



**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
September 19th, 2023**

5:15 p.m.	1. CALL TO ORDER	Board Chair
5:18 p.m.	2. CLOSED SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 8/17/2023B. 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. Leslie Alexander
6:10 p.m.	6. VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL UPDATE	Dr. Leslie Alexander
6:13 p.m.	7. SPECIAL RECOGNITION	Dr. Leslie Alexander
6:17 p.m.	8. STUDENTS’ REPORT	Ms. Mia Llibre Ms. Ellary Smith
6:22 p.m.	9. CONSENT AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 8/17/2023B. Field Trip RequestsC. Declaration of SurplusD. Personnel Report	Dr. Leslie Alexander

6:25 p.m.	10. PUBLIC COMMENT	Board Chair
6:35 p.m.	11. WCS DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE	Dr. Wayne Eberle
6:50 p.m.	12. POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4002 Parental Involvement • 3210 Parental Request to Review Instructional Materials • 3540 Comprehensive Health Education Program • 4335 Criminal Behavior • 4720 Surveys of Students • 6120 Student Health Services • 7300 Staff Responsibilities 	Dr. Wayne Eberle
7:05 p.m.	13. BOARD OPERATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. NCSBA Voting Delegates B. Change of Meeting Date Protocol C. Date of October BOE Meeting D. Board Retreat: Date and Topics E. Board Self-Evaluation Instrument F. NCSBA Fall Law Conference 	Board Chair
7:25 p.m.	14. BOARD COMMENTS	Board Chair
7:30 p.m.	15. ADJOURNMENT	Board Chair
	16. MISCELLANEOUS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/7/2023 Calendar Committee Meeting Minutes 	



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail Boone, NC 28607
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WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: August 17th, 2023

PRESENT:

- Gary Childers, Steve Combs, Marshall Ashcraft, Jay Fenwick, *BOE Members*
- Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*
- Ashley Leonard, *Attorney with Campbell Shatley*

TIME: 5:45 p.m.

PLACE: Margaret E. Gragg Education Center

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

At 5:46 p.m., Marshall Ashcraft moved to go into open session, Jay Fenwick seconded, and all Board members approved.

Board Vice-Chair Steve Combs welcomed those attending the meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There was no discussion and no adjustment of the agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Leslie Alexander welcomed everyone in attendance.

- Director of Transportation Jeff Lyons will be retiring after 28 years of service working with school bus transportation. 11.5 of those years have been with Watauga County Schools.
- Dr. Alexander thanked Mr. Garrett Price (who will be leaving his position at the end of August) for his service to the school system as the Director of Communications for the past seven years.
- The "Back 2 School Festival" was held at Watauga High School on August 12th. There was a tremendous outpouring of generosity from the community to help students be prepared for the start of school. The "B2SF" served more than 1,800 students this year!
- "Convocation" was held on August 15th, and there was much excitement among the faculty/staff about starting back to school.

- The Watauga County Sheriff's Office hosted a School Resource Officer "Meet and Greet" at the Watauga Community Recreation Center on August 15th. Dr. Alexander expressed her appreciation for our SROs who do so much to protect our schools/students/staff.
- "Freshman Orientation" was held at Watauga High School on August 17th. Most of the K-8 schools held their "Open House" on August 17th as well.
- Schools will be closed on Monday, September 4th for the Labor Day Holiday.

DISTRICT UPDATE AND PRIORITIES FOR 2023-24

Dr. Leslie Alexander shared that the district's success focuses on talent development, culture, and student achievement.

- **Talent Development**: Dr. Alexander shared some data about teacher retention and employee engagement (based on the 2022 Teacher Working Conditions survey).
- **Culture**: Dr. Tierra Stark (Director of Student Services) talked about the school system's plan to implement continuous evaluations of school sites through multi-agency safety visits and audits. The goal is to maintain a safe environment with fully trained staff and equipped facilities for a variety of safety concerns.
- **Student Achievement**: Mr. Phil Norman (Chief Academic Officer) discussed:
 - The areas of strength as a district are 4th grade Math, 4th Grade Reading, and 8th Grade Reading. The areas of need as a district are 3rd grade Reading cohort and 8th grade Math.
 - MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) and PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) are integrated and the key for total school improvement. The focus for the district's Curriculum & Instruction Team is to ensure that the systems of support for students and teachers are as strong and effective as possible.
 - Mr. Norman shared several steps that will be implemented in the district over the next few months to help with targeted needs.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for 7/25/2023
- B. Field Trip Requests
- C. Declaration of Surplus
- D. Mini-Bid Request for E-Rate Switches
- E. 2023-24 After School Rates and Fees
- F. Personnel Report

Jay Fenwick made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda (with the additional field trip request form and the addendum to the Personnel Report). Marshall Ashcraft seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Alexander recognized Ms. Joannie Benfield as the new Director of Transportation and welcomed her to the district. Ms. Benfield will begin her employment on September 1, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no citizens who made public comments at the August BOE meeting.

One person had signed up to speak, but he was not able to due to a "no trespassing" violation. The Board took a five-minute recess while Watauga County Sheriff's Deputies escorted the individual out.

BOARD OPERATIONS

There were no additional Board operations.

BOARD COMMENTS

Marshall Ashcraft said he was thankful for the information provided about the After School program by Trevor Owens (Assistant Director for After School). Dr. Alexander shared that there are several families on a waiting list at Bethel, so a Program Coordinator for this site will hopefully be hired very soon.

Steve Combs shared that the Board won the Gold Bell for LEAD training this year, and the Board will be recognized at a meeting on September 6th in Wilkesboro. Dr. Gary Childers and Dr. Leslie Alexander plan to attend this meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Jay Fenwick made a motion at 6:23 p.m. to return to closed session. Marshall Ashcraft seconded, and it was approved by all Board members.

OPEN SESSION

Marshall Ashcraft moved to go into open session at 7:00 p.m., Jay Fenwick seconded, and it was approved by all Board members.

Jay Fenwick made a motion to adjourn, Marshall Ashcraft seconded, and it was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Dr. Gary L. Childers, *Board of Education Chair*

Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*

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) Patricia Dycus School: Mabel

Cell phone number: 919-920-9945 Grade(s): K, 4 Number of students: 31

Departure date: 9/20/23 Return date: 9/20/23

Departure time: 7:00 am Return time: 6:00 pm

Educational purpose:

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

NC Zoo - Asheboro

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: Support & enhance K & 4
Science curriculum

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Patricia Dycus, Sherry Sturgill,
Jeanie Hicks

Names of all non-school chaperones: TBD

background checks must be completed

All chaperones have a background check completed:

Sponsoring teacher initials: TBD

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

zoo is equipped for wheel chair access

Sponsoring Teacher Initials PD (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) ST1 LLC

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: assigned by ST1 Round trip mileage: 250 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 48.00 Source of funds: paid by students

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Patricia Deen Date: 8/22/23
Principal approval: Ellen Reuben Date: 8/23/23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 8/24/23
Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9/13/23
Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____/____/____

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) Sarah Holt School: Blowing Rock

Cell phone number: 828-493-6117 Grade(s): 4th Number of students: 52

Departure time/date: 5:30 AM 10/4 Return time/date: 5:30 PM 10/6

Educational purpose:

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

Sound to Sea Salter Path, NC

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: Explore the different ecosystem found along the coast. Learn about the different animals that live in these environments and the effect humans have on the environment.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Sarah Holt, Marcia Winkler, Roberto de la Cerdá

Names of all non-school chaperones: William Brinker

(background check is approved)

Sponsoring teacher initials: SH

Sponsoring Teacher Initials _____ (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.

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) BA

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) Sunway Charters

Driver/s: _____ Round trip mileage: _____ # of buses needed: _____

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

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

Sponsoring teacher signature: Sharon Hols Date: 9/8/23
Principal approval: Patricia Date: 9/8/23

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 13 / 23
 Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 13 / 23
 Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

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) Zach Walker School: Watauga High School
Cell phone number: 828.280.6920 Grade(s): 10-12 Number of students: 16
Departure time/date: 5:30AM Nov. 3rd (Friday) Return time/date: 11:00 pm Nov 4th (Saturday)

Educational purpose:

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

Gardner-Webb University Boiling Springs, NC - festival site
Hotel in Shelby, NC

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: WHS is defending State Champions. The
Pioneer Playmakers fall semester IS the production of a one act play.
This project and skills fall under the NC Essential Standard. In
all levels Beginning - Advanced.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Zach Walker, Sarah Miller, Ben Maggard (busdriver)

Names of all non-school chaperones: Most parents will be attending.

↓
all chaperones must have background checks

All chaperones have a background check completed: yes Sponsoring teacher initials: ZW
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 ZW (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: Ben Maggard Round trip mileage: @ 150 miles # of buses needed: 1
Total cost per student \$ @ \$60 Source of funds: personal & dept.

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: [Signature] Date: 9 / 1 / 2023
Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 11 / 23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 12 / 23
Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 13 / 23
Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

ACTIVITY TRIP SAFETY STATEMENT

In the interest of safety and in accordance with recommended procedures, the following information must be reviewed with passengers prior to every school-related, athletic, or other activity trip.

Providing this information complies with North Carolina State Board of Education Policy TCS-H-006.

"LEAs shall also provide safety instruction to students taking trips on activity buses or commercial buses as needed, including but not limited to instruction and demonstration of emergency exit operation for the vehicle on which they are riding for any specific trip."

Students and other passengers should:

- Remain seated at all times when the bus is not parked;
- Refrain from distracting the driver during the trip;
- Keep the bus steps, aisles and emergency exits clear at all times (this includes sports equipment, book bags, luggage, and cooler);
- Refrain from sticking any part of your body, or any objects, out of the windows;
- Keep voices down to a conversational level and remain quiet at railroad crossings;
- Use the emergency exits only in an emergency;
- Be considerate of the comfort and safety of all passengers;

In the event of an emergency:

- Please remain calm;
- Proceed to the closest emergency exit;
 - Emergency windows on either side of the bus;
 - Two roof hatches on the roof of the bus;
 - Emergency door at the rear of the bus.

(NOTE: There should be a demonstration on how to use each type of exit)

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

The driver specified a designee to supervise an evacuation team to assist with the evacuation of the school bus in the event of an emergency. The driver described the basic safety regulations, emergency exits and evacuation procedures.

Date of Trip _____

Time of Trip _____

Origin of Trip _____

Destination _____

Signature of Sponsor/Lead Chaperone

Signature of Driver

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

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Sponsoring teacher: (Print) J. Scott Townsend / Alex Keen School: Watauga MS

Cell phone number: 785 (632) - 7035 Grade(s): 6-8 Number of students: ~10

Departure time/date: Nov., 3rd @ 6:00 A.M. Return time/date: Nov., 4th @ 8:00 P.M.
2023 2023

Educational purpose:

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

M.S. National Cross Country Championships @ Tom Sawyer Park, Louisville, KY

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum:

The trip is to provide an authentic championship experience to elite Watauga M.S. Cross Country student-athletes as a culminating event to the 2023 Cross Country Season.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: J. Scott Townsend (Boys Head XC Coach)
Alex Keen (Girls Head XC Coach)

Names of all non-school chaperones: None

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

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Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Dunia Tarnowski School: WHS

Cell phone number: 818-903-0178 Grade(s): 9-12 Number of students: 20

Departure time/date: 1/30/24 afternoon Return time/date: 2/3/24 morning

Educational purpose:

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

Orlando, FL : Universal Studios & Walt Disney World

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: DECA Sports & Entertainment Marketing Conference:

This trip offers committed DECA students the opportunity to learn from industry professionals in Orlando (sports, entertainment, ads, hospitality, e-sports). Students hear from at least 8 different guest speakers and get to network with each of them. Students learn about possible careers and get to experience what they learn about/hear about in Orlando's theme parks.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Dunia Tarnowski & Chris Tarnowski

Names of all non-school chaperones: _____

All chaperones have a background check completed:

Sponsoring teacher initials: OT

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

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) Plane (out to MCO & return)

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) Total Transportation Solutions in Orlando

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: _____ Round trip mileage: _____ # of buses needed: _____

Total cost per student \$ 1000 Source of funds: personal

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Olivia Tarnowski Date: 9 / 1 / 23

Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 1 / 23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 5 / 23

Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 13 / 23

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

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Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Kirbi Bell School: Green Valley

Cell phone number: 336-254-0292 Grade(s): _____ Number of students: 35

Departure time/date: Monday, March 4, 2024 6:00am Return time/date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 6:00pm

Educational purpose:

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

Sound To Sea / Trinity Center

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: Science and Social Studies

Compare Characteristics of Several Ecosystems (S.L.2)

Study Coastal History (S.G.1) * understand how human activity has and continues to shape the U.S.

Underground Railroad Exploration (S.H.1) (S.H.2)

Classify Organisms (S.L.1) (S.L.2) (S.L.3)

S.L.1 = Understand how structures and systems of organisms perform functions necessary for life.

