Watauga County Board of Education

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT MARGARET E. GRAGG EDUCATION CENTER

Watauga County Schools

TEL: (828) 264-7190 FAX: (828) 264-7196

P.O. BOX 1790 BOONE N.C. 28607

WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017

5:30 P.M.

5:30	1.	CALL TO ORDER	Board Chair	
5:32	2.	CLOSED SESSION	Board Chair	
3.32	2.	A. Approval of Minutes B. Student Records/N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(1) C. Reportable Offenses – N.C.G.S.115C-288(g) D. Personnel – N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(6)		
6:00	3.	OPEN SESSION/MOMENT OF SILENCE	Board Chair	
6:03	4.	DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA Board Chair		
6:05	5.	CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Board Chair	
6:07	6.	PUBLIC COMMENT	Board Chair	
		Note: Anyone who wishes to address the Board should sign the Public	c Comment Roster	
6:09 6:14	7. 8.	SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT STUDENTS' REPORT Kelsie Marlett and	Dr. Scott Elliott	
6:19	9.	PUBLIC RECOGNITION		
		 A. National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Recognition B. NCTM Outstanding Secondary Math Teacher C. Servant's Heart Award for January 	Tamara Stamey Meredith Jones Dr. Scott Elliott	
6:29	10.	CONCURRENCE		
		Field Trip	Dr. Elliott	
6:30	11.	FINANCE		
		Declaration of Surplus Property Budget Amendment #4 Lottery Applications	Ly Marze	

6:40 12. PERSONNEL

I. Resignations

Dr. Steven Martin

- II. Classified Personnel
 - A. New Employment
 - B. Transfer of Assignment
- III. Substitutes
- IV. Hospital Homebound
- V. Leave of Absence Request

6:45 13. BOARD OPERATIONS

Board Chair

Standing Committee Appointments for 2017

6:50 14. POLICIES – SECOND READING

7720 Employee Political Activities

Dr. Wayne Eberle

- 5035 Political Activities on School Property
- 7241 Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

7:05 15. POLICIES – FIRST READING

4002 Parental Involvement

Dr. Wayne Eberle

- 3560 Title I Parent and Family Engagement
- 4003 Translating Policies for Students and Parents
- 9110 Use and Selection of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, and Construction Managers at Risk

7:15 16. POLICIES RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL ON FIRST READING

3400-R Grading and Reporting

Tamara Stamey

7:20 17. BOARD COMMENTS

7:25 18. ADJOURNMENT

19. MISCELLANEOUS

Important Future Dates:

Personnel Advisory Committee Meeting, 01/25/2017



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TEL: (828) 264-7190 FAX: (828) 264-7196

DATE:

TIME:

December 12, 2016

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Ron Henries, Brenda Reese,

Barbara Kinsey, Jay Fenwick

and Jason K. Cornett

Dr. Scott Elliott, Superintendent

Chris Campbell, Board Attorney

Andrew Nenow, Student

Representative

Kelsey Marlett, Student

Representative

PLACE:

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center

CALL TO ORDER

Ron Henries, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

CLOSED SESSION

Ron Henries called the meeting to order in closed session under N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(1) Student Records, N.C.G.S.115C-288(g) Reportable Offenses, N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel, and N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney Client.

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent, Scott Elliott. He began the meeting with a moment of silence.

SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Elliott introduced the Honorable Rebecca Eggers-Gryder and thanked her for coming to officiate the swearing in of the newly elected Board members. Judge Eggers-Gryder administered to the oath to Brenda Reese whose grandson held the Bible during her oath. Judge Eggers-Gryder next administered the oath to Ron Henries, assisted by Jason Cornett who held the Bible for him. Barbara Kinsey next took the oath and Jay Fenwick held the Bible for her. Judge Eggers-Gryder thanked the Board for allowing her to be a part of the ceremony and stated that she was honored to do so.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Dr. Scott Elliott called for nominations for Board Chair. Barbara Kinsey nominated Ron Henries as Board Chair, and moved that he be accepted by acclamation. There being no additional

nominations, a vote was called and the vote was unanimous. Following the election of the Board Chair, Dr. Elliott turned the meeting over to Mr. Henries. Mr. Henries called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Jay Fenwick nominated Brenda Reese. Mr. Henries asked if there were additional nominations. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Henries called for a vote. The vote was unanimous

DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

No adjustments were necessary to the agenda.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fenwick noted a typographical error on the last page. Jason Cornett moved that the corrected minutes be approved and it was seconded by Brenda Reese. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Henries noted that there were no public comments at the December 2016 meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Elliott, welcomed all teachers, students, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. He noted that there would be an early release, an optional workday, followed by the holiday break in two weeks.

He suggested that the Board hold a work session to discuss the Strategic Plan on January 6th with lunch at 11AM, a meeting until 3 or 4PM. He invited the Board to Central Service's holiday luncheon on December 21st, and to participate in the ugly sweater contest if they chose. He noted that we have been in school all year on the original published schedule with only one day on a two-hour delay.

STUDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kelsey Marlett, spoke about the auditions for Guys and Dolls, the Chorus and Band Holiday Concerts. Mr. Andrew Nenow spoke about the Mr. WHS contest which raised \$13,000 to support the chosen families. Ms. Marlett noted that Exams would begin on Friday. Dr. Elliott spoke about the coffee hour that was sponsored by Student Council and Ms. Marlett and Mr. Nenow that was very successful thanks to the student representatives.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Sarah Miller and Zach Walker welcomed everyone. Ms. Miller stated that it was an honor to recognize Pioneer Playmaker Ensemble. This was their 28th participation in contest. Their original play, Mia Culpa, faced lots of competition, yet the performances resulted in an abundance of awards for the Ensemble, the Directors, and for individual Actors. She noted that the students trusted the process of writing the play. Ms. Miller presented their Medal "on loan" to Dr. Elliott for display. Kinsey asked if the students knew the meaning of the title, "Mia Culpa", and explained that it meant "my bad". All members of the Ensemble introduced themselves.

Tammie Gelderman recognized the contribution of Dr. Jerry Butler to AppKIDS, an organization in existence for 37 year which has traditionally supported local students during Christmas. AppKIDS is an acronym for Kindness in Donation Services. Through their letter writing campaign to acquire funds for this year's Christmas program, Dr. Butler donated \$1,200 in dental services to students in the program.

Dr. Elliott recognized the recipient of the November Servant's Heart Award, Trent Ipock. He said that since Mr. Ipock had departed from the November meeting before he could be recognized, the presentation would be made this month. Dr. Elliott noted that this is his favorite part of meeting He introduced Mr. Ipock who is a relatively new employee who exemplifies care and hard work. He is a part-time custodian, part –time in child nutrition at Hardin Park (many students' "favorite lunch lady"), married, father of two young children, an Appalachian University student, with 11 years of service in Army, Top Secret Security clearance, a wealth of experience in civil affairs, counter-intelligence, and more. Dr. Elliott thanked Mr. Ipock for his military service, and noted his numerous awards and his contributions to the war on terrorism. Mr. Ipock's father has been Chairman of the School Board in New Bern, NC.

CONCURRENCE

The field Trip requests were presented to the Board. Jay Fenwick made a motion to approve the requests, Jason Cornett seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Dr. Elliott spoke about the Facilities Agreement for The Heart Church which had been written to allow for the use of Watauga High School Auditorium during the 2017 calendar year. Following discussion, Brenda Reese made a motion to approve, Jay Fenwick seconded the motion. Mr. Fenwick questioned whether or not the contract would automatically renew for 2018. Dr. Elliott said that there would be a new contract for 2018, but that the school system would be open to that possibility. Following discussion, the vote to approve was unanimous.

Dr. Eberle presented the School Improvement Plans for additional consideration. He noted that the policies in the packet were the unedited policies presented in November. He stated that if approved subject to the grammatical errors being corrected, the corrections would occur and they would be placed on the school websites. Brenda Reese moved that the School Improvement Plans be approved subject to grammatical changes and the motion was seconded by Jason Cornett. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Dr. Elliott thanked Dr. Eberle the continuing to work on these while working at Watauga High. Dr. Eberle thanked everyone for being supportive during this transitional time.

FINANCE

Mrs. Marze introduced Brady Combs, the representative from the Accounting firm who performs our audit. Mr. Combs congratulated the school system and central office for an exemplary job throughout the year.

He presented audit report, saying that the auditors visited all schools, the Central Office, and that the 15-16 audits were "Un-modified", which is highest level of opinion that they are able to issue. He stated that compliance and internal control audit were all in order and that it is a pleasure to do work for Watauga County Schools. He noted that they were available throughout the year if needed.

