*~~, N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, N.C. Division of Public Health (2004)

Cross References: Goals of Student Health Services (policy 6100), Goals of School Nutrition Services (policy 6200), School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards (policy 6230)

Adopted: June 8, 2015

Replaces: Board Policy 4.01.80, Wellness Policy

Revised: January 15, 2018; November 13, 2018; January 13, 2020 (Legal references only); July 26, 2021; {DATE}

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) intends to comply fully with all licensure requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, state law, and State Board of Education policies.

A. LICENSURE AND OTHER QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Except as otherwise permitted by the State Board of Education or state law, a person employed in a professional educator position must hold at all times a valid North Carolina professional educator’s license appropriate to his or her position.
2. To the extent possible, all professional teaching assignments will be in the area of the professional employee’s license except as may be otherwise allowed by state and federal law and State Board policy.
3. The board may employ candidates entering the teaching profession from other fields who hold a residency license or an emergency license.
4. In extenuating circumstances when no other appropriately licensed professionals or persons who are eligible for a residency license are available to fill a position, the board may employ an individual who holds a permit to teach issued by the State Board of Education.

B. EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

1. Adjunct CTE Instructors

An unlicensed individual who meets the adjunct hiring criteria established by the State Board of Education for a specific career and technical education (CTE) career cluster may be employed as an adjunct CTE instructor for up to 20 hours per week or up to five full consecutive months of employment, provided the individual first completes preservice training and meets all other statutory requirements for serving as an adjunct instructor established by G.S. 115C-157.1.

2. Adjunct Instructors in Core Academic Subjects, Fine and Performing Arts, and Foreign Languages

In accordance with G.S. 115C-298.5, an unlicensed faculty member of a higher education institution who meets the adjunct hiring criteria established by the State Board of Education may be employed as a temporary adjunct instructor for specific core academic subjects, fine and performing arts, and foreign language courses in grades kindergarten through twelve provided the individual first completes preservice training and meets all other statutory and State Board of Education requirements.

In addition, an individual with a related bachelor's or graduate degree may be employed as a temporary adjunct instructor to teach high-school level courses in core academic subjects, fine and performing arts, and foreign language in the individual's area of specialized knowledge or work experience provided the individual first completes preservice training required under G.S. 115C-298.5(a1).

3. Interim Principals

A retired former principal or assistant principal may be employed as an interim principal for the remainder of any school year, regardless of licensure status.

4. Cherokee Language and Culture Instructors

An individual approved to teach in accordance with an MOU entered into pursuant to G.S. 115C-270.21 will be authorized to teach Cherokee language and culture classes without a license.

5. Driver Education Instructors

An individual, who is not licensed in driver education, is authorized to work as a driver education instructor if the individual holds Certified Driver Training Instructor status according to minimum standards established by State Board of Education policy DRIV-003.

C. BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM

The superintendent or designee shall develop a plan and a comprehensive program for beginning teacher support. The plan must be approved by the board and the Department of Public Instruction and kept on file for review. The plan must be aligned to the State Board of Education's beginning teacher support program standards and, when monitored must demonstrate proficiency. The school system will also participate in implementing a regionally-based annual peer review and support system.

Teachers with fewer than three years of teaching experience will be required to participate in the Beginning Teacher Support Program.

D. LICENSE CONVERSION

Teachers must meet all requirements of the State Board of Education in order to move from an initial professional license or residency license to a continuing professional license or to move from a continuing professional license to a lifetime license. ~~Licensing is a state decision and cannot be appealed at the local level. The superintendent or designee shall ensure that teachers not qualifying for continuing professional licensure are informed of the process for appealing the state decision.~~

E. LICENSE RENEWAL

Licensure renewal is the responsibility of the individual, not of the school system. Any employee who allows a license to expire must have it reinstated prior to the beginning of the next school year. A teacher whose license has expired is subject to dismissal.

The school system may offer courses, workshops, and independent study activities to help school personnel meet license renewal requirements. Any renewal activity offered must be consistent with State Board of Education policy. In addition, the superintendent or designee shall develop a procedure to determine the appropriateness of any credit offered in advance of renewal activities.

Decisions regarding the employment of teachers who fail to meet the required proficiency standard for renewal of a continuing professional license will be made in accordance with G.S. 115C-270.30(b)(4) and applicable State Board of Education requirements. The superintendent or designee shall determine the professional development required of a teacher whose continuing professional license has reverted to an initial professional license and/or has expired due to performance issues. The superintendent or designee may authorize or direct principals to prescribe professional development to such employees in accordance with the employee's demonstrated deficiencies.

Although lifetime license holders do not have to complete continuing education credits to maintain licensure, the superintendent may require them to participate in professional development opportunities as a condition of employment. (See policy 1610/7800, Professional and Staff Development.)

F. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

At the beginning of each school year, school system officials shall notify the parents or guardians of each student attending a Title I school or participating in a Title I program of their right to request the following information about qualifications of their child's teacher: whether the teacher has met NC qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which North Carolina qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of his or her certification; and whether the child is provided services by a paraprofessional, and if so, the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The school system will give notice within 10 school days to the parents of children who have been assigned or, after four consecutive weeks, have been taught by a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

G. EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS

The superintendent shall assess whether low-income, minority, learning disabled, and/or

English learners are being taught by inexperienced, ineffective, or out-of-field teachers at higher rates than students who do not fall into these categories and shall develop a plan to address any such disparities. If DPI does not require such a plan of the LEA, the superintendent is not required to develop a plan under this subsection unless he or she determines that one is needed to address inequities within the school system.

Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*; 34 C.F.R. 200.55-57, 200.61; G.S. 115C art. 17E; 115C-157.1, -270.15, -270.20, -270.21, -284, -295, -298.5, -325(e)(1)(m) (applicable to career status teachers), -325.4(a)(12) (applicable to non-career status teachers), -333, -333.1; State Board of Education Policies CTED-004, DRIV-003, DRIV-004, EVAL-004. EVAL-023, EVAL-034, LICN-001, LICN-005, LICN-021, LICN-022, TCED-016; *Beginning Teacher Support Program Handbook* (NCDPI), available at <https://sites.google.com/dpi.nc.gov/nceref/bt-support-program-resources>

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 1610/7800)

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Replaces: Policy 3.02.40, Qualifications of Certified Personnel