S.L.2 = Understand the interdependence of plants and animals with their ecosystem

S.L.3 = Understand why organisms differ or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organs.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Kirbi Bell

Amber Freeman

Names of all non-school chaperones: Parents - about 10 - we will know final

names and number by October/November



(pending approved background checks)

All chaperones have a background check completed: Will, YB Sponsoring teacher initials: KA13

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? ☒ yes ☐ no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? ramps, sidewalks N/A

Sponsoring Teacher Initials _____ (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. N/A

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) H & R Tows

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: NOT specified at this time Round trip mileage: 690 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 350 Approximately Source of funds: Fundraising

The sponsoring teacher has reviewed Board policies 3320, 3320-R, and 6315: Teacher initials: KA13

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Kim B... Date: 8 / 14 / 2023

Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 8 / 17 / 2023

Required signatures if applicable:

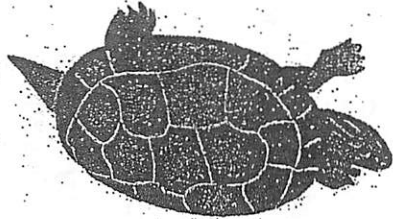
Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 5 / 23

Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9 / 13 / 23

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

Wednesday
January 26, 2011

Green Valley Elementary
SOUND TO SEA Welcomes:
5th Grade
*** Indicates Chaparrone Coverage



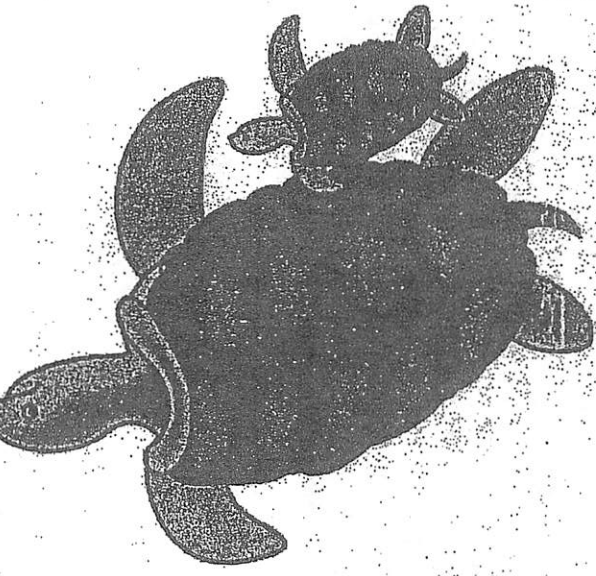
Sample
Itinerary

12:00 Arrival
Unload Buses
12:15 Waitrons
12:30 Lunch***
Cabin Move-in
Orientation Meetings
BARRIER ISLAND ECOLOGY
3:45 Transition***
4:00 CLASSES
Group 1-Sound/Salt Marsh, 2-Pond,
3-Maritime Forest, 4-Challenge Course
5:30 Transition***
5:45 Waitrons***
6:00 Dinner***
6:45 Journal Writing***
7:30 BEACH WALK TURTLE TALK
8:45 Snack***
9:00 Good Night***

Thursday, January 27, 2011

7:15 Wake Up!***
7:45 Waitrons***
8:00 Breakfast***
9:00 CLASSES
ALL ADULTS: Underground Railroad Meeting
Group 1-Challenge Course, 2-Beach,
3-Pond, 4-Sound/Salt Marsh
10:15 Transition***
10:30 CLASSES
Group 1-Maritime Forest, 2-Sound/Salt Marsh,
3-Beach, 4-Pond
12:00 Transition***
12:15 Waitrons***
12:30 Lunch***
1:30 CLASSES
Group 1-Dissection, 2-Challenge Course,
3-Sound/Salt Marsh, 4-Beach
3:00 Transition***
3:15 CLASSES
Group 1-Beach, 2-Pond, 3-Dissection,
4-Maritime Forest
4:45 RECREATION TIME***
5:45 Waitrons***
6:00 Dinner***
6:45 Journal Writing***
7:30 UNDERGROUND RAILROAD***
8:45 Snack***
9:00 Good Night***

Friday, January 28, 2011



Thank you from all of us at Sound to Sea!
Sam
Meghan
Shane
Liz
Jane
Grant
Suzannah
Kelley
Resa
Mindy
Alis

7:15 Wake Up!***
7:45 Waitrons***
8:00 Breakfast***
Please carry luggage to the Centrum on your way to...
8:50 CLASSES
Group 1-Pond, 2-Maritime Forest,
3-Challenge Course, 4-Dissection
10:10 Evaluations***
10:20 Closure***
10:30 Departure***

Notes for Chaparones at Sound to Sea

Welcome to the Sound to Sea Environmental Education Program at Trinity Center. We are happy to have you and your students here to spend some time with us. The following notes may be helpful during your stay with us.

We want you to be comfortable while you are here, so coffee and water is available from 7:30 am to 7 pm in the camp dining room. If you run out, feel free to ask the kitchen staff for more, but please do not enter the service area of the kitchen. If you have any maintenance problems while you are here, please inform an STS instructor.

Because your group may be sharing the Trinity Center property with various guests, we ask that chaparones and students use only the space reserved for Sound to Sea. This includes the centrum, camp dining room, and your dorm/room space. Conference groups most often reserve and use the conference center, porches overlooking the pond, housing cluster living rooms, and the beach house. Also please observe the Trinity Center quiet hours: 10 pm-8 am.

All Trinity Center buildings are non-smoking areas. Please smoke outside, away from class, and deposit your cigarette butts in the trash cans or appropriate smoker's outposts. Also step away from class if you must use your cell phone as it can be very distracting to students. It is helpful to keep it on vibrate. If your cell phone does not work and you need to make a phone call, the STS office is open 24 hours a day. Please use a calling card if it is not an emergency. Make sure to dial 9 and then listen for a dial tone before dialing!

Feel free to participate, observe, assist and or photograph any STS activity. Note the transition and recreation times on your schedule. These are times when the chaparones must be responsible for the students, as the Sound to Sea staff uses that time to prepare for and clean up from their classes. We ask that the chaparones please meet the students in the centrum for transition and recreation times. If the students need to go back to their living spaces, adults must be there to supervise. We ask that you help your students be on time to begin classes in the centrum. Another part of your role is to help us with the large group crowd control for meals and evening activities.

We use the "3 strikes" method to discipline students who are distracting the community with unacceptable behavior. If an incident occurs one time, the STS instructor will talk to the student after class. If an incident occurs a second time, the instructor, student, as STS administrator and a teacher will have a short conference after class. If an incident occurs a third time, the student will be removed from the group and handed over to a teacher or chaparone. Chaparone coverage of a third strike is required. Rough housing or fighting is grounds for an automatic third strike.

Students are not allowed to swim while they are with their Sound to Sea instructor, as we cannot provide lifeguards. Students who are in the water for a class should be in the water only ankle to knee deep unless specified by the STS instructor. Chaparones are responsible for students if the school permits swimming during recreation time.

Sound to Sea will not provide any major medical service or medication administration while school students are attending programs. All STS staff are First Aid, CPR and EPI pen certified and will treat minor first aid issues that occur during class. School chaparones will be responsible for administering medications for students, as well as non-class time first aid issues. School chaparones can handle medical emergencies by taking students to area medical facility or calling 911. If there is an emergency before 10 p.m. please take emergency precautions and ask a STS staff member for assistance. If no STS staff is present, you may go to the Trinity Center Point of Arrival/Registration where an attendant is available to help until 10pm. If there is an emergency after 10 p.m. or there is no attendant on duty at the Registration area, please use a cell phone or the office phone to call 911 directly. Then, please call the Trinity Center night manager at 252.240.6640, leave a message, and they will call you back directly. If there is an emergency during class times, we must account for all teachers, students, and Sound to Sea instructors. Please meet in the centrum with the students seated and quiet. We will signal an emergency by ringing the camp bell, located next to the centrum.

Trinity Center Address:
 618 Satter Path Road, Pine Knoll Shores
 EMS dial 911
 Carerel General Hospital: 252-608-6000
 Atlantic Beach Taxi: 240-3555
 Carerel Cab: 247-4600
 A-1 Yellow Cab: 240-2700

We hope that you have a pleasant stay. If you have any questions or need anything while here please do not hesitate to stop in to the Sound to Sea office located on the pool side of the centrum.

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) Jeanie Hicks & Gayle Oliver School: Mabel School
Cell phone number: 828-964-5238 Grade(s): 3rd & 4th Number of students: 35
Departure time/date: 4/8/24 4:00 am Return time/date: 4/10/24 7:00 pm

Educational purpose:

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

Sound to Sea 618 Salter Path
Pine Knoll Shores, NC 27512

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: 3rd grade - students will see different landforms as they travel across the state of North Carolina, they will study plants in a saltwater ecosystem and study different bodies of water. 4th grade - students will see the differences in landforms and other geographical aspects of the three regions of North Carolina; students will also study animal adaptations for living things thriving in marshes and brackish waterways. * see attached for more connections *

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Gayle Oliver, Jeanie Hicks

Names of all non-school chaperones: We will have parent chaperones attending with us. These will be determined fall 2023 after successful background checks are completed.

All chaperones have a background check completed: yes

Sponsoring teacher initials: JMA

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? ☒ yes ☐ no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? handicapped available seating on Charter bus, site has ramps available to all areas.

Sponsoring Teacher Initials JMA (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) Sunway Charters
(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: will be assigned by Charter company Round trip mileage: 592 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 500.00 Source of funds: Rundraising + Self-pay

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Alanie Hiles Date: 8/1/23
Principal approval: Ellen Reuben Date: 8/8/23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9/5/23
Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9/13/23
Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Sound to Sea Program Goals

The Sound to Sea Program will help students understand why and how we are tied to the earth. Through the Biology, Cultural or Current Events Program options, students will have the opportunity to learn about the unique adaptations of the plants and animals that live on a barrier island, how people have used these plants and animals throughout history, and how the loss of this amazing biodiversity is harmful to human health. Baba Dioum, an African Naturalist, explains the situation most elegantly, "In the end, we will only conserve what we love. We will only love what we understand. We will only understand what we are taught." We want the Sound to Sea Program to be the first step in this chain.

To increase awareness of the human community

In addition to recognizing the ecological communities across the island, students and teachers further explore their human community. By interacting with groups at the dining table and in cabins or classes, students begin to value their place within a community and realize how one individual affects others.

To introduce students and teachers to a variety of habitats typical of a North Carolina Barrier Island

Many students have never seen the sound, salt marsh, freshwater pond, maritime forest or beach habitats. Being able to walk from the sound to the sea, in a matter of minutes, and see the complex ecosystems they learn about in school has a tremendous impact on students.

To apply classroom learning in a practical way

Students often find it difficult to understand how and where they can apply school subject areas outside the classroom. In order to determine the salinity of the water of Bogue Sound, students use math skills to read the hydrometer and various charts. From the water cycle to plant characteristics, students make connections between what they have learned in school and what they experience at Sound to Sea.

To enhance relationships between adults and students

Imagine students supporting a teacher up the 10-foot wall at the challenge course. While interacting outside the classroom setting, students and teachers form lasting healthy relationships. Even planning the trip unites a classroom group as they pursue a common goal.

To stimulate personal growth—students develop a sense of independence and responsibility

For many children Sound to Sea is a first experience away from home for an extended period of time. In an atmosphere of support and encouragement, students help each other adapt to their new habitat and individually begin to assume responsibility for their behavior and personal belongings. This contributes to the tremendous growth students experience at Sound to Sea.

Sound to Sea Program Organization

Sound to Sea is a non-profit educational service for public and private school youth, their teachers and other supervising adults. The program is sponsored by Trinity Center, a camp and conference center owned and operated by the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina. Trinity Center developed Sound to Sea as an earth stewardship outreach ministry. The classes and hands-on activities appeal to students from a wide range of capabilities and backgrounds.

In addition to the standard three-day program, Sound to Sea offers programs from one to five days in length and can tailor programs to various grade levels.

Facilities

All Sound to Sea programs are held on site at Trinity Center, located on Rt 58, 7 miles west of Atlantic Beach, on Bogue Banks. Trinity encompasses approximately 60 acres of salt marsh, maritime forest, freshwater pond, sand dunes and 1/3 mile each of sound and beach front.

Students and chaperones stay in winterized dormitories located on Bogue Sound. The four dormitories are each divided into two cabins, and each cabin houses 12 people. Also, each cabin has a tiled bathroom with private showers and toilets. In addition, every dormitory has one private room and bathroom for a head teacher. The dorms accommodate groups of up to 112 people (96 students and 16 adults).

The Centrum pavilion, big enough for large group activities, also houses the Sound to Sea Office and three indoor classrooms. The Sharp Building is an indoor meeting place for large group activities. A sports field lies between the Centrum and the dining rooms, which are located in the central conference center area.

Through the pedestrian tunnel there are two additional indoor classrooms, adjacent to the beach.

Staff

The resident Sound to Sea staff includes the Lead Instructor and a teaching staff of 8 college graduates. The teaching staff work with groups of 12 or less students in the classes, lead evening activities and host meal times. Trinity Center's Education Director and Program Coordinator maintain overall supervision and creative direction of the Sound to Sea Program. Trinity Center also maintains full-time administrative, food service and maintenance staffs, which provide support to all Sound to Sea programs.

Sound to Sea Curriculum

Sound to Sea is always excited about the opportunity to teach students more about their natural environment. The hard part about helping students understand science is that teachers often do not have the time for hands on scientific discovery in day to day lesson plans. Allowing the students to explore using their own senses helps them to take these confusing concepts and apply them to their classroom learning.

One of the most wonderful things about outdoor environmental education is that whatever we as educators try to teach, nature can do better. Just being in the habitat which is being discussed makes the subject matter much more immediate to the students. Working in small groups, Sound to Sea Instructors a complicated, yet important, subject like population dynamics and create a running game where the students take on the part of an animal or its predator. By running around the field, imitating their animal, they learn to understand the factors involved in the growth and decline of animal populations. As one student wrote, "I had so much fun; I didn't even notice I was learning."

Barrier Island Ecology

All students will participate in the Barrier Island Ecology Course at the same time. Small groups of approximately twelve students together with a Sound to Sea instructor explore each of the habitats. This component introduces students to the five habitats (beach/ocean, maritime forest, freshwater pond, salt marsh, and sound/estuary), geological history, basic ecological concepts and general habitat study skills that are reinforced throughout the entire program.

Sound to Sea instructors encourage exploration and present various ecological concepts (such as habitats, cycles, communities, populations, species, food webs, decomposition, etc.) as students discover concrete evidence that relates to that concept. As the groups explore each habitat, students observe the differences and make comparisons. Students participate in a variety of sensory skill-improving activities.

Barrier Island Ecology demonstrates Sound to Sea's habitat-based curricula, allowing students to analyze conditions within each habitat and compare them.

Biology Habitat Classes

During the Habitat Study portion, students learn and apply various habitat study skills, using a variety of scientific tools, in order to determine what affects each habitat and discover what lives and grows there. Children will learn scientific skills including observation, measurement, data collection, and analysis and assessment of habitat conditions with respect to soil, air, water, wind, temperature, and human impact. They will also observe, identify and classify a representative sampling of species present within the habitat. Students will gain experience using tools like nets (seine, dip, insect, plankton, etc.), micro-projectors, hand lenses, compasses, maps, water quality test kits, and field guides.

Sound/Salt Marsh: Students will focus on the concept of the sound and salt marsh as the nursery of the ocean. They will learn about the adaptations of fish, crabs and various plants that live in the salt marsh. They will find out about the importance of water quality to the sound and salt marsh and learn to do a simple water quality test.