Mrs. Marze presented Budget Amendment #3 which reflected state adjustments. Revisions reflect a transfer of funds to Charter schools. A motion was made to approve the Amendment by Barbara Kinsey and seconded by Brenda Reese. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Ms. Marze presented the Surplus Declaration Request. A motion was made by Jay Fenwick to approve the report and seconded by Barbara Kinsey. The vote in favor was unanimous.

PERSONNEL

- I. Resignations
- II. Certified personnel
- III. Classified Personnel
- A. New Employment
- B. Transfer of Assignment
- IV. Substitutes
- V. Athletics
- VI. Leave of Absence Requests

A motion was made by Jason Cornett and seconded by Jay Fenwick to approve items 1-6 of the Personnel report. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Stephen Martin presented a brief introduction to proposed class-size legislation in the State government. Dr. Elliott stated that he will have a conversation with Sen. Ballard regarding legislation next week. Dr. Martin will expound on this issue at the January work session. Dr. Martin presented information regarding proposed legislation in hard copy and a digital presentation. The State has proposed a change from historic, K-3 maximum class size. After the 2nd month of school, the class size would need to be below 24 students. To comply, it might be necessary to acquire additional assistants or teachers. The new maximum levels proposed are: Kindergarten-1:18, maximum of 21 after the second month, 1st grade-1:16, maximum of 19, and 2nd grade-1:17 maximum of 20. Dr. Martin stated that growing numbers of students was a good news/ bad news situation. Both the student population growth and the proposal could impact staffing needs and classroom spaces required to have additional classes. Mrs. Reese questioned the funding necessary for compliance. Dr. Martin shared that, while not desirable, combination classes could be an option. Mr. Fenwick questioned whether double class/co-teachers would be an option.

POLICIES - SECOND READING

3100 - R(2) High School Curriculum Committee

3460 - Graduation Requirements

3421 - Transfer of Credit

9400 - Sale, Disposal and Lease

1360 Official School Spokesperson

1210 - Board and Superintendent Relations

A motion was made by Jason Cornett to approve the policies presented for second reading and seconded by Brenda Reese. The vote was unanimous.

POLICIES - FIRST READING

Dr. Eberle presented new policies for first reading.

7720 Employee Political Activities

This policy is duplicated from the State law.

5035 Political Activities on School Property

Dr. Eberle would like to discuss this policy with chairs of local political parties and will clarify the rules for teachers. Ms. Kinsey asked about the impact on mock debates in Social Studies classes. Jay Fenwick questioned the statement in the 3rd paragraph regarding a school system event/school sponsored function. Mr. Campbell explained which events would be in this category.

7241 Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

Mr. Fenwick noted the need for a comma after "activity bus".

POLICIES RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL ON FIRST READING

3565/8307 Title I Program Comparability of Services

Dr. Eberle stated that this policy was recommended by NCSBA as an umbrella for approval of our Title I status. He noted that we are up-to-date, but we needed this policy for compliance.

A motion to approve the policy was made by Jay Fenwick and seconded by Brenda Reese. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD ETHICS TRAINING

Board Ethics training, presented by Chris Campbell, began at 7:35PM. The information, presented in slides, discussion, and question and answer formats covered the following topics: The duty to act corporately and not individually; responsibilities for human resource approval; employee disciplinary issues; duty to be impartial in judicial functions; definitions of public records relating to correspondence; definition, authority and usage of closed session; responsibilities and good practice of Board Chairmen; information flow between various parties; a definition and principals of Ethics and ethical behavior; example of conflicts of interest; confidentiality; and appropriate and inappropriate gifts and favors extended to Board members, officers and employees.

BOARD OPERATIONS/COMMENTS

Mrs. Kinsey stated that she appreciated the hard work of the Board and held them in the highest esteem.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brenda Reese, and seconded by Barbara Kinsey. The vote was unanimous to adjourn at 9:37 PM.



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4.01.20c

OVERNIGHT STAY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

MUST BE APPROVED BY PRINCIPAL, SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Request: 1/5/17 School: wtt 5 Teacher: List Corols
School Staff Chaperones: Lish Combo 5
Non-School Staff Chaperones: (See SBE Policy 2.04.50 for standards School Volunteers must meet) Grade: Number of Students: Dates of Trip: from 2/3 /17 to 2/4/17
Time Leaving: 7 0 m Time Returning: 80 m
City, State, Place to be Visited: MALS Hill College
Mode of Transportation: (ental cax
Driver/s: Lisa Combs
Round Trip Mileage: #Buses Needed: Per Student Expense:\$
Source of Funds:
Purpose of Trip and How It Relates to the Curriculum:
auditioned and been scated in
Mars Hill Choral Clinic
Principal's Approval: Date: 5 Jan / Zei 7
Superintendent's Approval. Date: 1 / 6/17
Board of Education's Approval: Date:/

This field trip request form must be submitted to the superintendent by the first day of each month in order for the request to come before the Board of Education on the 2nd Monday of each month.

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

This request is for a: day tripout of state day tripX	overnight trip _	overnight & out of state trip
Day trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the approval of the principal, superintendent, and Board of Educarm must be submitted to the superintendent by the first day obefore the Board of Education on the second Monday of the mass 3320-R.	cation. In the cas of each month in onth. Also see Bo	se of overnight requests, this order for the request to come oard policy 3320 and regulation
Sponsoring Teacher: (Print) TC5SE C. STBLLIMS JA	Cell phone number	er: <u>829 -303 - 5413</u>
Other School Staff Chaperones: KELLY STOLLTMS		
Names of Non-School Chaperones: CLAJRE EVRAM	B, STUDEN	T TCALHER
All chaperones have a Background Check completed:(Special Check completed:(Special Check completed)		
Grade(s): 4-11 Number of Students: 8 Dates of Trip: from2		
Departure Time/Date: 10:60 Am 2/23//7 Return Time/Date:	17:60 2/26	<u>//7</u>
City, State, Place to be visited: (attach detailed itinerary as needed)		
Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? X yesaccommodated for site access and transportation?	no How will stud	ents with disabilities be
If applicable, a Safety/Supervision plan for High Risk and/or Wate (Sponsoring Teacher Initials). Please attach a copy of that pla		
Mode of Transportation: RENTAL VAN (If applicabl	e, bus request forn	n must be attached)
Driver/s: TESSE L. STOLLOMS, JA Round Trip	Mileage:	# of Buses Needed:
Total Cost per student \$ 306.00 CDEPEND	15 UN FUN	DRASSSM)
Source of Funds: CLUB FEES FUNDRAIS	sn/	
Purpose of Trip and How It Relates to the Curriculum:	ATTENO	MODEL UN
LONSERENCE, CHAPEL HOLL		
Sponsoring Teacher Signature:	Date:	e of Request: 12 /21 / 16
Principal Approval:	Da	ate: 21 /DEC/20: 6
If your request is for an over night trip (in or our of state) the follow		
Superintendent Approval:	Da	ate: 1 / 4 / 17
Board of Education Approval:	Dat	te://_

Declaration of Surplus Items -January 2017

<u>School</u>	Quantity	<u>Description</u>	# that are <u>Usable</u>	# that are Unusable
Dothol 1	1	Office Chair (Drawn)		1
Bethel	1	Office Chair (Block)		
	1	Office Chair (Black)		1
	14	Student Chairs		14 16
	16 1	Student Desks		16 1
	1	Computer Desk Triangular Motal Remphlet Real		1
	1	Triangular Metal Pamphlet Rack		1
	1	Book/Magazine Rack		1
	1	Whirlpool Air Conditioner-Window Unit		1 1
	1	Da-Lite/Beseler PS-360-R Overhead Projector	1	1
•	1	Overhead Projector Stand	1	
	38		1	37
Blowing Rock	4	NEC NP400 XGA 2600 Projectors		4
	1	HP Laserjet 4300n Printer		1
	1	HP Color Laserjet CP4005n Printer		1
•	6	•	0	6
Cove Creek	1	Panasonic Telephone System Controller		1
•	1	Mijia 5403944 Camera		1
	2	Wrought Iron & Wood Benches		2
	1	Magnavox DV200MW8 DVD Player		1
	1	Cisco Access Point		1
	1	Craftsman 3/8" Drill		1
	1	Kindle e-Reader		1
	14	Texas Instruments TI-73 Explorer Graphing Calculators		14
	6	Texas Instruments TI-83 Explorer Graphing Calculators		6
	28		0	28
Mabel	2	ASUS EEE 10.1" Atom Laptops		2
	4	Dell Latitude 2120 Laptops		4
	1	HP LaserJet 4100TN Printer		1
	2	Dell Optiplex 745 CPUs		2
	1	InFocus IN24 Model W240 Projector		1
	1	Apple 32GB iPad		1
	1	Sony Cybershot DSC-P10 Camera		1
	1	Polaroid A550 Model 3572 Camera		1
	1	Pure Digital F160B Flip Video Camcorder		1
	1	Pure Digital PSV-351 Flip Video Camcorder		1
	1	Easyshare C310 Camera		1
	1	Easyshare C613 Camera		1
	11	Sansa MP3 Players		11
	1	Prosound Plus Speaker Set		1
•	29	-	0	29



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TEL: (828) 264-7190 FAX: (828) 264-7196

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Dr. Scott Elliott, Superintendent

Members, Watauga County Board of Education

FROM:

Ly Marze, Finance Officer

DATE:

January 9, 2017

RE:

2016-17 Budget Amendment #4

Attached is Budget Amendment #4 that changes totals in Watauga County Schools 2016-17 adopted budget.