Beach/Ocean: Students will learn about barrier island formation and movement and that beach erosion is a natural part of that process. They will learn about the adaptations of various animals that live in the subtidal, intertidal and supratidal zones of the beach.

Freshwater Pond: Students will learn about the importance and rarity of clean, fresh water. They will get a closer look at the myriad adaptations of water insects and fish. They will learn about pond succession and the amazing qualities of the plants that live around the pond.

Maritime Forest: Students will learn about the importance of the maritime forest to the various animals that live there. They will learn about the anatomy and adaptations of a maritime forest tree. They will learn about medicinal plants and perhaps have the chance to sample some wild edibles.

Dissection: Students will focus on the anatomy and physiology of one of our Bogue Sound residents by dissecting either a squid or a fish. Or try the Comparative Anatomy Dissection which compares plant and animal anatomy and physiology.

Cultural Habitat Classes

Social Studies and Science are often treated as separate subjects in school, but with our Cultural Program, we'll combine social studies and science. During the habitat classes, students explore the Sound, Salt Marsh, Pond, Beach and Forest, and focus on human interaction with the habitats. We'll explore the three groups of people to inhabit our area (African Americans, Europeans, and Native Americans) and find out how each group experimented with island plants, animals and other materials. Finally, we'll explore how our current culture (that's us!) uses plants, animals and materials native to our island habitat and how we can conserve and protect them. Because of the multi-disciplinary mix of social studies and science, we offer these classes only to groups of students 6th grade and younger.

Sound/Salt Marsh: Students will focus on human interaction with the various animals and plants in the sound and salt marsh. They will learn about the various methods that early settlers used to catch their dinner. The students will also learn about local fare by collecting animals and plants.

Beach: Students will learn about the biology of whales, the largest animal on earth. They will also be taught about the sailor's art of Scrimshaw as they discover how the monsters of the deep were caught and used by humans.

Freshwater Pond: Students will learn the importance of fresh water and why our ancestors settled there. They will attempt to create and use primitive fishing and hunting tools.

Maritime Forest: Students will learn techniques used to stalk an animal through the forest, how to distinguish individual animal tracks and how people used these skills to catch their dinner.

Dissection: Students will dissect an animal and/or plant to learn about its anatomy and discover the importance each species to early humans and to our continued survival.

Current Events Habitat Classes

The Current Events Program teaches students about the dangers of the loss of biodiversity to human health and gives them a chance to learn about population growth, climate change, air and water quality, waste disposal and energy consumption in fun and engaging ways. We want students to understand that everything they throw away goes somewhere and that every action they take affects something else. We want them to know what they can do to conserve our environment, and in doing so, our way of life. But most importantly, after learning about the threats to our global environment, we want students to feel empowered, not afraid. Because of the complex and scientific nature of this program, we offer these classes only to groups of students 7th grade and older.

Sound/Salt Marsh: Students will focus on water quality and wetlands restoration. By conducting water tests, they will get first hand experience with the scientific method. The students will also study the diversity of wetlands by collecting animals and plants.

Beach: Students will learn about coastal erosion, current methods of beach preservation and how they affect the beach ecosystem.

Freshwater Pond: Students will learn about the importance and rarity of clean, fresh water. They will use animals and plants collected in the pond to create a miniature ecosystem, and discuss sustainable aquaculture.

Maritime Forest: Students will study the effects of clear cutting and investigate the importance of biodiversity.

Dissection: Students will have the opportunity to dissect a fish (or squid) to learn about the effects of fishing techniques on fish populations and on the fishery industry in North Carolina.

Group Cooperation Challenge Course

The environmental study becomes complete by exploring the human community with Trinity Center's professionally-designed Group Cooperation Challenge Course. With trained staff as facilitators, students discover how to function as a group by employing creative problem-solving techniques. Groups meet unforgettable physical challenges by working together, by depending on each other, and by recognizing each group member's unique contributions. These group-building skills travel back to school to strengthen the classroom community. The Group Cooperation Challenge Course promotes interdependence among group members and promotes the idea that any group can become more effective at problem-solving.

Evening Activities

School teachers choose evening activities, which cover a wide variety of topics, including:

Survival on the Coast: Emphasizes the connection between social studies and science with demonstrations of skills used by coastal Native Americans and later cultures. This outdoor or indoor program is suitable for groups of all sizes.

First in Flight: Showcases our live birds of prey with additional stations covering the history of flight in NC, properties of air, mechanics of flight, bird beak and raptor adaptations. This outdoor or indoor program is suitable for groups of all sizes.

Challenge Night: Features large group activities designed to enhance group self-esteem and cooperation. This program is best suited for 70 or less students 5th grade or older (please let us know about any previous group-building activities.)

Underground Railroad: Today more than ever, it is important for students to understand our history. By allowing them a hands-on simulation, we can better discuss the history of slavery and where we are today. This outdoor program is best suited for 36 or more students and requires a back-up plan in case of rain. A **minimum of 6-10 chaperones** (depending on your group size) will role-play various characters on the Underground Railroad.

Beach Walk/Turtle Talk: Students study our endangered sea turtles, the threats facing these amazing creatures and the steps that people can take to help their conservation. This outdoor program is best suited for 60 or less students and requires a back-up plan in case of rain.

Outer Banks Stories and Sing-a-Long: We'll intersperse fun songs and stories of our maritime heritage and perhaps we'll finish with a Carolina Ghost Story.

Pirates: Discovering myths and facts about pirates and privateers, students use problem solving skills to determine whether or not the shipwreck found in Beaufort Inlet is Blackbeard's flagship, The Queen Anne's Revenge. This outdoor or indoor program is best suited for groups of 48 or less students 7th grade or younger.

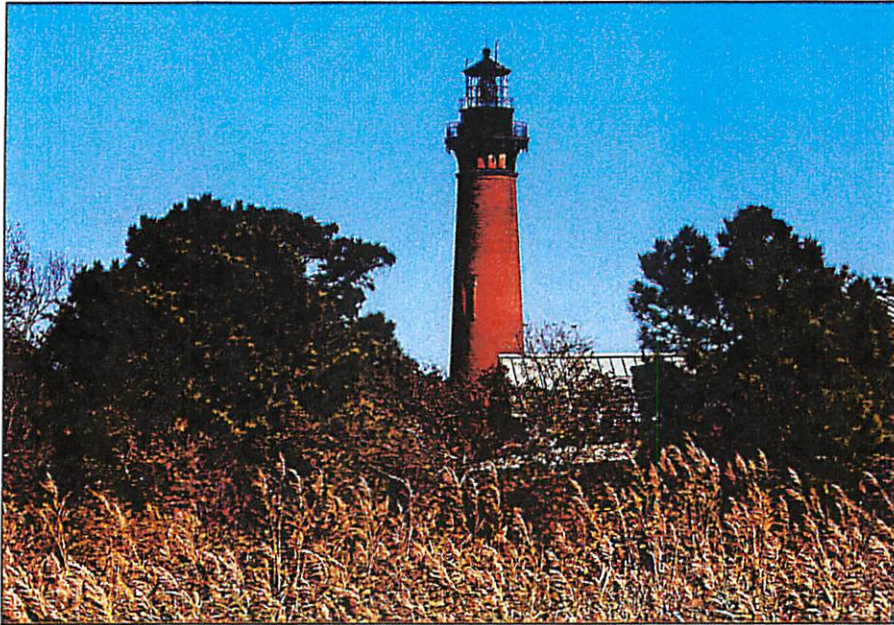
Whales and Whalers: Hands-on experiments showcase the amazing ways whales adapt to life in the ocean. Students will be astonished by the sheer size of these magnificent animals when they meet our life-sized inflatable Right Whale. Learn about NC's historical shore-based whaling culture, and practice the skills needed for this dangerous profession. This outdoor or indoor program is good for any size group, 6th grade or younger.

Night Hike: Small group experiments and activities illuminate the wonders of night vision and our nocturnal neighbors. This outdoor program is best suited for 60 or less students and requires a back-up plan in case of rain. This program is only available from mid-November to mid-March (when the time changes and it is dark after dinner.)

Town Meeting: A mock town meeting allows each habitat study group to represent an interested party in a local beach development issue. This program is best suited for 60 or less students that are 5th grade or older.

Icky Creatures: Possums, Bats, and Snakes, Oh My! This hands-on program allows students to interact with animals often considered icky and learn about their amazing adaptations.

Valle Crucis 8th Grade Trip 2024 Field Trip Request and Other Documentation



Watauga County School Board,

In this packet you will find information on a field trip to the Outerbanks of North Carolina in April/May of 2024 for our 8th grade students. The information below can be found in the packet:

- Field Trip Request Form (**UPDATED 9-12-23 DUE TO CHAPERONE CHANGE DUE TO DIABETIC STUDENT**)
- Trip Itinerary
- Safety and Supervision Plan with Lodging Information (**UPDATED 9-12-23 DUE TO CHAPERONE CHANGE DUE TO DIABETIC STUDENT**)

Thank you for taking a look at this and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natasha Lyons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Natasha" being more prominent than the last name "Lyons".

Natasha Lyons

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

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) Natasha Lyons School: Valle Crucis School

Cell phone number: (828) 263-2383 Grade(s): 8th Grade Number of students: 34

Departure date: Monday, April 29, 2024 Return date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Departure time: 6:00am Return time: 8:00pm

Educational purpose:

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

We will be traveling to the Outerbanks of North Carolina. A detailed itinerary is attached with this form.

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: The trip will tie into their 8th grade science curriculum on ecosystems and conservation as well as the helpful living curriculum on protecting the environment. We would also be following the 8th grade social studies curriculum with North Carolina history and how it relates back to the beginning stages of the overall American history. A few standards that this trip would be applicable to include Science standards 8.E.1: Understand the hydrosphere and the impact of humans on local systems and the effects of the hydrosphere on humans. and 8.L.3: Understand how organisms interact with and respond to the biotic and abiotic components of their environment. as well as Social Studies standards 8.B.1: Analyze the impact of group behavior on the development of North Carolina and the nation, 8.E.1: Understand the economic development of North Carolina and the nation, 8.G.1: Understand geographic factors that influence the development of North Carolina and the nation, and 8.H.2: Understand how innovation and change have impacted the development of North Carolina and the nation.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Natasha Lyons (7th and 8th Grade Math Teacher), Dave Shack (7th and 8th Grade Science Teacher), Daniel Machon (Principal Intern), and Shelly Slutz (WCS Lead Nurse)

Names of all non-school chaperones: N/A

All chaperones have a background check completed:

Sponsoring teacher initials: NL

Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? yes ☒ no How will students with disabilities be accommodated for site access and transportation? If a student is unable to climb the stairs of the Currituck Lighthouse, they will be with a chaperone at all times at the bottom of the lighthouse. All other sites are accessible.

Sponsoring Teacher Initials NL (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) Young Transportation and Tours

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

Driver/s: Round trip mileage: # of buses needed:

Total cost per student \$ 725.00 Source of funds: Fundraisers, Grants, and Parent/Guardian Payments
(Payments to be made throughout the year with a payment plan)

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


Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature:  Date: 09 / 12 / 23

Principal approval:  Date: 09 / 13 / 23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval:  Date: 9 / 14 / 23

Superintendent approval:  Date: 9 / 14 / 23

Board of Education approval: Date: / /



PROPOSAL
Valle Crucis School
NC OBX
April 29- May 1, 2024

Day 1:

- 6:00 AM Coaches arrive at the school for loading
- 6:30 AM Depart for the OBX making rest stops and a bag lunch (*brought from home*) stop en route
- 2:30 PM **Visit the NC Aquarium at Roanoke Island** (*pending confirmation*)
- 5:00 PM View **Bodie Island Lighthouse**
- 6:15 PM Check in to the **Hilton Garden Inn** and have a chance to see the beach
- 7:30 PM **Cook-out dinner** at the hotel (*hamburgers, hot dogs, fixings, sides, dessert and drinks*)
- 8:30 PM **Kite making class with Kitty Hawk Kites** at the hotel
- 10:30 PM **Private security guard** arrives for duty

This would be replaced with an on-the-boat program to study estuary habitats and water quality.

Day 2:

- 7:15 AM **Hot breakfast** at the hotel
- 8:00 AM Depart for Corolla
- 9:00 AM Visit the **OBX Wildlife Center, Currituck Maritime Museum and Climb Currituck Lighthouse**
- 11:30 AM Depart for Nags Head
- 12:30 PM **Box lunch at the pier** (*Country Deli sandwich, chips, cookie and water*)
- 1:00 PM **Programming at Jennette's Pier** (*Two hands on programs and Pier Fishing*)
- 4:00 PM Depart for Jockey's Ridge
- 4:30 PM **Kite contest** facilitated by **Kitty Hawk Kites** – with prizes and time to have fun at **Jockey's Ridge**
- 6:30 PM Depart for the hotel to change and shake the sand off
- 7:30 PM **Dinner at Captain George's** – *All-you-can-eat buffet incl. crab legs, seafood & land lover favorites*
- 8:45 PM **OBX Bowl** (*private event for just our group*)
- 10:00 PM Depart for the hotel – security arrives at 10:30 PM

This will be replaced with a night walk on the beach

Day 3:

- 7:30 AM **Hot breakfast** at the hotel
- 8:15 AM Load luggage, teachers check rooms and group check out of the hotel
- 8:40 AM Depart for touring
- 9:00 AM Visit the **Wright Brothers Memorial & Museum** (*free with teacher completed waiver form*)
- 11:00 AM Depart for home making a **Box lunch stop** and rest area stops en route
- 6:30-7 PM Estimated arrival time back to the school

Price Per Person Includes:

- R/T Transportation aboard a luxury 47 passenger coach
- Two nights' accommodations and room taxes at the Hilton Garden Inn
- Services of a private security guard at the hotel each night
- All touring and admissions as detailed
- Two breakfasts, two lunches and two dinners
- Three complimentary teachers in two hotel rooms

"Travel with Distinction"

843 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC 28804 • 828-258-0084 • www.youngtransportation.com

Safety/Supervision Plan

Written by: Natasha Lyons; Valle Crucis School Teacher & Trip Sponsor

Outerbanks, NC ; April 29 - May 1, 2024

School Staff Chaperones: Natasha Lyons, Dave Shack, Daniel Machon, and Shelly Klutz

Student to Chaperone Ratio will not exceed 12:1

Transportation

All students will be on one (1) charter bus. The charter company we are working with is Young Transportation and is on the list of approved charters. Valle Crucis has worked with this company five (5) times in the past for overnight trips, two of those trips being to Williamsburg, VA in March of 2016 and March of 2018, the third being to Washington D.C. in April of 2017, and two (2) being to the Outer Banks of North Carolina in April of 2019 and March of 2023. While on the charter, students will remain seated in an assigned seat. Seats are not to be changed unless prior approval from a chaperone has been granted. Reasons for moving seats will be on a case-by-case basis but will only be done in case of an emergency or student illness. There will be three (3) chaperones on the bus at all times with students. When entering the bus, one (1) chaperone will go on the bus first to ensure the safety of all students as they enter the bus while the remaining chaperones will wait outside the bus to ensure all students have made it on the bus. Before the bus pulls away, the chaperones will confirm that all students are on the bus by either counting the number of students or calling out their names. When exiting the bus, up to two (2) chaperones will exit the bus first to ensure the safety of the students as they are getting off the bus. The remaining chaperone will stay on the bus and confirm that all students came off the bus before they exit. When off the bus, students will need to check in with their assigned chaperone to ensure all students are accounted for.