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

<u>Fund</u>	Adopted <u>Budget</u>	Amendmen	Amended <u>Budget</u>
Local Current Expense	\$ 13,265,400	\$	0 \$ 13,265,400
State Public School	26,291,717	125,2	
Federal Grants	1,991,334		0 1,991,334
School Nutrition	1,758,100		0 1,758,100
Extended Learning Centers	465,588		0 465,588
Capital Outlay	1,975,605		0 1,975,605
Special Revenue	731,071		0 731,071
Total	\$ 46,478,815	\$ 125,2	17 \$ 46,604,032

Watauga County Schools BUDGET AMENDMENT #4 January 9, 2017

Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

BA #4-1 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget state transfers and additional state allotment dollars as reflected in DPI revisions #25-29.

Account Number	Account Title	Amount
1.5110.003.162	Non-Instructional Support	3,500
1.6550.056.165	Transportation	1,099
1.6400.073.311	School Connectivity - eRate Funding	120,618
	Total Appropriations	125,217
Revenues:		
Account Number	Account Title	<u>Amount</u>
1.3100	State Allocation	125,217
	Total Revenues	125,217

APPLICATION Approved: PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CAPITAL FUND Date: NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY County: Watauga County Contact Person: Ly Marze LEA: Watauga County Schools Title: Finance Officer Address: PO Box 1790, Boone, NC 28607 828-264-7190 Phone: Project Title: Cafeteria Upgrades - Ovens and Line Units Location: District-wide Type of Facility: K-8 Schools North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 18C, provides that a portion of the proceeds of the North Carolina State Lottery Fund be transferred to the Public School Building Capital Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.2. Further, G.S. 115C-546.2 (d) has been amended to include the following: (3) No county shall have to provide matching funds... (4) A county may use monies in this Fund to pay for school construction projects in local school administrative units and to retire indebtedness incurred for school construction projects. (5) A county may not use monies in this Fund to pay for school technology needs. As used in this section, "Public School Buildings" shall include only facilities for individual schools that are used for instructional and related purposes, and does not include central administration. maintenance, or other facilities. Applications must be submitted within one year following the date of final payment to the Contractor or Vendor. Short description of Construction Project: Replace very old and inoperative double stack ovens and serving lines in the cafeterias **Estimated Costs:** Purchase of Land _____\$ Planning and Design Services _____ New Construction Additions / Renovations 52,500,00 Repair Debt Payment / Bond Payment 52,500.00 TOTAL _____\$__ Estimated Project Beginning Date: Jan 2017 Est. Project Completion Date: Aug 2017 We, the undersigned, agree to submit a statement of state monies expended for this project within 60 days following completion of the project. The County Commissioners and the Board of Education do hereby jointly request approval of the above project, and request release of \$_____ from the Public School Building Capital Fund (Lottery Distribution). We certify that the project herein described is within the parameters of G.S. 115C-546. (Signature — Chair, County Commissioners) (Date)

Form Date: July 01, 2011

(Date)

(Signature — Chair, Board of Education)

APPLICATION Approved: _____ PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CAPITAL FUND Date: NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY County: Watauga County Contact Person: Ly Marze Watauga County Schools LEA: Finance Officer Title: Address: PO Box 1790, Boone, NC 28607 828-264-7190 Phone: Project Title: Blowing Rock - Correct Flooding Issues Location: 165 Morris St, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 Type of Facility: K-8 School North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 18C, provides that a portion of the proceeds of the North Carolina State Lottery Fund be transferred to the Public School Building Capital Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.2. Further, G.S. 115C-546.2 (d) has been amended to include the following: (3) No county shall have to provide matching funds... (4) A county may use monies in this Fund to pay for school construction projects in local school administrative units and to retire indebtedness incurred for school construction projects. (5) A county may not use monies in this Fund to pay for school technology needs. As used in this section, "Public School Buildings" shall include only facilities for individual schools that are used for instructional and related purposes, and does not include central administration. maintenance, or other facilities. Applications must be submitted within one year following the date of final payment to the Contractor or Vendor. Short description of Construction Project: Mitigate flooding and moisture issues by replacement and rehabilitation of the storm water drainage systems; renovating and sealing the building envelope **Estimated Costs:** Purchase of Land ______ \$ Planning and Design Services _____ New Construction 75,000.00 Additions / Renovations _____ Repair Debt Payment / Bond Payment _____ 75,000.00 Estimated Project Beginning Date: Dec 2016 Est. Project Completion Date: Dec 2017 We, the undersigned, agree to submit a statement of state monies expended for this project within 60 days following completion of the project. The County Commissioners and the Board of Education do hereby jointly request approval of the above project, and request release of \$ 75,000.00 from the Public School Building Capital Fund (Lottery Distribution). We certify that the project herein described is within the parameters of G.S. 115C-546. (Signature — Chair, County Commissioners) (Date)

Form Date: July 01, 2011

(Date)

(Signature — Chair, Board of Education)

2017 STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

FACILITIES - RON HENRIES

FINANCE - RON HENRIES AND BRENDA REESE

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM - BRENDA REESE

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM - BARBARA KINSEY

STUDENT SERVICES - JASON K. CORNETT

POLICY COMMITTEE - JAY FENWICK AND BRENDA REESE

CALENDAR COMMITTEE - JAY FENWICK

PERSONNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - RON HENRIES AND BARBARA KINSEY

MISC. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

SAFE SCHOOLS - JASON K. CORNETT

TEACHER OF THE YEAR - JASON K. CORNETT

TECHNOLOGY - JAY FENWICK

PARKS AND RECREATION - RON HENRIES

WATAUGA EDUCATION FOUNDATION - BARBARA KINSEY AND JASON K. CORNETT

ATHLETIC FOCUS GROUP - JAY FENWICK AND RON HENRIES

SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL - JASON K. CORNETT

As an individual, each employee of a local board of education retains all the rights and obligations of citizenship provided in the Constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina and the Constitution and laws of the United States of America. The employee's right of citizenship, involving registering, discussing political issues, voting, campaigning for candidates or issues, running for or serving in public office, and participating on a committee or board that seeks to serve the welfare of the community, will not be infringed upon due to employment by the school system.

These political activities must not:

- 1. take place during school time;
- 2. involve school monies or materials; or
- 3. make use of an official school position to encourage or to coerce students or other employees of the system to support in any way a political party, candidate or issue.

No employee of a local board of education shall:

- 1. Actively participate in managing a political campaign, campaign for political office, or otherwise engage in political activity while on duty or within any period during which he or she is expected to perform services for which the employee receives compensation from a local board of education.
- 2. <u>Use the authority of his or her position, or utilize public funds, supplies, equipment, or vehicles to secure support for or oppose any candidate, party, or issue in an election involving candidates for office or party nominations, or affect the results thereof.</u>
- 3. <u>Utilize public funds, supplies, equipment, or vehicles for partisan purposes, political purposes, or to engage in advocating for or against issues of local, State, or federal policy.</u>

No member of a local board of education or employee of the local board of education exercising supervisory authority shall make, issue, or enforce any rule or policy the effect of which is to interfere with the right of any employee of the local board of education as an individual to engage in political activity while not on duty or at times during which he or she is not performing services for which the employee receives compensation from the local board.

This policy should not be construed as prohibiting the impartial study and discussion of political or other controversial issues in the classroom setting.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47(18)

Cross References:

Adopted: January 11, 2016

Replaces: Policy 3.07.10, Political Activities

The board recognizes, as one of its educational goals, the advancement of student knowledge and appreciation of various social, cultural and political occurrences in society. However, except as allowed by this policy, no student or other person shall be subjected to partisan or nonpartisan political activities on school system property or using school system modes of communication, which are (i), conducted by or on behalf of political candidates or political organizations, or (ii) conducted by school system employees, contractors, volunteers or visitors.