Lodging

We will be staying at the Hilton Garden Inn at 5353 N Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949. Their phone number is 252-261-1290. All students and chaperones will be housed in the same hotel. Students will be in rooms with 2-4 students in each room. Male students will be on one floor/wing of the hotel and female students on a separate floor/wing of the hotel. There will be no males permitted in female rooms and no females permitted in male rooms. There will be a chaperone room on each floor. Each night, we will have private security to monitor the rooms to be sure no student leaves their room when not permitted. This security guard will also notify the lead chaperone, Natasha Lyons, of any issues throughout the night that need to be addressed.

Activities

Students will be with a chaperone group at various times throughout the trip. These times will be noted in a parent handout two (2) weeks prior to the departure of the trip. If students are not noted as being in a chaperone group, students will be in one large group together with all three (3) chaperones. Changes to these groups must be approved by the chaperones. All activities are designed for all students with the exception of climbing the Currituck Lighthouse. If there are any students with a disability preventing them from climbing the stairs to the top of the lighthouse, those students will stay at the base of the lighthouse with a chaperone. There will be no swimming in the ocean or any pools while on this trip.

Boating Activity

While we are at the Coastal Studies Institute, students will be participating in an On-the-Boat Program. Students will explore the estuary in our On-The-Water Boat Program. Students Board the USCG-certified Discovery for a two-hour program in which students will learn first-hand about estuarine habitats and their importance. The trip includes a visit to a nearby island where students will collect marine organisms and explore diverse estuarine habitats while learning about water quality and ways to protect these valuable nurseries. CPR-certified staff members Dave Shack or Shelly Klutz will be on the boat anytime there are students on the boat. Students will also be required to wear a life jacket for the entire time that they are on the boat.

Other Safety Items

Chaperone David Shack and Shelly Klutz are CPR certified. Shelly Klutz is also the Lead Nurse for Watauga County Schools and is also authorized to administer medication to students for the duration of the trip. All Individual Health Plans (IHP) will be carried and followed for students who have one. We have one (1) student attending the trip who has Type 1 Diabetes. Chaperone Shelly Klutz is trained on how to handle issues that may arise. In the event of an emergency situation, David Shack (who is on the school based Rapid Response Team) will accompany the student to seek medical care while Shelly Klutz, Natasha Lyons, and Daniel Machon stay with the rest of the students. In the event the diabetic student needs to seek medical attention, Shelly Klutz will accompany the student while Natasha Lyons, David Shack, and Daniel Machon stay back with the other students.

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) Abigail Bumgarner School: Mabel School
Cell phone number: (910) 612-7173 Grade(s): 5th and 6th Number of students: 32
Departure time/date: April 29th 2024 Return time/date: May 2nd 2024

Educational purpose:

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

Mountain Trail Outdoor School (MTOS)
Hendersonville, NC

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum:

Mountain Trail Outdoor School provides experience based outdoor education. MTOS curriculum combines natural science with team building and adventure based activities. Students will participate in various courses during our trip, ranging from forest ecology to geology and sustainability. All MTOS courses relate directly back to NC Science Standard Course of Study.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Abigail Bumgarner, Elin Reuben, nurse Emily, Mary Fitzgerald and Ben Brown

Names of all non-school chaperones: We will bring three parent chaperones who have not been selected yet

All chaperones have a background check completed:

Sponsoring teacher initials: EB Elin Reuben

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

would be attending who would require accommodation

Sponsoring Teacher Initials EB (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. Parents will

sign a release form through Mountain Trail

Transportation plan:

Outdoor School.

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: Ben Brown Round trip mileage: 244 # of buses needed: 1

Total cost per student \$ 300.00 Source of funds: Fundraising & self-pay

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: Elin Reuben Date: 8/8/23
Principal approval: Elin Reuben Date: 8/8/23

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 9/5/23
Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 9/13/23
Board of Education approval: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Curriculum Planning

Morning and Afternoon Class Options

Pick a class for each morning and afternoon period of your stay at MTOS. A three-day, two-night trip has four class periods. Note that if you pick half-classes, please indicate how you would like to combine them. Unless otherwise indicated, classes can be either half- or full-classes. A half-day off-property trip will serve as one class, a full-day trip as two classes.

Environmental Education Courses

- ☐ Forest Ecology
- ☐ Mountain Ecology
- ☐ Animal Ecology
- ☐ Ponds and Streams Study
- ☐ Geology^ half-class
- ☐ Bog Study^ half-class
- ☐ Web of Life^ half-class
- ☐ Sustainable Futures^ half-class

Adventure and Teambuilding Courses

- ☐ Climbing Tower
- ☐ Rock Quarry
- ☐ High Ropes Course
- ☐ Cooperation Course
- ☐ Outdoor Living Skills
- ☐ Orienteering
- ☐ Canoeing^ half-class

Off-Property Trips

- ☐ Whitewater Rafting* full-day
- ☐ Biltmore Estate* full-day
- ☐ Pisgah National Forest* full- or half-day
- ☐ Carl Sandburg Home* half-day

Evening Program Options

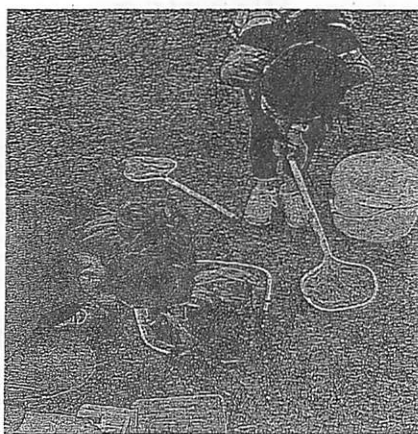
Please pick one evening program for each night of your stay. Some schools opt for a self-led evening program that fulfills their schools need, such as student council elections. Please contact MTOS if you are interested in your own program.

Evening Programs

- ☐ Night Hike
- ☐ Town Hall
- ☐ Naturalist*
- ☐ Appalachian Culture
- ☐ Storyteller*
- ☐ Campfire
- ☐ Dance/Social

*Third party vendor fees and/or transportation expenses are associated with these programs. Please contact us to inquire about pricing.

Environmental Education Courses



Our Environmental Education Curriculum adheres to the state standard course of study requirements for 4th-7th grade in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee and can easily adapt to fit other grade and state requirements. Our courses allow students to experience first-hand the interactions of their environment.

In **Forest Ecology**, students hike to a viewpoint, while seeing the inner workings of trees, the diversity of plants in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, and the interconnectivity between plants, animals, decomposers, and people.

NC standard: 3.L.2.1, 5.L.2.2, 5.L.2.3, 6.L.1.2, 8.L.3.1, 8.L.3.2 SC standard: 5-2.4, 5-2., 6.L.5B, 7-4.3

Mountain Ecology classes enjoy a viewpoint hike and learn about the changes in flora, fauna, and topography due to sun exposure, erosion, succession, geological forces, and human activity. *NC standard: 4.E.2.3, 6.E.2.3, 6.E.2.4 SC standard: 5.E.3B.1, 6.E.2.4*

Animal Ecology classes see evidence of wildlife in their habitats as well as native species around our campus. Curriculum focuses on comparing and contrasting niches and adaptations.

NC standard: 4.L.1.2, 4.L.1.3, 5.L.2.2, 6.L.2, 8.L.3.1, 8.L.3.2 SC standard: 2-2.2, 5-2.5, 5.L.4B, 6.L.4B, 7.EC.5B

In **Aquatic Ecology**, students examine self-caught macroinvertebrates as they explore our aquatic bodies to learn about water systems and the organisms that dwell in water.

NC standard: 5.L.2.1, 8.E.1.3 SC standard: 7-4.5, 4-4.1

For a greater focus on geological forces, we offer a **Geology** half-class to discover how the Blue Ridge Mountains formed and continue to change. *NC standard: 4.E.2.3, 6.E.2.3, 6.E.2.1, 8.E.2.1, 8.E.2.2 SC standard: 8.E.6A*

In the **Bog Study** half-class, students visit Kanuga's mountain bog and experience the role of wetlands and the unique characteristics of wetland organisms.

NC standard: 5.L.2.3, 6.L.2.1, 8.E.1, 8.L.3

Our general ecology class, **Web of Life**, is a half-class that focuses on the interactions and dependencies between living and non-living elements in our Blue Ridge ecosystem.

NC standard: 5.L.2.3, 6.L.2.1, 8.E.1, 8.L.3

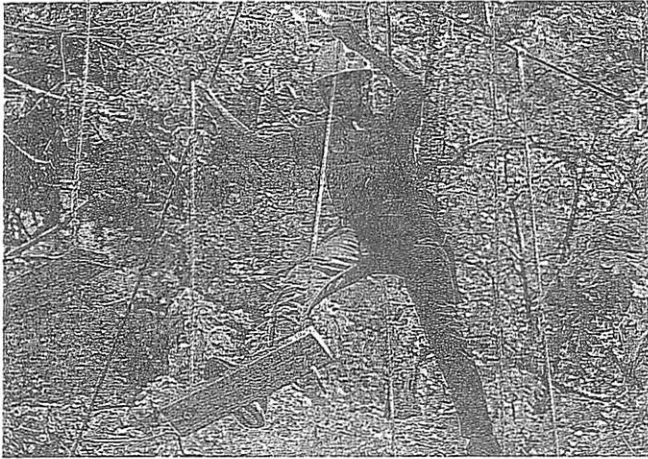
Our **Sustainable Futures** half-class utilizes our solar hot water system, organic garden, and ongoing conservation initiatives for students to experience the science of sustainability.

NC standard: 4.L.1.4, 6.L.2.3, 7.E.1.6, 8.P.2.1, 8.P.2.2, 8.E.1.4

Adventure and Teambuilding Courses

Our adventure-based courses provide the opportunity for students to change their assumptions about themselves and each other and to expand their comfort circles.

A session of **Rock Climbing** allows students to experience success and shows them that they can do anything that they put their mind to. Many groups choose to climb at our forty-foot-high Climbing Tower, but smaller groups may also choose the natural rock face at our Rock Quarry.



The **High Ropes Course** provides an empowering realization of mind over matter, though the challenge here is more emotional than physical. With six dynamic elements on two separate courses, students can choose their own challenges and work with our staff to empower themselves.

During our **Cooperation Course** class, students work together to overcome a series of challenges,

thereby honing their decision-making, communication, and cooperation skills while growing together as a group.

Our **Outdoor Living Skills** class equips students for successful experiences in the outdoors with minimal impact on the environment. Fire and shelter building are examples of activities students may experience.

Orienteering introduces various methods of navigation (notably compasses and topographic maps) and allows students to then use these new skills as they work through our forested orienteering course.

Students learn the terminology and techniques of proper canoeing while exploring Kanuga Lake in our **Canoeing** half-class.

Off-Property Trips*

Mountain Trail Outdoor School expands beyond its 1,400-acre property with trips to natural and cultural attractions in the area. Schools can enhance their experience by taking advantage of all that Western North Carolina has to offer.

The Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) provides qualified and experienced commercial guidance for MTOS groups to enjoy **Whitewater Rafting** on the French Broad, Nantahala, or Nolichucky rivers. Both full- and half-day trips are available.

School groups can also add trips to the **Biltmore Estate** for educational tours of America's largest estate and French-style gardens.

Groups of younger students and those who do not choose a multi-day expedition can also enjoy Pisgah National Forest with MTOS. Day trips include hikes to the stunning overlook at **John Rock**, feeding fish and visiting the **Fish Hatchery**, or touring the **Cradle of Forestry**.

Down the road from the Mountain Trail Outdoor School is the **Carl Sandburg Home**, a national historic site that includes the Pulitzer Prize-winner's home place, museum, and dairy goat herd.

*Most off-property programs require additional fees. Please contact us to inquire about pricing.

Evening Programs

To enhance the selection of day programs, schools can choose from a variety of MTOS evening programs or opt to run their own evening activities. Many of our offerings provide pure entertainment and relaxation, while others allow students to experience lessons learned in school.

During a **Night Hike**, students in small groups learn the wonders of nightlife in the forest, from the adaptations of nocturnal animals to the workings of the human eye in the absence of light. Exploring the night forest without flashlights, students use their senses to discover another world.

In a **Town Hall**, students act as different community interest groups to debate the economic, ecological, and social advantages and disadvantages of allowing theme park development in their town.

Mountain Trail Outdoor School is lucky to have Carlton Burke of Carolina Mountain Naturalists present **Naturalist*** programs. With either "Animals We Love to Hate" or "Appalachian Wild," students meet and learn about animals through a dynamic presenter.

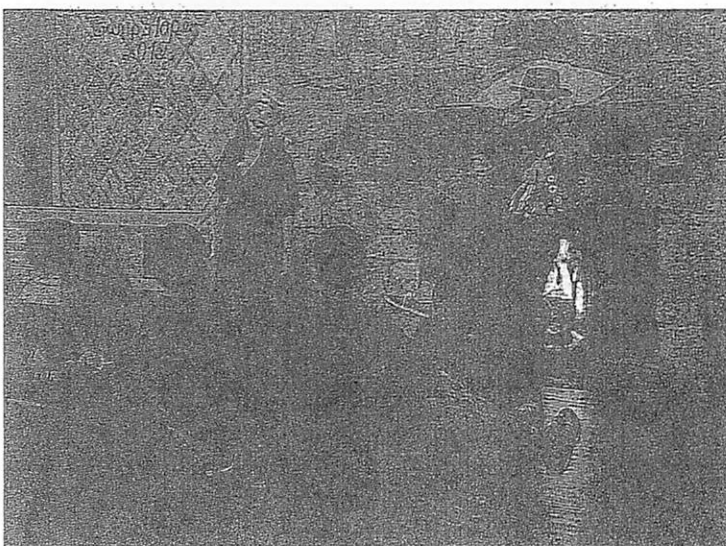
Appalachian Culture allows students to experience the rich culture through candle making, biscuit roasting, storytelling, square dancing, among other activities.

We also offer a full **Storyteller*** program which engages various age groups with traditional folk tales from Appalachia and the world.

Students and chaperones get to do-si-do, swing, and reel at a **Square Dance**, where MTOS staff teach and call traditional steps and dances.

Student activity groups gather around a **Campfire** for skits, activities and, for groups who opt for them, s'mores.

*Third party vendor fees are associated with these programs. Please contact us to inquire about pricing.



Declaration of Surplus Items - September '23

Bethel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	1	TABLE - COMPUTER / WHITE		1
NONE	1	CHAIR- TEACHER		1
NONE	1	CART- COMPUTER / BLACK	1	
NONE	1	MICROWAVE- BLACK		1
34761	1	DOC CAMERA- HD		1
100204	1	BOOKSHELF- WOODEN	1	
NONE	1	A/C UNIT- GE		1
<div></div>			<div></div>	<div></div>
7			2	5

Blowing Rock

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
28969	1	PROJECTOR- POWERLITE 98		1
200892	1	DOC CAMERA- ELMO		1
<div></div>			<div></div>	<div></div>
2			0	2

Cove Creek

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
800433	1	STAGE RISERS	1	
800434	1	STAGE RISERS	1	
800435	1	STAGE RISERS	1	
NONE	8	OFFICE CHAIRS	8	
51809	1	CART- W/ ELECTRIC		1
NONE	1	CASSETTE RECORDER- CALIFONE	1	
33406	1	CHROMEBOOK- 100e		1
<div></div>			<div></div>	<div></div>
14			12	2

Green Valley

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
33970	1	CART- COMPUTER		1
33969	1	CART- COMPUTER		1
400719	1	REFRIGERATOR		1
<div></div>			<div></div>	<div></div>

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Hardin Park

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
33383	1	CHROMEBOOK- 100e		1
NONE	24	CHAIRS- STUDENT	24	
NONE	1	TABLE- WOODEN COMPUTER	1	
NONE	8	CHAIRS- WOODEN	8	
NONE	3	CHAIRS- TEACHER	3	
NONE	3	TABLE- WOODEN TOP W/ METAL LEGS		3
NONE	1	BOOKSHELF W/ STORAGE	1	
NONE	1	DESK- TEACHER- WOODEN	1	
NONE	1	DESK- TEACHER - METAL	1	
NONE	1	CABINET	1	
NONE	1	TABLE- WOODEN	1	
NONE	1	TABLE - TRAPEZOID	1	
NONE	2	CABINETS		2
NONE	1	VANITY	1	
NONE	1	TABLE- HALF CIRCLE	1	
NONE	3	CARTS- STORAGE WOODEN		3
NONE	4	FILE CABINET- 4 DRAWER	4	
NONE	1	WOODEN COMPUTER BOX		1
NONE	9	CALCULATORS- TI-34		9
NONE	4	FLAT SCREEN MONITORS		4
500373	1	DOC CAMERA- ELMO		1
NONE	1	DVD PLAYER- MAGNAVOX	1	
500645	1	DVD PLAYER- APEX	1	
500655	1	DVD/VHS PLAYER- SONY	1	
800153	1	PRINTER- HP LASERJET P1606dn	1	
500764	1	PRINTER- HP LASERJET 2300n	1	
NONE	1	GLOBE	1	
NONE	1	PIANO- UPRIGHT	1	
28840	1	DESKTOP- OPTIPLEX		1

80

55

25

Mabel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	1	8300 SFF- HARDDRIVE		1
NONE	2	DESK- STUDENT		2
NONE	1	BOOKSHELF- METAL	1	
NONE	1	CHAIR- STUDENT ROLLING		1
NONE	1	DESK- TEACHER		1

25055	1 PROJECTOR- POWERLITE	1
800145	1 PROJECTOR- NP410	1
600066	1 SMARTBOARD	1
600095	1 PRINTER- LASER JET P1606dn	1

10

1

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Parkway

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
700447	1	SMARTBOARD		1
;NONE	1	DESK- TEACHER	1	
700448	1	AMPLIFIER		1
NONE	2	SPEAKERS		2
700598	1	IPOD- TOUCH		1
700470	1	AMPLIFIER	1	
700469	1	DVD/VCR PLAYER- ZENITH	1	

8

3

5

Valle Crucis

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	28	CALCULATORS- TI-108	28	
NONE	10	CALCULATORS- TI MATHMATE		10
NONE	5	FILE CABINETS- 4 DRAWER	5	
332-1906	1	TABLE		1
332-1901	1	TABLE		1
32983	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33306	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e	1	
33329	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e	1	
33331	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e	1	
33332	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e	1	
33340	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e	1	
33619	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33622	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33623	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33628	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33630	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33631	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33632	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e		1
33635	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33636	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
33653	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	

33654	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
33655	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
33656	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
34046	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34047	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34048	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34049	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34051	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34052	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34053	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34055	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
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34077	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34078	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34079	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34080	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
34470	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1
34474	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1
35966	1 CHROMEBOOK 100e	1
36169	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
51951	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
51952	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
51953	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
52110	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1
52111	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
52231	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1
52232	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1
52233	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1
52234	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1

52235	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
52236	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1	
52237	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1	
52242	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
52244	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
52245	1 CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	
52246	1 CHROMEBOOK 300e	1	
300272	1 SONY COMPACT DISC RECEIVER WITH SPEAKERS	1	
NONE	1 MONITOR - SONY- LCD 17"	1	
NONE	1 MONITOR- DELL # E771P		1
300060	1 DESKTOP- Compaq		1
NONE	1 TV- SMART- ONN	1	

120

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105

15

Watauga High School

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	1	VACUUM- WINDSOR		1
903582	1	CARPET EXTRACTOR		1
904332	1	VAC- WET/DRY		1
904331	1	VAC- WET/DRY		1
904329	1	VAC- WET/DRY		1
51906	1	CHROMEBOOK YOGA 300e	1	

6

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1

5

Central Office

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

0

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Technology Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
28496	1	THINKPAD		1
80081	1	AMP		1
NONE	1	AMP - TOA		1
400136	1	DOC CAMERA- ELMO		1
29709	1	CPU- OPTIPLEX 790	1	
29704	1	CPU- OPTIPLEX 790	1	
29700	1	CPU- OPTIPLEX 790	1	

400713	1 PROJECTOR- POWERLITE 51c		1
NONE	4 MONITORS		4
400464	1 PROJECTOR- POWERLITE 95		1
400035	1 PROJECTOR- POWERLITE 83+		1
400017	1 PROJECTOR- POWELITE S5		1
80082	1 SOUND SYSTEM		1
51533	1 IPOD TOUCH		1
700357	1 IPAD	1	
700359	1 IPAD	1	
28016	1 IPAD	1	
25686	1 IPAD	1	
35890	1 WIFI HOT SPOT		1

22

7

15

Transportation Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
51300	1	RADIO- TWO WAY HAND HELD
51302	1	RADIO- TWO WAY HAND HELD

2

Usable Unusable

1

1

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2

Watauga County Schools

Board of Education

Accountability Update



Dr. Wayne M. Eberle, II

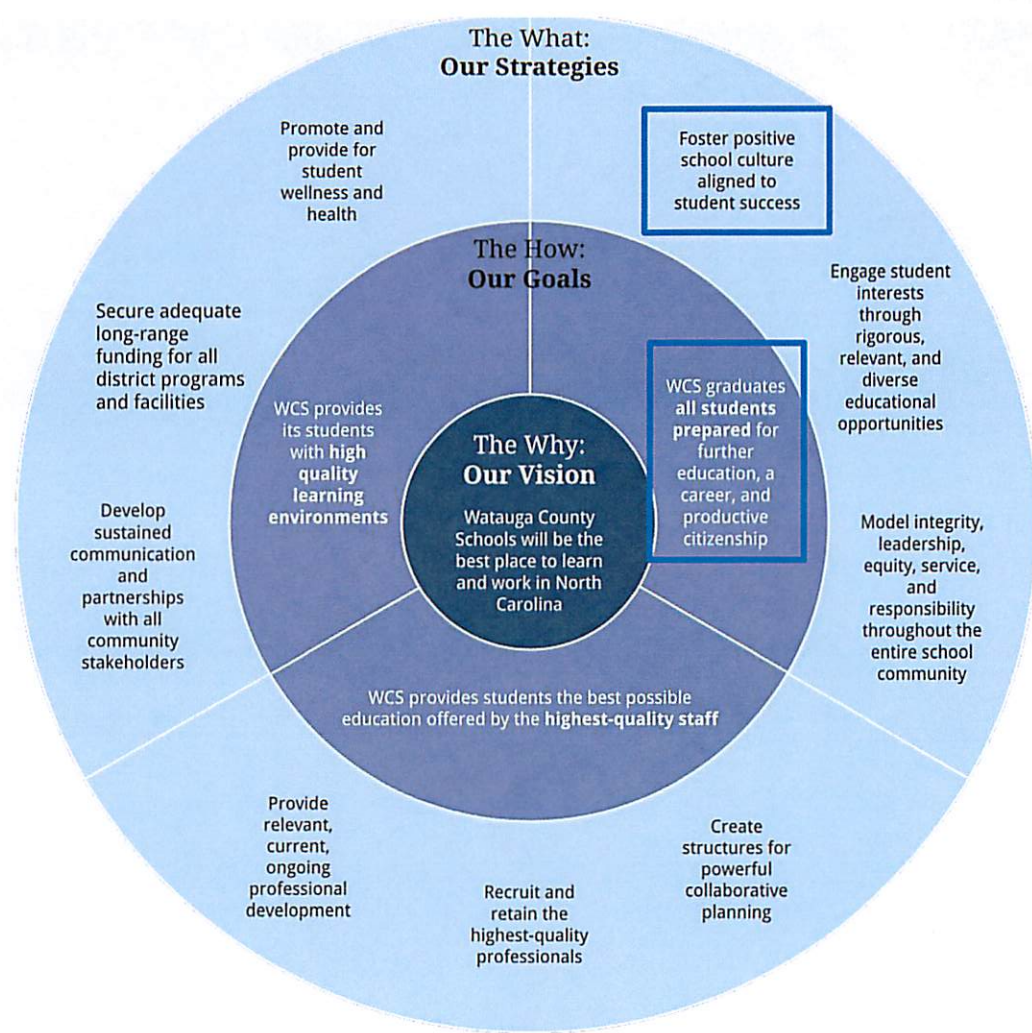
Director of Accountability & Federal Programs

September 19, 2023



Watauga County Schools Strategic Plan Connection

Goal 1 Strategy 1



EOC Proficiency Comparison SY 19-20 to Present

Pre-COVID Fall 2019 to Fall 2022

Using GLP Standards - at or above Level III

EOC Subject	WHS Fall '19 (Pre-COVID)	WHS Fall '20 (2x3 Flex)	WHS Fall '21	WHS Fall '22
Bio	75.6%	59.7%	71.7%	70.9%
Eng II	68.3%	76.3%	73.5%	62.1%
Math I	80.4%	34.2%	80.0%	79.2%
Math III	70.8%	62.8%	73.3%	84.1%

EOC Subject	WIA Fall '19 (Pre-COVID)	WIA Fall '20 (2X3 Flex)	WIA Fall '21	WIA Fall '22
Bio	57.1%	58.3%	69.2%	46.2%
Eng II	53.3%	60.0%	69.2%	52.4%
Math I	76.2%	41.7%	64.7%	77.3%
Math III	55.6%	51.4%	60.0%	78.1%

EOC Subject	Combined Fall '19 (Pre-COVID)	Combined Fall '20 (2X3 Flex)	Combined Fall '21	Combined Fall '22
Bio	72.9%	59.5%	71.2%	67.1%
Eng II	65.1%	73.6%	72.6%	60.2%
Math I	79.7%	35.6%	78.2%	78.8%
Math III	68.2%	60.1%	70.5%	82.8%



EOC Proficiency Comparison SY 19-20 to Present

Pre-COVID Spring 2020 to Spring 2023

Using GLP Standards- at or above Level III

EOC Subject	WHS Spring '20 (COVID-19)	WHS Spring '21 (2X3 Flex)	WHS Spring '22	WHS Spring '23
Bio	No Data	65.0%	70.2%	71.7%
Eng II	No Data	69.4%	72.5%	77.8%
Math I	No Data	48.8%	41.7%	61.1%
Math III	No Data	69.7%	74.2%	88.6%

EOC Subject	WIA Spring '20 (COVID-19)	WIA Spring '21 (2x3 Flex)	WIA Spring '22	WIA Spring '23
Bio	No Data	54.2%	60.6%	53.9%
Eng II	No Data	55.9%	64.7%	53.6%
Math I	No Data	48.3%	48.7%	50.0%
Math III	No Data	50.0%	63.3%	83.8%

EOC Subject	Combined Spring '20 (COVID-19)	Combined Spring '21 (2X3 Flex)	Combined Spring '22	Combined Spring '23
Bio	No Data	62.7%	68.2%	68.6%
Eng II	No Data	66.7%	71.1%	74.0%
Math I	No Data	48.7%	43.4%	59.5%
Math III	No Data	66.5%	72.4%	87.7%