Candidates for political office may be invited to speak to students at school or at school sponsored events only if they are resource speakers for a classroom activity that is a legitimate part of the regular instructional program and prior approval has been granted by the principal and superintendent or designee. If a political candidate is permitted to speak, equal opportunity shall be afforded to other candidates for the same office.

No person shall, on school system property, at or during any school system event or school-sponsored function held on school property, or using school system modes of communication, display, distribute or broadcast, any political or campaign related sign, banner, sticker, brochure or other material or information, through any medium, or engage in any political or campaign related activities or electioneering, except as may be allowed in accordance with this policy. Political and campaign related signs and other information may be displayed, distributed or broadcast on school system property in the following situations:

- 1. Political and campaign signs and banners may be placed at official voting sites on Election Day. Such signs and banners must comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, both local and those of the State of North Carolina. Such signs and banners must comply with all applicable governmental restrictions including restrictions on size and distance from the polling place. may only be placed within 50 feet of the paved entranceway to the voting sites or within 50 feet of the outer perimeter of the area designated by the Watauga County Board of Elections as free of electioneering. However, no such sign or banner may be placed in or attached to any building, fence, structure, tree or landscape feature, may not interfere with any walkway, driveway or parking space, may not interfere with any educational activity at the school, may not have any moving or lighted parts and may not make any sounds.
- 2. Political and campaign buttons, pins, brochures, leaflets and similar items may be distributed on Election Days at official voting sites in the same areas where political signs and banners are allowed in subparagraph (1) above.
- 3. Political and campaign related materials and information may be displayed or broadcast to students by teachers in schools as part of a classroom activity that is a legitimate part of the approved instructional program when prior approval has been granted by the principal. In such cases, reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that there is equity between political candidates and political viewpoints.

- 4. Individuals, including candidates for political office but excluding school system employees and volunteers during school time, may wear t-shirts, buttons, pins or stickers carrying political or campaign messages on their persons or personal effects while on school system property. All individuals, including school system employees and volunteers, may have political or campaign related bumper stickers on their personal vehicles while on school system property. Such persons must have a legitimate purpose for being on school system property other than solely for conveying the messages contained on their persons, effects or vehicles.
- 5. Individuals or groups may display, distribute or broadcast political or campaign signs, brochures and other materials and information inside school system buildings, during non-school hours, in areas being used by such persons or groups pursuant to the Community Use of School Facilities Policy, 5030.
- 6. Also during non-school hours and pursuant to Policy 5030, individuals or groups may use school property for the production of campaign advertisements and materials, provided further that they:
 - a. Refrain from any statement intended to or which has the effect of implying endorsement of any candidate or political issue by the Watauga County Board of Education or its students; and
 - b. Provide the Superintendent with an opportunity to review the said campaign advertisements or materials before they are broadcast or otherwise distributed in order to review them for compliance with this policy.
- 7. Approved student clubs may display, distribute or broadcast political and campaign related signs, brochures and other materials or information in areas used by such clubs for their meetings during approved meeting times.

Parents and volunteers who provide instructional, supervisory or administrative assistance to teachers or administrators shall be treated as if they were employees for purposes of this policy, while they are acting in such instructional, supervisory or administrative roles. As used in this policy, the term "school system property" includes property owned, leased or rented by the school system.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, no sign, banner, button, sticker, shirt, brochure, leaflet or other conveyance of information shall be allowed under this policy which is lewd, obscene, defamatory, pornographic, advocates illegal activities, depicts nudity, contains profanity, is sexual in nature, is likely to incite violence or to create a substantial interference with the school system's educational activities, which with respect to students violates the Student Code of Conduct, or which is in violation of applicable laws, rules, regulations or ordinances.

Any person or entity that is denied a request to display, distribute or broadcast any sign or other material or information on school system property, pursuant to this Policy, may appeal such

decision using to the building principal. In cases where the decision to deny the activity was made by a principal, the initial appeal shall be to the superintendent or his designee.

Legal References: Community Schools Act, G.S. 14-269.2; 115C-203 to -209.1, -524, -527; 160A-274; 163-129; G.S. 163-166.4

Cross References: School Volunteers (policy 5015); Community Use of Facilities (policy 5030); Employee Political Activities (policy 7720)

Adopted:

The purposes of this policy are to help ensure the safe operation of school vehicles and to comply with federal law and regulations by establishing a comprehensive program for the drug and alcohol testing of school bus drivers and all other commercial motor vehicle operators employed by the Watauga County Board of Education (the "board.")

A. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to any driver which, for purposes of this policy. Persons subject to this policy include is defined as any employee, volunteer or independent contractor who operates a commercial motor vehicle in the course of his or her duties for the board of education, including anyone who regularly or intermittently drives a school bus, an activity bus or othera vehicle designed to transport 16 or more people, (including the driver), or any other vehicle that meets the definition of commercial motor vehicle under federal law or regulation Employees who operate vehicles for inspection, service, or maintenance purposes are included in this definition.

B. PROHIBITED ACTS

No driver may:

- 1. operate any school bus or school activity bus while consuming alcohol or while alcohol remains in the driver's body, in violation of G.S. 20-138.2B;
- 2. use alcohol while performing safety-sensitive functions;
- 3. perform safety-sensitive functions within four hours after using alcohol;
- 4. report for or remain on duty requiring the performance of safety-sensitive functions when the driver uses any Schedule I drug or substance; or
- 5. report for or remain on duty requiring the performance of safety-sensitive functions when the driver uses any non-Schedule I drug or substance, unless such use is pursuant to the instructions of a licensed medical practitioner who is familiar with the driver's medical history and has advised the driver that use of the substance will not adversely affect the driver's ability to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle.

Safety-sensitive functions include, but are not limited to, inspecting, servicing, or conditioning any commercial motor vehicle; operating any commercial motor vehicle; participating in or supervising the loading or unloading of a commercial motor vehicle; and repairing, obtaining assistance for, or remaining in attendance upon a disabled vehicle.

Commercial motor vehicle operators employed by the board must not be impaired by alcohol or by a prescription or nonprescription drug while on duty or while operating any motor vehicle. For the purposes of this policy, an employee is considered impaired by alcohol in all cases in which testing reveals a blood alcohol content of higher than 0.02. Further, no driver will be permitted to perform safety-sensitive functions if evidence exists of his or her alcohol consumption. In addition, commercial motor vehicle operators drivers, and anyone who supervises commercial motor vehicle operators drivers, must not commit any act prohibited by federal law, including "Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing" (49 C.F.R. pt. 382, hereinafter referred to as Part 382), by this policy or by policy 7240, Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace. No driver may operate any school bus or school activity bus while consuming alcohol or while alcohol remains in the driver's body in violation of G.S. 20-138.2B.

C. TESTING

The human resources office willshall carry out pre-employment, post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return-to-duty and follow-up testing for drugs and alcohol as required by Part 382. School bus drivers and others employed by the board for the primary purpose of operating a commercial motor vehicle must undergo pre-employment testing. Employees whose duties include occasional driving will not be subject to pre-employment testing but must undergo all other testing required by Part 382.

Federal regulations prohibit a driver who is tested under the provisions of this section and found to have an alcohol concentration of at least .02 from performing safety-sensitive functions for at least 24 hours following administration of the test. Drivers who are tested under the provisions of this section and found to have any alcohol in their system are subject to additional discipline under this policy, including dismissal. All employees must undergo drug and alcohol testing before driving a commercial motor vehicle for the board of education.

D. PRE-EMPLOYMENT INOUIRY

All applicants who would be subject to this policy if employed by the board must consent in writing to the release of any information gathered pursuant to Part 382 by any of the applicant's previous employers.

Before employing any applicant subject to this policy or Part 382, the administration shall obtain, pursuant to the applicant's written consent, all records maintained by the applicant's previous employer of prohibited acts committed by the applicant in the two years prior to the inquiry date.

E. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Each <u>commercial motor vehicle operatordriver</u> and supervisory employee, including principals and assistant principals, must be provided with educational materials that inform the employees of drug testing procedures, prohibited acts, consequences and other

aspects of Part 382, this policy and any accompanying administrative procedures. The information also will identify a school system employee who is responsible for providing information on substance abuse. Each employee must sign a statement certifying his or her receipt of these materials.