EOG ELA Proficiency Comparison Pre-COVID Spring 2019 to Spring 2023

Using GLP Standards- at or above Level III

District ELA EOG	Spring '19 (Pre-COVID) First Administration	Spring '19 (Pre-COVID) Second Administration	Spring '20 (COVID-19)	Spring '21 (2x3 Flex) *No 2nd Admin/ Standard Setting Yr	Spring '22 First Administration	Spring '22 Second Administration	Spring '23 First Administration	Spring '23 Second Administration
G3	67.1%		No Data	57.1%	57.1%		59.2%	
G4	66.8%	70.3%	No Data	60.8%	61.9%	62.5%	65.8%	67.6%
G5	64.0%	66.8%	No Data	50.6%	60.3%	61.8%	59.2%	60.7%
G6	67.3%	68.7%	No Data	55.8%	58.3%	60.1%	65.5%	66.6%
G7	74.7%	75.9%	No Data	58.3%	61.4%	62.4%	61.1%	63.2%
G8	70.8%	71.4%	No Data	57.8%	63.5%	64.5%	64.4%	65.4%

EOG Math Proficiency Comparison Pre-COVID Spring 2019 to Spring 2023

Using GLP Standards- at or above Level III

District Math EOG	Spring '19 (Pre-COVID)* No 2nd Admin/ Standard Setting Year	Spring '20 (COVID-19)	Spring '21 (2x3 Flex) First Administration	Spring '21 (2x3 Flex) Second Administration	Spring '22 First Administration	Spring '22 Second Administration	Spring '23 First Administration	Spring '23 Second Administration
G3	72.8%	No Data	52.3%	52.9%	69.0%	69.6%	67.0%	67.6%
G4	72.4%	No Data	49.4%	51.0%	67.1%	67.3%	65.2%	66.4%
G5	69.2%	No Data	43.1%	44.6%	60.3%	61.2%	65.2%	66.5%
G6	70.4%	No Data	51.5%	51.8%	63.3%	65.6%	66.5%	66.8%
G7	70.2%	No Data	50.4%	50.7%	58.8%	59.8%	61.1%	62.8%
G8	55.0%	No Data	32.3%	33.1%	47.9%	48.3%	45.3%	46.0%

EOG Science Proficiency Comparison Pre-COVID Spring 2019 to Spring 2023

Using GLP Standards- at or above Level III

District Science EOG	Spring '19 (Pre-COVID) First Administration	Spring '19 (Pre-COVID) Second Administration	Spring '20 (COVID-19)	Spring '21 (2x3 Flex) First Administration	Spring '21 (2x3 Flex) Second Administration	Spring '22 First Administration	Spring '22 Second Administration	Spring '23 First Administration	Spring '23 Second Administration
G5	75.0%	76.6%	No Data	64.7%		74.7%		69.5%	70.1%
G8	89.5%	90.3%	No Data	83.8%	84.1%	85.5%	85.8%	82.3%	82.6%



School Performance Grades

SCHOOL	SY 18	SY 19	SY 20/ 21	SY 22	SY 23
Bethel	C	C	NO SPG	C	C
Blowing Rock	B	B	NO SPG	B	B
Cove Creek	C	B	NO SPG	C	C
Green Valley	B	B	NO SPG	C	C
Hardin Park	B	B	NO SPG	B	B
Mabel	C	C	NO SPG	C	D
Parkway	B	B	NO SPG	B	B
Valle Crucis	C	B	NO SPG	C	B
Watauga Virtual Academy	–	–	NO SPG	C	C
Watauga High School	B	B	NO SPG	B	B
Watauga Innovation Academy	B	B	NO SPG	B	B

School Growth SY 2023

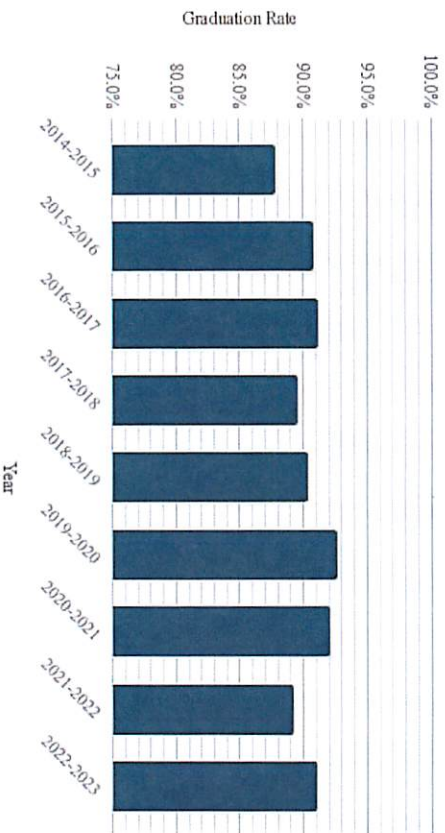


SCHOOL	Met Growth	Exceeded Growth
Bethel	✓	
Blowing Rock	✓	
Cove Creek		
Green Valley	✓	
Hardin Park		✓
Mabel	✓	
Parkway	✓	
Valle Crucis		✓
Watauga Virtual Academy	✓	
Watauga High School		✓
Watauga Innovation Academy	✓	

Cohort Graduation Rate

WCS Cohort
Graduation Rate
91.1%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate



READING G3-8 (2023 EOG data)						
	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8
General Priority GLP 75% - 100%			Blowing Rock			Blowing Rock
		WVA	WVA			
Targeted Priority GLP 74.9% - 50%	Bethel		Bethel	Bethel	Bethel	Bethel
	Blowing Rock	Blowing Rock		Blowing Rock	Blowing Rock	
	Cove Creek	Cove Creek		Cove Creek		Cove Creek
		Green Valley		Green Valley		
	Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park
		Mabel				
	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway
	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis
					WVA	WVA
	District	District	District	District	District	District
Intensive Priority GLP 49.9% - 0%		Bethel				
			Cove Creek		Cove Creek	
	Green Valley		Green Valley		Green Valley	Green Valley
	Mabel		Mabel	Mabel	Mabel	Mabel
	WVA			WVA		

MATH G3-8 (2023 EOG data)						
	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8 (does not include Math 1)
General Priority GLP 75% - 100%			Blowing Rock			
		Hardin Park				
	Parkway					
				Valle Crucis		
		WVA	WVA			
Targeted Priority GLP 74.9% - 50%	Bethel		Bethel			
	Blowing Rock	Blowing Rock		Blowing Rock	Blowing Rock	Blowing Rock
	Cove Creek	Cove Creek		Cove Creek		
		Green Valley	Green Valley	Green Valley		
	Hardin Park		Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park	Hardin Park
	Mabel	Mabel			Mabel	
		Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway
	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis	Valle Crucis		Valle Crucis	
				WVA	WVA	
	District	District	District	District	District	
Intensive Priority GLP 49.9% - 0%		Bethel		Bethel	Bethel	Bethel
			Cove Creek		Cove Creek	Cove Creek
	Green Valley				Green Valley	Green Valley
			Mabel	Mabel		Mabel
						Valle Crucis
	WVA					WVA
						District



LEA Ranking Data Using GLP Calculations

Among the 115 LEAs in the State of NC, WCS ranked...

- 15th in English II and EOG G5
- 12th in EOG G3 and EOG Math G5
- 11th in EOG Math G4
- 10th in G8 Science
- 9th in EOG Math G6 and EOG Math G7
- 8th in EOG Math G3-8 and EOG G7
- 7th in EOG G4, EOG Rdg G4 and EOG Rdg G5
- 6th in Biology I
- 5th in All EOG, EOG G6 and EOG Rdg G7
- 4th in All EOG/ EOC (state ranking), EOG Math G8, EOG Rdg G3-8 and EOG Rdg G3
- 3rd in EOG G8 and EOG Rdg G8
- 2nd in All EOC and Math III
- 1st in Math I



QUESTIONS?



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 their children’s education and in activities designed by school personnel to involve them, such as parent conferences, in order to encourage foster effective teacher and parent communication. Parents are responsible for cooperating with school employees to facilitate their children’s compliance with board policies concerning homework, school attendance, and behavior.

For purposes of this policy, “parent” includes parents, legal guardians, and legal custodians of students who are under 18 years old and who have not been emancipated.

A. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLANS

1. Parental Involvement Plan as Part of the School Improvement Plan

The board directs each principal ~~or designee to ensure that the school improvement team develops a plan for the school’s parental involvement program plan~~ as a part of the school improvement plan. The principal shall publicize drafts of the parental involvement plan prior to finalization and solicit input from parents of students in the school. 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 by promoting in the following areas priorities:

- a. regular, meaningful, two-way communication between home and school;
- b. ~~promotion of responsible parenting;~~
- c. involvement of parents and guardians in student learning;
- d. ~~promotion of parental volunteering in the school;~~
- e. involvement of parents and guardians in school decisions that affect children and families;
- f. parental training based on parents’ informational needs;
- g. community collaboration with community agencies and other organizations to provide resources to strengthen school programs, families, and student learning; and

- h. promotion of student health awareness among parents by addressing the need for health programs and student health services, which are linked to student learning.

2. Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Each school participating in the Title I program must develop, with parents and family members, a school-level written parent and family engagement plan that involves parents in the planning and improvement of Title I activities and 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 parents and family members of children participating in Title I programs. See policy 1320/3560, Title I Parent and Family Engagement.

3. Parental Involvement Component of a School Plan for Managing Student Behavior

Each school's plan for managing student behavior should include parental involvement strategies that address when parents will be notified or involved in issues related to their child's behavior. See policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior.

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

A.B. PARENT COMMUNICATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CONFERENCES

1. Communication with Parents

The board encourages school personnel to have regular contact with parents for informational purposes ~~commendation~~ as well as for commendation of students and notification of concerns. School personnel shall communicate with parents about student behavior issues in accordance with requirements of policy 4341, Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues, and about student attendance as described in policy 4400, Attendance. In addition, parents will be notified promptly if school personnel suspect that a criminal offense has been committed against the parent's child, unless notification would impede an investigation by law enforcement or the child welfare agency.

Principals or designees shall plan for periodic communication with parents. The principal must effectively communicate to parents the manner in which textbooks are used to implement the school's curricular objectives. Any parent interested in learning more about their child's course of study or the source of any supplementary instructional materials should contact the principal for more information. If a parent would like to inspect and review particular instructional materials, the parent should make such a request in accordance with policy 3210, Parental Request to Review ~~Inspection of and Objection to~~ Instructional Materials.

The principal also shall ensure that information about the nature and purpose of all clubs and activities, curricular and extracurricular, offered at the school is available at the school's main office. Any parent who would like information about such clubs or activities should contact the school's main office. 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.

2. Parent Participation at Schools

The board encourages parents to engage in activities in their children's schools. Parents are welcome to visit schools in accordance with policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools, and, if interested, are urged to participate in school volunteer programs as described in policy 5015, School Volunteers. In addition, opportunities exist for parents to participate on school advisory councils, such as the school health advisory council (see policy 6140, Student Wellness), school improvement teams (see policy 3430, School Improvement Plan), school media and technology advisory committees (see policy 3200, Selection of Instructional Materials), and the business advisory council (see policy 21670, Business Advisory Council).

3. Conferences

Teachers are responsible for scheduling conferences or meetings with parents. 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.C. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

1. Title I Notifications

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 policy (policy 3560) and the school-wide parent involvement plan.

2. Parent Guide for Student Achievement

Each year, the superintendent or designee shall create a parent guide for student achievement that meets the requirements of state law and the State Board of Education. All parents will receive a written copy of the guide, and information in the guide will be discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students, parents, and teachers.

At a minimum the guide will include the following:

- a. information for parents regarding the following as it pertains to their child: (1) requirements for promotion to the next grade, including the requirements of the North Carolina Read to Achieve Program as set forth in Part 1A of Article 8 of Chapter 115C; (2) the course of study, textbooks, and other supplementary instructional materials and policy 3210, Parental Inspection of and Objection to Request to Review Instructional Materials, which provides for the inspection and review of those materials; (3) the child's progress toward achieving State and unit expectations for academic proficiency, including policies for student assessment, and the child's assessment results, report cards, and progress reports; (4) qualifications of the child's teachers, including licensure status; and (5) school entry requirements, including required immunizations;
- b. parental actions that can do the following: (1) strengthen the child's academic progress, especially in the area of reading as provided in the North Carolina Read to Achieve Program; (2) strengthen the child's citizenship, especially social skills and respect for others; (3) strengthen the child's realization of high expectations and setting lifelong learning goals; and (4) place a strong emphasis on the communication between the school and the home;
- c. services available for parents and their children, such as family literacy services; mentoring, tutoring, and other academic reinforcement programs; after-school programs; and college planning, academic advisement, and student counseling services (see policy 3610, Counseling Program);
- d. opportunities for parental participation, such as parenting classes, adult education, school advisory councils, and school volunteer programs;
- e. opportunities for parents to learn about rigorous academic programs that may be available for their child, such as honors programs, Career and College Promise and other dual enrollment opportunities, advanced placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE)

courses, International Baccalaureate, North Carolina Virtual High School courses, and accelerated access to postsecondary education;

- f. educational choices available to parents, including each type of public school unit available to residents of the county in which the child lives and nonpublic school options, educational choice options offered within the school system, and programs for scholarship grants for nonpublic schools (Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C) and for personal education student accounts for students with disabilities (Article 41 of Chapter 115C);
- g. rights of students who have been identified as students with disabilities, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 115C;
- h. contact information for school and unit offices;
- i. resources for information on the importance of student health and other available resources for parents, including the following information on available immunizations and vaccinations: (1) a recommended immunization schedule in accordance with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations; and (2) 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 as required by G.S. 115C-375.4; and
- j. this policy (policy ~~1310~~/4002, Parental Involvement); policy ~~1320~~/3560, Title I Parent and Family Engagement; policy ~~21670~~, Business Advisory Council; policy 3210, Parental ~~Inspection of and Objection to~~ Request to Review Instructional Materials; policy 3430, School Improvement Plan; policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program; policy 4400, Attendance; policy 5015, School Volunteers; policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools; and policy 6140, Student Wellness.