Each supervisor who is responsible for overseeing the performance of eommercial motor vehicle operators drivers, including principals and assistant principals, must undergo at least one hour of training concerning alcohol misuse and one additional hour of training concerning drug abuse.

F. REFERRALS

Each motor vehicle operatordriver who commits acts prohibited by Part 382 or G.S. 20-138.2B, other than provisions governing pre-employment testing, will be provided with information concerning resources available for evaluating and resolving drug or alcohol misuse. This information will include the names, addresses and telephone numbers of substance abuse professionals and counseling and treatment programs. Before any motor vehicle operatordriver who has committed a prohibited act under Part 382 or G.S. 20-138.2B will be allowed to drive again, he or she must be evaluated by a substance abuse professional and must satisfactorily complete any appropriate treatment that the substance abuse professional designates.

G. PENALTIES

Employees who have committed a prohibited act; refused any test required by this policy; or otherwise violated this policy, G.S. 20-138.2B or Part 382 will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

H. PROCEDURES

All procedures for collection and testing provided in the Federal Highway Administration's "Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs" (49 C.F.R. pt. 40) and all requirements in Part 382, including testing, reporting, record retention, training and confidentiality, will be followed. Copies of these federal regulations will be readily available. The superintendent shall develop any other procedures necessary to carry out these regulations.

Legal References: 49 U.S.C. 31306; 49 C.F.R. pts. 40, 382; G.S. 20-138.2B

Cross References: Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace (policy 7240)

Adopted: February 9, 2015

Revised:

Replaces: Policy 3.08.35, Drug and Alcohol Testing For Bus Drivers

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") recognizes the critical role of parents in the education of their children and in the schools. The board directs school administrators to develop programs that will promote and support parental involvement in student learning and achievement at school and at home and encourage successful progress toward graduation. Each parent is encouraged to learn about the educational program, the educational goals and objectives of the school system, and his or her own child's progress. The board also encourages parents to participate in activities designed by school personnel to involve them, such as parent conferences, in order to encourage effective communication.

The board directs each principal or designee to develop a parental involvement plan as a part of the school improvement plan. This plan must include, at a minimum, efforts that meet the requirements established in this policy. In addition, the plan must include ways to enhance parental involvement in the following areas:

- 1. meaningful two-way communication between home and school;
- 2. promotion of responsible parenting;
- 3. involvement of parents and guardians in student learning;
- 4. promotion of volunteering;
- 5. involvement of parents and guardians in school decisions that affect children and families:
- 6. parental training;
- 7. community collaboration; and
- 8. promotion of student health awareness.

This policy applies to the parents, legal guardians, and legal custodians of students who are under 18 years old and are not married.

A. PARENT COMMUNICATION AND CONFERENCES

The board encourages school personnel to have regular contact with parents for commendation as well as for notification of concerns. Principals or designees shall plan for periodic communication with parents. Teachers are responsible for scheduling conferences with parents.

The principal or designee shall strive, through oral or written communication or other means, to include the parents of students identified as at-risk in the implementation and review of academic and/or behavioral interventions for their children, in accordance with

policy 3405, Students at Risk of Academic Failure.

The principal or designee shall provide the parent of each student in kindergarten, first, or second grade with written notification of the student's reading progress. The notice will be provided three times a year, following each benchmark assessment and will include: (1) assessment results, (2) whether the child may not reach reading proficiency by the end of third grade; and (3) instructional support activities for use at home.

The board encourages the superintendent to work with local business leaders, including the local chambers of commerce, to encourage employers to adopt as part of their stated personnel policies time for employees who are parents or guardians to attend conferences with their child's teachers.

B. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

Each principal or designee of a Title I school shall effectively notify parents of all parental rights and other required information regarding Title I schools and programs, in accordance with federal law. Parents of students in Title I schools shall receive a copy of the system-wide Title I parent and family engagement involvement policy (policy 3560, Title I Parent Involvement) and the school-wide parent involvement plan.

In addition, annually every building principal or designee shall effectively notify parents of the following:

- 1. parental rights related to student records (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- 2. parental rights related to student surveys (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
- 3. the approximate dates of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance, (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration, and (c) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of students;
- 4. the schedule of pesticide use on school property and their right to request notification of nonscheduled pesticide use (see policy 9205, Pest Management);
- 5. student behavior policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and school standards and rules (see policies in the 4300 series);
- 6. the permissible use of seclusion and restraint in the schools (see regulation 4302-R, Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools);
- 7. policy 4015/7225, Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Complaint Procedure;
- 8. policy 4010, Student and Parent Grievance Procedure;

- 9. the dates of the system-wide and state-mandated tests that students will be required to take during that school year, how the results from the tests will be used and the consequences thereof, and whether each test is required by the State Board of Education or by the local board;
- 10. grading practices that will be followed at the school and, for parents of high school students, the method of computing the grade point averages that will be used for determining class rank (see policies 3400, Evaluation of Student Progress and 3450, Class Rankings);
- 11. available opportunities and the enrollment process for students to take advanced courses and information explaining the value of taking advanced courses;
- 12. a clear and concise explanation of the North Carolina testing and accountability system that includes all information required by federal law:
- a report containing aggregate information about the school system and each school, including, but not limited to, student achievement (disaggregated by category), graduation rates, performance of the school system, and teacher qualifications;
 - the following information both in the aggregate and disaggregated by category: student achievement, graduation rates, performance on other school quality and/or student success indicators, the progress of students toward meeting long-term goals established by the state, student performance on measures of school climate and safety, and, as available, the rate of enrollment in post-secondary education;
 - b. the performance of the school system on academic assessments as compared to the state as a whole and the performance of each school on academic assessments as compared to the state and school system as a whole:
 - c. the percentage and number of students who are
 - i. assessed,
 - ii. assessed using alternate assessments,
 - iii. involved in preschool and accelerated coursework programs, and
 - iv. English learners achieving proficiency;
 - d. the per pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds; and
 - a.e. teacher qualifications
- 12.14. the grade awarded to the school on the most recent annual report card issued for it by the State Board of Education if the school received a grade of D or F;

- 13.15. supportive services available to students, including guidance, counseling and health services (see policy 3610, Counseling Program);
- 14.16. information about meningococcal meningitis and influenza, including the causes, symptoms, and vaccines, how the diseases are spread, and places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children;
- 15.17. for parents of students in grades 5 through 12, information about cervical cancer, cervical dysplasia, and human papillomavirus, including the causes and symptoms of these diseases, how they are transmitted, how they may be prevented by vaccination, including the benefits and possible side effects of vaccination, and places parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children;
- 16.18. how to reach school officials in emergency situations during non-school hours;
- 17.19. information about and an application form for free and reduced price meals and/or free milk (see policy 6225, Free and Reduced Price Food Services);
- 18.20. information about the school breakfast program;
- 19.21. information about the availability and location of free summer food service program meals for students when school is not in session;
- 20.22. for parents of children with disabilities, procedural safeguards (see also policy 4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
- 21.23. information on the availability of the asbestos management plan and planned or in-progress inspections, re-inspections, response actions, and post-response actions, including periodic re-inspection and surveillance activities;
- 22.24. education rights of homeless students (see policy 4125, Homeless Students);
- 23.25. the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy (see policy 6140, Student Wellness);
- 24.26. their right to take four hours of unpaid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in their child's school as stated in G.S. 95-28.3 (see policy 5015, School Volunteers);
- 25.27. that the school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age (see policies 4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying, and 4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);

- 26.28. that the school system provides equal access to its facilities, programs and activities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups (see policy 4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying); and
- 27.29. the availability of and the process for requesting a waiver or reduction of student fees (see policy 4600, Student Fees).

C. OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHHOLD CONSENT/OPT OUT

As a part of the annual notification described above, parents will be effectively notified that they may opt out of any of the following:

- 1. release of student directory information about their child for school purposes or to outside organizations (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- 2. release of their child's name, address, and telephone listing to military recruiters or institutions of higher education (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- their child's participation in curricula related to (a) prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); (b) avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy; or (c) reproductive health and safety education, as provided in policy 3540. A copy of the materials that will be used in these curricula will be available in the school media center during the school year and at other times that the media center is available to the public. To meet any review periods required by law, materials also may be made available for review in the central office;
- 4. their child's participation in academic or career guidance or personal or social counseling services of a generic nature offered to groups of students (e.g., peer relations strategies offered to all sixth graders). However, parental notification and permission are not required for: (a) short-duration academic, career, personal, or social guidance and counseling and crisis intervention that is needed to maintain order, discipline, or a productive learning environment; (b) student-initiated individual or group counseling targeted at a student's specific concerns or needs; and (c) counseling if child abuse or neglect is suspected (see policies 3610, Counseling Program, and 4240/7312, Child Abuse Reports and Investigations);
- 5. their child's participation in non-Department of Education-funded surveys concerning protected topics (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
- 6. their child's participation in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance; (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration; and (c) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of students;

- 7. the collection, disclosure, or use of their child's personal information for marketing purposes (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students); and
- 8. release of their child's free and reduced-price meal information to State Medicaid or State children's health insurance program (SCHIP).

Any parent or legal guardian who wishes to opt out/withhold consent must do so in writing after receiving notice. Otherwise, consent to the programs or activities is presumed. After the annual notification, the school is not required to provide further notice to the parent or legal guardian as to the manner in which student directory information is used, the curriculum is provided, or guidance programs are made available.

D. PARENTAL PERMISSION REQUIRED

Written parental permission is required prior to the following activities:

- 1. the administration of medications to students by employees of the school system (see policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students);
- 2. the release of student records that are not considered directory information, unless the release is allowed or required by law (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- 3. off-campus trips;
- 4. students' participation in high-impact or high-risk sports or extracurricular activities, such as football or mountain climbing (see policy 4220, Student Insurance Program);
- 5. all decisions or actions as required by the IDEA with regard to providing special education or related services to students with disabilities (see policy 3520, Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities);
- 6. certain health services, as required by law;
- 7. participation in a mental health assessment or mental health services under circumstances prescribed by federal law:
- 7.8. students' participation in programs or services that provide information about where to obtain contraceptives or abortion referral services;
- 8.9. students' participation in surveys funded by the Department of Education that are conducted concerning protected topics (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
- 9.10. disclosure of students' free and reduced price lunch eligibility information or

eligibility status; and

disclosure of the identity of any student receiving supplemental education services under the Title I program; and

11. students' independent access to the Internet, as described in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use.

Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., 34 C.F.R. pt. 200; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, 34 C.F.R. pt. 99; Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. 1232h, 34 C.F.R. pt. 98; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400, et seq.; Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 15 U.S.C. 2641, et seq.; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431, et seq.; 42 U.S.C. 1758, 7 C.F.R. pt. 245; 42 U.S.C. 1758b; National School Lunch Program, 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq., 7 C.F.R. 210.12; Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. 7905, 34 C.F.R. 108.9; 20 U.S.C. 7908; G.S. 90-21.1; 95-28.3; 115C-47(47), -47(51), -47(54), -47(58), -81(e1), -83.4A(d), -105.41, -109.1, -307(c), -375.4, -390.2, -391.1, -407.16; State Board of Education Policies FCB-A-000, GCS-A-001, GCS-J-002

Cross References: Title I Parent and Family Engagement Involvement (policy 3560), Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying (policy 4021/7230), Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Complaint Procedure (policy 4015/7225), Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities (policy 4022/7231), Student and Parent Grievance Procedure (policy 4010), Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), Evaluation of Student Progress (policy 3400), Students at Risk of Academic Failure (policy 3405), Class Rankings (policy 3450), Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities (policy 3520), Comprehensive Health Education Program (policy 3540), Counseling Program (policy 3610), Homeless Students (policy 4125), Student Insurance Program (policy 4220), Child Abuse – Reports and Investigations (policy 4240/7312), Student Behavior Policies (4300 series), Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools (regulation 4302-R), Student Fees (policy 4600), Student Records (policy 4700), Surveys of Students (policy 4720), School Volunteers (policy 5015), Registered Sex Offenders (policy 5022), Administering Medicines to Students (policy 6125), Student Wellness (policy 6140), Free and Reduced Price Food Services (policy 6225), Pest Management (policy 9205)

Adopted: July 14, 2014

Replaces: Policy 2.04.60, Parental Involvement (in part)

Revised: January 11, 2016:

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") recognizes he value of family engagement in a child's academic success and believes that the education of children is an ongoing cooperative partnership between the home and the school. Parents and other family members are their children's first teachers; therefore, the continued involvement of parents and family members in the educational process is most important in fostering and improving educational achievement. School system officials shall strive to support parents and provide parents with and family members with meaningful opportunities to become involved in the programs offered by the Title I schools. The board encourages parents and family members to participate in the design and implementation of the programs and activities in order to increase the effectiveness of the school system's Title I program in helping students meet state and local achievement standards.

A. DEFINITION OF PARENTAL AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT INVOLVEMENT

For the purposes of this policy—and the Title I program, the term "parental and family engagement involvement" means the participation of parents,—and guardians, and other family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring the following:

- 1. that parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- 2. that parents <u>and family members</u> are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- 3. that parents are full partners in their child's education and <u>parents and family</u> members are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- 4. that the school system engages inutilizes activities to support parental involvement and family engagement in the Title I programs.

B. PURPOSE AND OPERATION OF TITLE I PROGRAM

The Title I program is a federally supported program that offers assistance to educationally and economically disadvantaged children to help ensure they receive an equitable, high-quality, well-rounded education and meet the school system's challenging academic standards. The Title I program provides instructional activities and supportive services to eligible students over and above those provided by the regular school program. When applicable, students must be selected to receive Title I services based on objective criteria that are consistent with federal and state requirements, such as

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standardized test scores, teacher judgment, and results of pre-school screening and home-school surveys.

Qualified Title I schools will operate as school-wide programs or targeted assistance programs based upon federal eligibility criteria. School-wide programs will provide utilize a comprehensive support to offer improved opportunities for all students in the schoolto meet the school system's academic standardsschool improvement process enabling schools to serve all students in the school. Targeted assistance programs will provide services to eligible students most in need of assistance in the school, as determined by objective criteria established by the superintendent or designee. Eligibility criteria may include, for example, standardized test scores, teacher judgment, and results of preschool screening and home-school surveys. having the greatest need for assistance.

Both school-wide and targeted assistance programs shall be based on effective means of improving student achievement and shall include <u>evidence-based</u> strategies to support parental and family engagementinvolvement.

C. Annual Meeting and Program Evaluation

Each year, school officials must invite Title I parents of students participating in Title I programs must be invited to an annual to a meeting to explain, at which time parental rights, will be explained, discuss the programs and activities to be provided with Title I funds, and solicit input on the Title I program and this policy will be discussed, and input will be solicited. In addition, school officials must provide all parents and family members will have an a meaningful opportunity annually to evaluate the content and effectiveness of the Title I programs and the parental and family engagement involvement policies and plans. Data Information collected from these findings proceedings will be used to revise Title I programs and parental and family involvement engagement plans.

D. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

The board believes that the involvement of Title I parents <u>and family members</u> in the design and implementation of the Title I program will increase the effectiveness of the program and contribute significantly to the success of the children. The Title I staff and all school system personnel shall strive to <u>conduct outreach to involve</u> parents <u>and family members and involve them</u> in activities throughout the school year.

The superintendent shall ensure that this system-level parental and family engagement involvement policy and plan is developed with, agreed upon with, and annually distributed to parents and family members of participating students. In addition to the system-level parent and family engagement planparental involvement policy, each school participating in the Title I program shall jointly develop and annually distribute to parents and family members a school-level written parental and family engagement involvement planpolicy that describes the means for carrying out school-level policy,

sharing responsibility for student academic achievement, building the capacity of school staff and parents for involvement, and increasing accessibility for participation of all Title I—parents and family members of children participating, in Title I programs, including parents and family members withwho have limited English proficiency, who have parents with disabilities, and parents of or who are migratory—children. School-level plans must involve parents in the planning and improvement of Title I activities and must provide for the distribution to parents of information on expected student proficiency—achievement levels and the school's academic performance.

School officials will shall invite appropriate school personnel from private schools to consult on the design and development of its programs in order to provide equitable services to students enrolled in private schools. The superintendent or designee will shall establish any additional procedures necessary to achieve timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials in accordance with federal law.