3. Additional Annual Notifications

In addition, annually every ~~The building~~ principal or designee shall effectively annually notify parents of the following information to the extent that it has not already been provided to parents as part of the parent guide for student achievement:

- a. parental rights related to student records (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- b. parental rights related to student surveys (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);

- c. 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;
- d. the schedule of pesticide use on school property and their right to request notification of nonscheduled pesticide use (see policy 9205, Pest Management);
- e. student behavior policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and school standards and rules (see policies in the 4300 series);
- f. the permissible use of seclusion and restraint in the schools (see regulation 4302-R, Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools);
- g. policy 4329/7311, Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited;
- h. policy ~~1740~~/4010, Student and Parent Grievance Procedure;
- i. 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 whether each test is required by the State Board of Education or by the local board;
- j. 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);
- k. available opportunities and the enrollment process for students to take advanced courses and information explaining the value of taking advanced courses;
- l. if applicable, that their child will be provided advanced learning opportunities in mathematics or will be placed in an advanced mathematics course;
- m. a clear and concise explanation of the North Carolina testing and accountability system that includes all information required by federal law;
- n. a report containing information about the school system and each school, including, but not limited to:
 - i. 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;
- ii. 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;
 - iii. the percentage and number of students who are:
 - 1. assessed,
 - 2. assessed using alternate assessments,
 - 3. involved in preschool and accelerated coursework programs, and
 - 4. English learners achieving proficiency;
 - iv. the per pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds; and
 - v. teacher qualifications;
- o. the grade earned by the school on the most recent annual report card issued for it by the State Board of Education if the grade was a D or F;
- p. supportive services available to students, including ~~guidance, counseling, and health services (see policy 3610, Counseling Program);~~
- ~~q. 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;~~
- ~~r-q.~~ 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;
- ~~s-r.~~ how to reach school officials in emergency situations during non-school hours;
- ~~t-s.~~ 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);
- ~~u-t.~~ information about the school breakfast program;

- ~~v~~.u. information about the availability and location of free summer food service program meals for students when school is not in session;
- ~~w~~.v. for parents of children with disabilities, procedural safeguards (see also policy 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
- ~~x~~.w. 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;
- ~~y~~.x. education rights of homeless students (see policy 4125, Homeless Students);
- ~~z~~.y. the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy (see policy 6140, Student Wellness);
- ~~aa~~.z. 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);
- ~~bb~~.aa. that the school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age, and that the school system provides processes for resolving discrimination and harassment complaints (see policies 4020/7230, Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law, 1720/4030/7235, Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex, and 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
- ~~ee~~.bb. that the school system provides equal access to its facilities, programs, and activities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups (see policy 1730/4020/7230, Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law); and
- ~~dd~~.cc. 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~~

4. Opportunities to Withhold Consent/Opt Out Notifications

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

- a. release of student directory information about their child for school purposes or to outside organizations (see policy 4700, Student Records);

- b. release of their child's name, address, and telephone listing to military recruiters or institutions of higher education (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- c. their child's participation in curricula related to (a) prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; (b) avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy; or (c) reproductive health and safety education, as provided in policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program. 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;
- d. 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 and Related Threats to Child Safety);
- ~~e. their child's participation in non-Department of Education-funded surveys concerning protected topics (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);~~
- ~~f.e.~~ 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;
- ~~g.f.~~ the collection, disclosure, or use of their child's personal information for marketing purposes (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students); and
- ~~h.g.~~ 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;
8. students' participation in programs or services that provide information about where to obtain contraceptives or abortion referral services;
9. students' participation in surveys ~~funded by the Department of Education~~ that are conducted concerning protected topics (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
10. disclosure of students' free and reduced price lunch eligibility information or eligibility status; and
11. students' access to the Internet, as described in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use.

E. PROCEDURES FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN STUDENT HEALTH

1. Parent Notifications Regarding Student Physical and Mental Health

At the beginning of each school year, the principal or designee shall notify parents of (1) each health care service offered at their children's schools and the means for parents to provide consent for any specific services; (2) acknowledgement that consenting to a health care service does not waive the parents' right to access their children's educational records or health records or to be notified of changes in their children's services or monitoring; and (3) the procedures to exercise the parental

remedies for concerns related to student health provided by G.S. 115C-76.60 and described below in subsection E.6.

Before any student well-being questionnaire or health screening form is administered to students in kindergarten through third grade, the principal or designee shall provide parents with a copy of the questionnaire or form and shall inform parents of the means for parents to consent to the use of the questionnaire or form for their children.

The principal or designee shall notify parents of changes in services or monitoring related to their children's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for their children prior to or contemporaneously with the changes being made. In addition, the principal or designee shall notify parents before any changes are made to the names or pronouns used for their children in school records or by school personnel.

No school system policy, procedure, or form will expressly or otherwise prohibit school employees from notifying parents about their children's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in related services or monitoring, nor will any school system policy, procedure, or form intentionally encourage or be designed in a manner that is reasonably likely to have the effect of encouraging any children to withhold from their parents information about their mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in related services or monitoring. School personnel shall not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being.

2. Discussions Related to Student Well-Being

In accordance with the rights of parents provided in Chapter 114A of the General Statutes, when issues of a student's well-being arise, school personnel shall encourage the student to discuss the issues with his or her parent. As appropriate, school personnel may facilitate discussions of such issues with parents.

3. Parent Access to Student Records

Parents will not be prohibited from accessing any of their children's education and health records created, maintained, or used by the school system, except as permitted by law. See policy 4700, Student Records.

4. Student Support Services Training

Student support services training developed or provided by the school system to school personnel will adhere to student services guidelines, standards, and frameworks established by the Department of Public Instruction.

5. Instruction on Gender Identity, Sexual Activity, and Sexuality

Instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality will not be included in the curriculum provided in kindergarten through fourth grade, regardless of whether the information is provided by school personnel or third parties. For purposes of this subsection, curriculum includes the standard course of study and support materials, locally developed curriculum, supplemental instruction, and textbooks and other supplementary materials, but does not include responses to student-initiated questions.

6. Remedies for Parental Concerns Related to Student Health

If a parent has a concern about the school or school system's procedure or practice under Part 4 of Article 7B of Chapter 115C, as described here in Section E of this policy, the parent should submit the concern in writing to the principal. The principal shall schedule and hold a meeting with the parent within five days after the concern was submitted. The principal shall conduct any necessary investigation. If possible, the principal should resolve the concern within seven days after the concern was submitted. If the principal cannot resolve the concern within seven days, the principal shall immediately notify the superintendent or designee. The superintendent or designee shall assist, as needed, in resolving the concern.

If the concern has not been resolved within 15 days after the parent initially submitted the concern, the superintendent or designee shall schedule a board hearing to be conducted pursuant to policy 251600, Hearings Before the Board, to occur within the next 15 days. If the concern is not resolved 30 days after the parent initially submitted the concern, the board will provide a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern.

If the concern is not resolved within 30 days of initial submission, the parent has the right to pursue additional remedies as provided in G.S. 115C-76.60(b).

F. PARENT REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

A parent may request in writing from the principal any of the information the parent has the right to access under Part 3 of Article 7B of Chapter 115C. The principal, within 10 business days, shall either provide the requested information to the parent or provide an extension notice to the parent that, due to the volume or complexity of the request, the information will be provided no later than 20 business days from the date of the parental request.

If the principal (1) denies or fails to respond to the request for information within 10 business days or (2) fails to provide information within 20 business days following an extension notice, the parent may then submit the written request for information to the superintendent, along with a statement specifying the time frame of the denial or failure to

provide information by the principal.

If the superintendent denies or does not respond to the request for information within 10 business days, the parent may appeal the denial or lack of response to the board no later than 20 business days from the date of the request to the superintendent. The board will place the parent's appeal on the agenda for the next board meeting occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal.

The information in this Section F will be posted on the school system's website along with the list of parents' legal rights for their child's education as described in G.S. 115C-76.25.

G. COMMUNITY SERVICES AVAILABLE

A variety of community services are available to provide parents and families of students in the school system with needed information, support, and resources. Parents are encouraged to utilize applicable community services such as the following:

[G.S. 115C-76.35(a)(1) requires that board policy provides links to parents for community services. Insert here a list of applicable links to community services available to parents of students in your school system.]

H. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

By September 15 of each year, the superintendent or designee shall report to the State Board of Education parental involvement information as required by G.S. 115C-76.70.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 15 U.S.C. 2641, *et seq.*; Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. 7905, 34 C.F.R. 108.9; 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; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400, *et seq.*; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431, *et seq.*; National School Lunch Program, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*, 7 C.F.R. 210.12, 7 C.F.R. pt. 245; Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. 1232h, 34 C.F.R. pt. 98; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 705(20), 794, 34 C.F.R. pt. 104; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. pt. 100; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. pt. 106; 20 U.S.C. 7908; G.S. 90-21.1, -21.10B; 95-28.3; 114A-10; 115C-47(47), -47(51), -47(54), -47(58), -76.1, -76.20, -76.25, -76.30, -76.35, -76.40, -76.45, -76.50, -76.55, -76.60, -76.65, -76.70, -81.25, -81.30, -81.36, -105.41, -109.1, -174.26(d), -307(c), -375.4, -390.2, -391.1, -402.15, -407.16; 16 N.C.A.C. 6D .0307; State Board of Education Policies KNEC-002, PRNT-000, TEST-001

Cross References: Title I Parent and Family Engagement (policy 3560), Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law (policy 4020/7230), Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex (policy 1720/4030/7235), Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities (policy 1730/4022/7231), Student and Parent Grievance Procedure (policy 4010), Hearings Before the

Board (policy 251600), Business Advisory Council (policy 261670), Selection of Instructional Materials (policy 3200), Parental ~~Inspection of and Objection to~~ Request to Review Instructional Materials (policy 3210), Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), Evaluation of Student Progress (policy 3400), Students at Risk of Academic Failure (policy 3405), School Improvement Plan, (policy 3430), 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 and Related Threats to Child Safety (policy 4240/7312), Student Behavior Policies (4300 series), Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools (regulation 4302-R), Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited (policy 4329/7311), Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues (policy 4341), Attendance (policy 4400), Student Fees (policy 4600), Student Records (policy 4700), Surveys of Students (policy 4720), School Volunteers (policy 5015), Visitors to the Schools (policy 5020), Registered Sex Offenders (policy 5022), Student Health Services (policy 6120), Administering Medicines to Students (policy 6125), Student Wellness (policy 6140), Free and Reduced Price Meal Services (policy 6225), Pest Management (policy 9205)

Adopted: July 14, 2014

Replaces: Policy 2.04.60, Parental Involvement (in part)

Revised: January 11, 2016; February 13, 2017; February 12, 2018, November 13, 2018; February 10, 2020; August 12, 2020, January 11, 2021, December 13, 2021(Legal references only);
{DATE}

PARENTAL REQUEST TO REVIEW INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Policy Code:

3210

In policy 3200, Selection of Instructional Materials, the Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") establishes a process for the selection of instructional materials to meet State Board of Education requirements and the educational goals of the board.

The board recognizes that parents may have concerns about instructional materials used in the school system. Thus, to further involve parents in the education of their children, the board also provides opportunities for parents to review instructional materials and a process for parents to use when they object to instructional materials.

A. PARENTAL RIGHT TO INSPECT MATERIALS

~~Parents have a right under federal law to inspect all instructional materials which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable federally funded programs. Parents ordinarily also may review all other instructional materials following procedures provided by the school or superintendent. The term "instructional materials" as defined in policy 3200, Selection of Instructional Materials. Instructional materials~~ does not include academic tests or assessments. ~~Some materials available through the Internet and used in individual classes to provide up-to-date information or information on current events may not be available for advance review; however, Parents who would like to inspect and review instructional materials should make a request in writing to the principal. The principal shall schedule a mutually agreeable date and time for the parent to come into the school to review the materials. All efforts should be made to schedule the time as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days from the date of the request. a~~All materials used in reproductive health and safety education shall be available for review as provided in policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program.

B. PARENTAL OBJECTION TO MATERIALS

Parents may voice a concern by first meeting with the teacher using the material or the Media Center Coordinator if the material is in the media center. During that meeting the parent will share their concerns and the teacher or Coordinator will share the selection process and determine any accommodations that may be made. If the parent is not satisfied, they will meet with the principal. The principal will review the selection process and determine if any other accommodations may be made. During this meeting the principal will share the process outlined in Section C. If after the meeting with the principal, the parent is not satisfied, then they shall follow the procedures outlined in Section C. While input from the community is valuable, the board believes professional educators are in the best position to determine whether a particular instructional material is appropriate for the age and maturity of the students and for the subject being taught.

C. PROCEDURES FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Occasional objections to some resources may be voiced by parents despite the care taken in the selection process, the qualifications of persons selecting the resources, and the accommodations offered to the parent. If a reconsideration request is made on material other than a state adopted text, the procedures are as follows:

1. The parent shall complete the *Parent Request for Building Level Reconsideration of Instructional Resources* form and return it to the principal.
2. The principal shall forward the completed form to the building level Media and Technology Advisory Committee (MTAC). This committee shall consist of at least a building level administrator, a teacher, a parent, the Media Center Coordinator and an Instructional Technology Facilitator.
3. Materials shall remain in use until and unless a decision is made to withdraw the materials by the Building Level MTAC.
4. Upon receipt of the *Parent Request for Building Level Reconsideration* form, the building level MTAC shall:
 - Review the material in question.
 - Review any accommodations offered.
 - Interview the complainant, the teacher(s) in control of the content, and other relevant school personnel.
 - Survey appraisals of the material in professional reviewing sources.
 - Weigh merits against alleged faults to form opinions based on the material as a whole, not on isolated passages based on selection criteria.
 - Meet to discuss the findings and prepare a written report and recommendation within 15 school days after receipt of the completed Request for Reconsideration form.
 - File the report with the principal, superintendent, and the complainant within 5 days after the meeting in which the report was written.
 - Retain or withdraw the challenged materials upon completion of this process.
 - Materials shall be retained or withdrawn as decided by the Building Level MTAC through the completion of any appeal of that decision.

If the principal or the committee determines that any material violates constitutional or other legal rights of the parent or student, the principal or the committee shall either remove the material from instructional use or accommodate the particular student and parent. Before any material is removed, the principal or the committee shall ensure that the curriculum is still aligned with current statewide instructional standards and articulated from grade to grade. If an objection made by a parent or student is not based upon constitutional or legal rights, the principal or the committee may accommodate the objection after considering the effect on the curriculum; any burden on the school, teacher, or other students that the accommodation would create; and any other relevant factors. Books and other instructional materials may be removed from the school media collection only for legitimate educational reasons and subject to the limitations of the First Amendment.