In addition, school system officials and Title I school personnel shall do the following:

- 1. involve parents <u>and family members</u> in the joint development of the Title I Pprogram <u>and school support and improvement</u> and the process of school review and improvement by including parents on the school advisory committee and <u>any</u> committees that review the Title I program;
- 2. provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support from various central office departments necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement parent and family engagement activities that are designed to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
- 4.2. <u>build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by collecting and disseminating information on effective parental involvement techniques;</u>
- 5.3. coordinate and integrate parental and family engagement involvement strategies in the Title I program to the extent feasible and appropriate with parental engagement involvement strategies activities established in other federal, state, and local laws and programs, such as Head Start and similar programs;
- 6.4. with the meaningful involvement of parents, conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the school system parental and family engagement involvement policies and program in improving the academic quality of the school and assisting students to meet the school system's academic standards;
- 7.5. strive to eliminate barriers to parental participation by assisting parents who have

- with-disabilities and parents who are economically disadvantaged, have limited English proficiency, are migratory, or have other backgrounds or characteristics that may affect participation;
- 8.6. provide outreach and assistance to parents and family members of participating

 Title I children who are participating in Title I programs in understanding the state's testing standards, the assessments used, Title I requirements, and all national, state, and local standards and expectations through such efforts as community-based meetings, posting information on school websites, sending information home, newsletters, workshops, and newspaper articles;
- 9.7. design a parent-student-school staff compact that sets out respective responsibilities in striving to raise student achievement and explains how an effective home/school partnership will be developed and maintained;
- 10.8. with the assistance of parents, ensure that teachers, pupil services personnelspecialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other staff are educated in the value of parents as partners in the educational process and understand how to work with, communicate with, and reach out to parents as equal partners in education;
- distribute to parents information on expected student proficiency levels for their child and the school's academic performance, and provide materials and training to help parents monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve achievement through such methods as technology or literacy training or using technology, which may include education about the harms of copyright piracy;
- 12.10. coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, parental involvement programs and activities with federal, state, and local programs, including public pre-school programs and conduct other activities in the community that encourage and support parents to more fully participate in the education of their child;
- 13.11. strengthen the partnership with agencies, businesses, and programs that operate in the community, especially those with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education;
- 44.12. ensure that parents are involved in the school's Title I activities, providing a comprehensive range of opportunities for parents to be informed and involved through:
 - helping parents understand standards and expectations through community- based meetings, parent conferences and home visits if needed;

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- b. providing materials and suggestions to help parents support the education of their children at home;
- c. working with school staffs to ensure a system-wide value and encouragement of parent involvement;
- d. including parents on advisory councils, School Improvement Teams and other representative committees;
- e. soliciting parent involvement in program and policy review and evaluation
- f. encouraging parent volunteerism in the classroom, and at school activities; and
- g. participating in parent-teacher-student organizations and activities.

45.13. provide such other reasonable support for Title I parental involvement activities as requested by parents.

E. NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

School system officials and Title I school personnel shall provide effective notice of the following information as required by law. The notice must be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

1. <u>LEP Program for English Learners</u>

Each year the principal or designee shall provide notice of the following to parents of limited—English learnersproficient (LEP) children identified for participation in a Title I, Part A or Title III -funded language-instruction educational program:

- the reasons for the child's identification;
- b. the child's level of English proficiency and how such level was assessed;
- c. methods of instruction;
- d. how the program will help the child;
- e. the exit requirements for the program;
- f. if the child has a disability, how the language instruction educational

- program meets the objectives of the child's individualized educational program (IEP); and
- g. any other information necessary to effectively inform the parent of the program and the parental rights regarding enrollment, removal, and selection of an LEPa program for English learners; and
- h. notice of regular meetings for the purpose of formulating and responding to recommendations from parents.

The principal or designee of a school with a Title I, Part A funded language instruction program that has failed to make progress on the annual achievement objectives for LEP students, shall notify the parents of such failure no later than 30 days after the failure occurs.

1.2. System Report Card and School Progress Review

Each year, school system officials shall disseminate to all parents, schools, and the public a school system report card containing aggregate information about the school system and each school, including, but not limited to:, student achievement (disaggregated by category), graduation rates, performance of the school system, and teacher qualifications.

- a. the following information both in the aggregate and disaggregated by category: student achievement, graduation rates, performance on other school quality and/or student success indicators, the progress of students toward meeting long-term goals established by the state, student performance on measures of school climate and safety, and, as available, the rate of enrollment in post-secondary education;
- b. the performance of the school system on academic assessments as compared to the state as a whole and the performance of each school on academic assessments as compared to the state and school system as a whole;
- c. the percentage and number of students who are:
 - i. assessed.
 - ii. assessed using alternate assessments,
 - iii. involved in preschool and accelerated coursework programs, and
 - iv. English learners achieving proficiency;
- d. the per pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds; and

a.e. teacher qualifications. Each year, school system officials shall disseminate to

all parents, schools, and the community the results of the LEA's yearly progress review of each school.

2.3. Teacher Qualifications

- a. At the beginning of each Each—year, school system officials shall notify parents of Title I students who are participating in Title I programs of the right to request certain information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals providing services to the child (see policy 7820, Personnel Files).
- b. The principal or designee of a Title I school shall provide timely notice informing parents that their student has been assigned to or has been taught for at least four consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements at the grade level or subject area in which the teacher has been assigned is not "highly qualified" as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act.

3.4. Parental Rights and Opportunities for Involvement

- a. Each year, the principal or designee of a Title I school shall provide notice to parents of the school's written parental parent and family engagement policy, parents' right to be involved in their child's school, and opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in the school.
- ea.b. Each year, the principal or designee of a Title I school shall provide notice to parents of their right to request information regarding student participation in state-required assessments.

F. Website Distribution of Information

Each year, school system officials shall publicize on the school system website and, where practicable, on the website of each school:

- 1. the report card described in subsection E.2, above; and
- 2. information on each assessment required by the state and, where feasible, by the school system, organized by grade level. The information must include:
 - a. the subject matter assessed;
 - b. the purpose for which the assessment is designed and used;
 - c. the source of the requirement for the assessment;

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- d. if available, the amount of time students will spend taking the assessments and the schedule of the assessments; and
- e. if available, the time and format for distributing results.

The superintendent shall develop any administrative procedures necessary to implement the requirements of this policy.

Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., 34 C.F.R. pt. 200.; 20 U.S.C. 7801(32); Public School Choice Non Regulatory Guidance, U.S. Department of Education (January 14, 2009); Supplemental Educational Services Non-Regulatory Guidance, U.S. Department of Education (January 14, 2009); U.S. Department of Education approval of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Request (May 29, 2012)

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100), Personnel Files (policy 7820)

Other Resources: Giving Parents Options: Strategies for Informing Parents and Implementing Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services Under No Child Left Behind, U.S. Department of Education Office of Innovation and Improvement (September 2007)

Adopted: August 3, 2015

Revised: December 14, 2015:

TRANSLATING POLICIES FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Policy Code: 4003

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") recognizes that there are many students and parents in the school system whose for whom English is primary a second language is not English. The board further recognizes the importance of communicating the policies of the school system to all students and parents. As funds permit, to the extent practicable, and as otherwise required by law, the school system will provide translations of pertinent school system information and policies to those students and parents whose primary language is not Englishwho speak English as a second language. During non-instructional times, personnel providing staff in the English Learners Services English as a Second Language Department instruction may assist schools in providing such translations. The superintendent may explore additional options for providing translations or interpretations of student and parent policies.

Legal References: No Child Left Behind Act Elementary and Secondary Education Act., 20 U.S.C. 6316, 6318; G.S. 115C-36, -47

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002)

Adopted: July 14, 2014

Revised:

USE AND SELECTION OF ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS, AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS AT RISK

Policy Code:

9110

A. USE OF ARCHITECTS AND/OR ENGINEERS

To the extent required by North Carolina General Statute 133-1.1, a registered architect or registered engineer, or both, will be used to design and inspect school system buildings being repaired or constructed. In addition, architects and/or engineers may be used for services, such as:

- 1. preparing feasibility studies for additions, alterations, or renovations of existing facilities;
- 2. providing consulting services on technical matters;
- 3. providing services related to long-range planning or facility design; and
- 4. assisting in the preparation and submission of any documents requested by other governmental agencies.

B. SELECTION PROCESS FOR ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, SURVEYING, AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK SERVICES

Except as otherwise permitted under G.S. 115C-521(g), the Pprocurement of architectural, engineering, surveying, or construction management at risk services for facility design, construction, and related services will be accomplished in accordance with the following requirements.

- 1. Projects with an Estimated Professional Fee of \$50,000 or More
 - a. The superintendent shall solicit proposals from service providers for selection based upon qualifications using the following or similar criteria:
 - 1) training and experience of the service provider, especially in school-related projects;
 - 2) planning ability and promptness;
 - 3) experience in specification writing, including reputation for accuracy and sufficiency of detail;
 - 4) experience in the construction of K-12 buildings;
 - 5) reputation for quality of design and construction in appearance and utility;

- 6) history of thorough inspections and follow-through with jobs;
- 7) timely completion of projects within the established budgets;
- 8) relationships with contractors and designers; and
- 9) any other factors the superintendent deems relevant.
- b. The superintendent shall provide a list of qualified service providers to the Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") for consideration and selection unless the estimated professional fee for the project is within the superintendent's authority to contract as provided in policy 6420, Contracts with the Board. The list shall not include any service provider whose name appears on the state treasurer's Final Divestment List or Iran Parent and Subsidiary Guidance list, as required by G.S. 147, art. 6E.
- c. A North Carolina resident firm will be granted a preference over a nonresident firm if the home state of the nonresident firm has a practice of granting a preference to its resident firms over North Carolina resident firms. Any preference granted to a resident firm will be in the same manner, on the same basis, and to the same extent as the preference granted by the nonresident firm's home state. The solicitation documents must require that nonresident firms disclose and describe any construction contract preferences granted by the firm's home state.
- d. Fees will be negotiated with the selected firm. If a fair and reasonable fee cannot be agreed upon, the board or superintendent will select the next best qualified firm and negotiate fees. The contract with the firm must be reviewed by the board attorney and meet all applicable laws and board policies. The contract must have board approval unless the board has delegated this authority to the superintendent in policy 6420.
- 2. Projects with an Estimated Professional Fee of Less than \$50,000
 - a. The process established in subsection B.1. is not required unless otherwise directed by the board or superintendent for a specific project.
 - b. When the estimated professional fee for a project is estimated to be within the superintendent's authority to contract on behalf of the board as provided in policy 6420, Contracts with the Board, the superintendent shall have authority to select the firm. Board approval of the firm is not required. The contract with the firm must meet all applicable laws and board policies and must be consistent with G.S. 147, art. 6E.
 - c. When the professional fee is estimated to exceed the superintendent's

authority to contract on behalf of the board as provided in policy 6420, Contracts with the Board, the superintendent shall recommend one or more firms to the board for consideration. The board will approve the selection of the firm. The contract with the firm must be reviewed by the board attorney, be approved by the board, and meet all applicable laws and board policies, and be consistent with G.S. 147, art. 6E.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-521(g); 133, arts. 1 and 3; 143-64.31, -64.32; 147, art. 6E

Cross References: Contracts with the Board (policy 6420), Site Selection (policy 9010), Facility

Design (policy 9020)

Adopted: April 11, 2016

Revised: May 9, 2016:_____

A. GRADING AND REPORTING FOR K-8 SCHOOLS

Written progress Progress reports reporting and parent conferences communication are required in the K-8 schools as described below.

Parent Conferences

By November 1 of each year, Within two weeks prior to or after the end of the first nine weeks, teachers in grades K-8 shall schedule a conference with the parent/guardian of each student to share information about yearly academic expectations and progress. Additional parent-teacher conferences are encouraged, and may be scheduled by the teacher and/or parent/guardian as needed. Principals are responsible for ensuring that teachers are routinely communicating with parents.

Mid-Term Progress Reports

All Teachers shall send home provide mid-term progress reports to parents/guardians when a student's work is dropping significantly, is unsatisfactory, or the student is in danger of failing. These reports shall be sent no later than the mid-point of each grading period. Parents are encouraged to use on-line parent resources to monitor student grades. Principals will ensure that online grades are updated regularly. Principals have the authority to have additional requirements of their staff in regard to mid-term progress reporting. Teachers may elect to provide mid-term reports to all students.

Report Cards

The K-8 schools will use four separate reporting forms for report cards: one for kindergarten; one for grades one and two; one for grades 3-5; and one for grades 6-8. All shall be approved by the Board of Education.

Report cards shall be issued to all students in kindergarten through eighth grade no later than the eighth school day after the end of each grading period.

On the last day of the fourth grading period, all K-2 students shall receive a report card. Students in grades 3-8 will either receive a report card on the last day of school, or the report card will be mailed within five (5) days of the end of the school year.

Grading Codes

The grading codes for each report are as follows:

Kindergarten:

M: Consistently meets grade level expectations

S: Showing growth toward meeting grade level expectations (+ or - may be used to show growth or regression)

U: Not meeting grade level expectations

Grades 1-2

E: Consistently exceeds grade level expectations

M: Consistently meets grade level expectations

S: Showing growth toward meeting grade level expectations (+ or - may be used to show growth or regression)

U: Not meeting grade level expectations

Grades 3-8:

Letter grades with pluses and minuses shall be given in grades 3-8:

$$A = 99-100$$
 $D = 68-69$
 $A = 92-98$ $D = 62-67$
 $A - = 90-91$ $D - = 60-61$
 $B + = 88-89$ $F = 59$ or below

 $B = 82-87$ $S = Satisfactory$
 $B - = 80-81$ $N = Needs Improvement$
 $C + = 78-79$ $U = Unsatisfactory$
 $C = 72-77$ $INC = Incomplete (to be used only with Principal approval).$

Academic Achievement Recognition

Students in grades 3-8 shall be recognized at the end of each semester with countywide academic achievement awards. The *Award of Excellence* shall be given to grades 3-8 students who have semester averages of all A's. The *Award of Distinction* is given to grades 3-8 students who have semester averages of all A's and B's.

The countywide criteria for academic achievement awards for grades 3-8 are:

- 1. Semester grades for all courses, including courses with S/N/U grades. In S/N/U courses, a U disqualifies a student for an academic achievement award. In grades 3-8, letter grades shall be given in countywide courses by teachers provided at all eight schools. These subjects include: band, orchestra (strings), chorus, music, art, physical education, Spanish, and vocations (CTE). Other non-countywide courses may be graded with letter grades or S/N/U as determined by the individual school.
- 2. Academic achievement awards shall be presented twice a year: at the end of first semester and at the end of second semester. The county office will provide the award certificates for the schools to present.
- 3. The semester grade (which is the average of the two nine-weeks grades) is the grade that shall be used for each course to qualify for an academic achievement award.
- 4. To qualify for the Award of Excellence, the student shall have no semester grade lower than A- or N on any course. A grade below A- or N for a grading period does not disqualify a student; only the semester average qualifies a student for academic achievement awards.
- 5. To qualify for the Award of Distinction, the student shall have no semester grade lower than B- or N on any course. A grade below B- or N for a grading period does not disqualify a student; it's the semester average that qualifies a student for academic achievement awards.
- 6. Attendance and tardies are not criteria for academic achievement awards.
- 7. Handwriting, behavior, and conduct are not criteria for academic achievement awards.

8. The student's ability level is not criteria for academic achievement awards

Evaluation of the grading and reporting methods shall be conducted a minimum of every five years. The next evaluation should occur prior to June 2019.

B. GRADING AT WATAUGA HIGH SCHOOL

The grading scale at Watauga High School shall be as follows:

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F Below 60- Failure

Report cards shall be issued after the close of each of the four nine-week grading periods. Grade point averages will be recorded on each semester report card.

Grades will be reported as a numeric value calculated using the following point values based on the numeric grade earned:

90-100=4.0

80-89=3.0

70-79=2.0

60-69=1.0

59 and below=0.0

Grade point averages shall be determined according to State Board of Education policy GCS-L-004.

Some courses shall be graded with a grade of P (Pass) or F (Fail): P indicates that the student has received credit for the course but the student's grade point average is not affected. Notation will be made in the registration handbook to indicate when a course is graded in this manner.

Cross References: Evaluation of Student Progress (policy 3400), Student Promotion and Accountability (policy 3420)

Adopted: June 13, 2016

Replaces: 4.03.20 Elementary Grading and Reporting, 4.04.60 High School Grading and Reporting

3400-R

Feedback on Section Concerning Mid-Term Progress Reports

Members were asked to provide feedback on this part of the policy which stated at the time:

Teachers shall provide mid-term progress reports to parents/guardians when a student's work is dropping significantly, is unsatisfactory, or the student is in danger of failing. Parents are encouraged to use on-line parent resources to monitor student grades.

Of the 23 The responses:

21 indicated yes and 2 indicated no

These clarifications/notes were added to the feedback form:

- 1. "All" should be added to the front of the sentence to be clear that this minimum expectation applies to all teachers K-8 including special areas teachers.
- 2. Statement should be included to indicated expectation that grades are updated regularly in Powerschool
- 3. Statement should be included that Principals have flexibility to require more at their school
- 4. Statement should be included that teachers may elect to provide mid-term progress reports for all students

The policy going to BOE in January reads:

All teachers shall provide mid-term progress reports to parents/guardians when a student's work is dropping significantly, is unsatisfactory, or the student is in danger of failing. Parents are encouraged to use on-line parent resources to monitor student grades. Principals will ensure that on-line grades are updated regularly. Principals have the authority to have additional requirements of their staff in regard to mid-term progress reporting. Teachers may elect to provide mid-term progress reports to all students.