The decision of the committee may be appealed to the superintendent. Only the parent who

initiated the request for review or the teacher/staff member in control of the resource may file an appeal in writing to the superintendent within 10 days of receipt of the Building Level MTAC report. The superintendent shall:

- Review the Building Level report provided as well as the material in question.
- Interview the complainant, the teacher(s) in control of the content, and other relevant school personnel.
- Request that a sub group of the District Level Media and Technology Advisory Committee complete the same process as the Building Level MTAC. This District Level committee shall consist of at least a building level administrator, a teacher, a parent, a Media Center Coordinator and an Instructional Technology Facilitator.
- Direct the District Level Committee to provide a written recommendation to the superintendent within 15 days of notice of appeal.
- Within 5 days of receipt of the District Level report, the superintendent shall render a decision to support or reject the Building Level decision and shall report that decision to the complainant and the Board of Education. Materials shall remain retained or withdrawn as determined by the Building Level team until the decision of the superintendent.
- Materials will be retained or removed based on the decision of the superintendent.

The decision of the superintendent may be appealed to the Board of Education as the final level of appeal. Only the parent who initiated the request for review or the teacher/staff member in control of the resource may appeal the decision of the Superintendent. The appeal shall be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Board of Education within 10 days of notification of the Superintendent decision. The Board will review whether the process for *Parent Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Resources* was followed and whether the superintendent used appropriate diligence in rendering a decision. Within 15 days of receipt of the appeal in writing, the Board will announce their findings. If the Board determines that due diligence was not provided, then the superintendent will be directed to reconvene a new subcommittee of the District Level Media and Technology Advisory Committee and to address any concerns noted by the Board.

Materials shall remain retained or withdrawn as determined by the superintendent until the final level of appeal by the Board of Education is completed.

Unless otherwise noted by the superintendent or the board, the decision regarding Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials shall apply only to the school where the original request was made and will not apply to other schools in the district.

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend. I; 20 U.S.C. 1232h; N.C. Const. art. I, § 14; *Board of Educ. v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982); G.S. 115C art. 8 pt. 1; 115C-45, -47, -76.25(a)(5), -76.35(b), -76.40, -98, -101

Cross References: Parental Involvement (1310/4002), Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100), Selection of Instructional

Materials (policy 3200), Comprehensive Health Education Program (policy 3540)

Adopted: April 11, 2016

Revised: April 9, 2018 (Legal references only); {DATE}

Replaces: Board policy 4.02.40, Selection of Educational Resources, Sections V and VI

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Policy Code:

3540

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") is committed to a sound, comprehensive health education program that provides students with accurate information and encourages them to be responsible for their own health and behavior. The board recognizes the primary role of parents in providing for the health and well-being of their children and seeks to involve parents as provided in this policy. The comprehensive health education program provided by the school system will meet the requirements of state law and the objectives established by the State Board of Education. The board may, in its discretion, expand on the subject areas to be included in the program and on the instructional objectives to be met.

A. COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

A comprehensive health education program must be taught to students from kindergarten through ninth grade. As required by law, the health education program must include age-appropriate instruction on bicycle safety, nutrition, dental health, environmental health, family living, consumer health, disease control, growth and development, first aid and emergency care, mental and emotional health, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, and reproductive health and safety education.

Instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality will not be included in the health education program in kindergarten through fourth grade (see also policy 1310/4002, Parental Involvement). As required by law and beginning in seventh grade, reproductive health and safety education will include age-appropriate instruction on sexual abstinence until marriage, STDs, the human reproductive system, preventable risks for preterm birth in subsequent pregnancies, the effectiveness of contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy, awareness of sexual assault and sexual abuse, and sex trafficking prevention and awareness.

B. PARENTAL OPPORTUNITIES TO REVIEW MATERIALS AND WITHHOLD CONSENT FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Each year before students participate in reproductive health and safety education or in other separate instruction on the prevention of STDs, including HIV/AIDS, or the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy, the principal or designee shall notify parents of the opportunity to review the materials and objectives that will be used in instruction. A copy of all objectives and materials will be available for review in the media center of each school where these subjects will be taught.

The principal or designee shall also notify parents of the right to withhold or withdraw consent for their child's participation in all reproductive health and safety education instruction or in specific topics such as STDs, the effectiveness and safety of contraceptive methods, awareness of sexual assault and sexual abuse, and sex trafficking prevention and awareness. Parents may also withhold consent to student participation in

other separate instruction on the prevention of STDs, including HIV/AIDS, or the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy. Any parent wishing to withhold consent must do so in writing to the principal.

C. STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTION

For reproductive health and safety education, teachers shall follow the instructional objectives and only use the age-appropriate materials that have been made available to parents for review in accordance with this policy. Information conveyed during instruction will be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by professionals and credentialed experts in the field of sexual health education or other field authorized by law.

A determination of what is an appropriate education for a student with disabilities must be made in accordance with the student's individualized education plan, following all procedures as provided in the North Carolina *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*.

Legal References: G.S. 115C art. 9; 115C-36, -76.25(a)(1), -76.35(b)(5), -76.40, -76.55, -81.25, -81.30; *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*, State Board of Education Policy EXCP-000; State Board of Education Policy SCOS-007

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002)

Adopted: March 21, 2016

Revised: February 12, 2018; {DATE}

Criminal or other illegal behavior is prohibited. Any student whom the principal reasonably believes has engaged in criminal behavior on school premises or at school activities will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, as stated in applicable Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") policies, and also may be criminally prosecuted.

School officials shall cooperate fully with any criminal investigation and prosecution. School officials shall independently investigate any criminal behavior that also violates school rules or board policy.

A. STUDENTS CHARGED WITH OR CONVICTED OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

The superintendent and principal may take reasonable or legally required measures to preserve a safe, orderly environment when a student has been charged with or convicted of a serious crime, regardless of whether the alleged offense was committed on school grounds or was related to school activities. Depending upon the circumstances, including the nature of the crime or alleged crime, the child's age, and the publicity within the school community, reasonable or legally required efforts may include changing a student's classroom assignment or transferring the student to another school. Transfer to an alternative school may be made in accordance with the criteria established in policy 3470/4305, Alternative Learning Programs/Schools. The student will continue to be provided with educational opportunities unless and until the student is found to have violated board policy or school rules and is suspended or expelled in accordance with procedures established in board policy.

B. REPORTING CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

A school employee is permitted to report to law enforcement an assault by a student on a school employee. Principals or other supervisors shall not, by threats or in any other manner, intimidate or attempt to intimidate the school employee from doing so.

Principals must immediately report to law enforcement the following acts when they have personal knowledge or actual notice from school personnel that such acts have occurred on school property, regardless of the age or grade of the perpetrator or victim: (1) assault resulting in serious personal injury; (2) sexual assault; (3) sexual offense; (4) rape; (5) kidnapping; (6) indecent liberties with a minor; (7) assault involving the use of a weapon; (8) possession of a firearm in violation of the law; (9) possession of a weapon in violation of the law; and (10) possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law. A principal who willfully fails to make a required report to law enforcement will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

The principal or designee shall notify the superintendent or designee in writing or by e-mail of any report made by the principal to law enforcement. Such notice must occur by the end of the workday in which the incident occurred, when reasonably possible, but not

later than the end of the following workday. The superintendent must inform the board of any such reports.

In addition, the principal or designee must promptly notify the parents if a school system employee suspects that any criminal offense has been committed against the parents' child, including but not limited to any of the offenses required to be reported to law enforcement, regardless of where the offense allegedly occurred, unless the incident has been reported to law enforcement or the county child services agency and notification of the parents would impede the investigation. ~~of students who are alleged to be victims of any reported offenses.~~

Certain crimes must be reported to the Department of Public Instruction in accordance with 16 N.C.A.C. 6E.0107.

Legal References: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. 7961; G.S. 14-17, -18, 27.21, -27.22, -27.24 through -27.27, -27.29, -27.30, -27.33, -32 through -34.10, -39, -87, -202, -202.1, -202.2, -269.2; ch. 90 art. 5; 114A-10; 115C-47(56); -288(g); 16 N.C.A.C. 6E .0107.

Cross References: Alternative Learning Programs/Schools (policy 3470/4305), Drugs and Alcohol (policy 4325), Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property (policy 4330), Assaults and Threats (policy 4331), Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety (policy 4333), School-Level Investigations (policy 4340)

Adopted: February 9, 2015

Revised: January 11, 2016; November 14, 2016; August 14, 2017 (Legal references only); February 8, 2021 (Legal references only); July 26, 2021; {DATE}

The superintendent shall ensure that all notification and other requirements of state law and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment are met, including all legal requirements regarding the surveying of students.

A. SURVEYS INVOLVING PROTECTED TOPICS

1. Definition of Protected Topic Survey

For purposes of this policy, the following are considered a “protected topic”:

- a. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
- b. mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- c. sex behavior and attitudes;
- d. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- e. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- f. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers;
- g. religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent; or
- h. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

For purposes of this policy, a “protected topic survey” is any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning any of the protected topics.

2. Rules Regarding Protected Topic Surveys Involving Protected Topics

a. Protection of Student Privacy

The school system will take measures to protect the identification and privacy of students participating in any protected topic survey ~~concerning any of the protected topics~~. These measures may include limiting access to completed surveys and to survey results, as allowed by law.

b. Parental Notification

The school system will notify parents at the beginning of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of administration of protected topic surveys concerning the protected topics. At least 10 days prior to the administration of a protected topic survey, parents and eligible students (students who are 18 years of age or older or who are emancipated minors) will be provided the opportunity to review both electronically and in person the process for providing consent to participate in the protected topic survey and the full text of the protected topic survey. ~~have the right to review any survey that concerns one of the protected topics or any instructional materials used in any such survey.~~

c. Parental Consent

Before a student will be permitted ~~is required~~ to participate in any protected topic Department of Education funded survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning a protected topic, the parent or eligible student must provide prior written consent.

~~If prior written consent is not mandated for a survey involving a protected topic (because the survey either is not required or is not funded in whole or part by the Department of Education), the parent or eligible student must be given an opportunity to opt out.~~

B. WELL-BEING QUESTIONNAIRES AND HEALTH SCREENING FORMS

Before any student well-being questionnaire or health screening form is administered to students in kindergarten through third grade, the principal or designee shall provide parents with a copy of the questionnaire or form and shall inform parents of the means for parents to consent to the use of the questionnaire or form for their children. See also policy 1310/4002, Parental Involvement.

If a well-being questionnaire or health screening form falls under the definition of a protected topic survey, all rules for protected topic surveys, as described above in subsection A.2, also apply.

B.C. OTHER SURVEYS CREATED BY A THIRD PARTY SURVEYS

Parents and eligible students have the right, upon request, to inspect any other survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to a student.

C.D. COLLECTION OF STUDENT DATA FOR MARKETING PURPOSES

The school system generally will not collect, disclose or use personal student information for the purpose of marketing or selling the information or otherwise providing the information to others for that purpose. However, in the event the board approves a collection, disclosure, or use of personal student information for one of those purposes, the school system will (1) notify parents at the beginning of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of such collection, disclosure, or use, (2) allow parents to inspect any instrument used to collect the information before the instrument is administered or distributed to a student, and (3) offer the parent the opportunity to opt out of the collection, disclosure, or use of the student's personal information.

The preceding rules for the collection, disclosure, and use of personal student information do not apply if the school system collects, discloses, or uses personal information from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for or to students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. college or other postsecondary education recruitment or military recruitment;
2. book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
3. curriculum and instructional material used by elementary schools and secondary schools;
4. tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
5. the sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
6. student recognition programs.

D.E. OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES

In addition to this policy, the Watauga County Board of Education, with parental and community input, has developed other policies concerning surveys and related matters as required by the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment. These policies include: 4002, Parental Involvement; 3210, Parental ~~Inspection of and Objection to~~ Request to Review Instructional Materials; 4700, Student Records; and 5240, Advertising in the Schools.

Legal References: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, h, 34 C.F.R. pt. 99; Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. 1232h; G.S. 115C-36, -76.25(a)(11), -76.45(a)(3), -76.65, -402.15

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), Student and Parent Grievance Procedure (policy 4010), Parental ~~Inspection of and Objection to~~ Request to Review Instructional Materials (policy 3210), Student Discipline Records (policy 4345), Student Records (policy 4700), Advertising in the Schools (policy 5240)

Adopted: January 12, 2015

Replaces: Policy 5.05.85, Protection of Pupil Rights

Revised: February 14, 2022, {DATE}

A. STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES GENERALLY

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) will provide health services to students as required by law. State law authorizes ~~S~~school employees ~~to~~may administer medication prescribed by a health care practitioner ~~only~~ upon the written request of the parents; give emergency health care when reasonably apparent circumstances indicate that any delay would seriously worsen the physical condition or endanger the life of the student; and perform any other first aid or lifesaving technique in which training has been provided to school employees.

A registered nurse will be available to provide assessment, care planning, and ongoing evaluation of students with special health care service needs in the school setting.

The superintendent may develop procedures or delegate the development of procedures to each principal for providing these health services and meeting the board requirements listed below.

1. The principal shall determine at the beginning of each school year prior to the beginning of classes, and thereafter as circumstances require, which employees will be selected to participate in the health services program. The principal shall inform his or her staff about which health services duties are delegated to which employees.
2. A school nurse, with the assistance of other personnel as appropriate, will prepare an individual health plan for each student with special health care needs. This plan will identify the student’s medical needs, the person responsible for monitoring the child’s medical needs during the school day, and other information necessary to ensure the child’s medical needs are appropriately addressed during all school-related activities.
3. When a student’s special health care needs include an increased risk of a medical emergency, a school nurse, with the assistance of other personnel as appropriate, will prepare an emergency health care plan to address this risk. This plan will identify the type of risk involved, the symptoms that indicate a potential medical emergency, and the important actions that should be taken and avoided by school personnel in the event of a medical emergency.
4. Any employee designated to provide health care services must receive appropriate training.
5. Health manuals prepared by the governing state agencies must be followed in developing appropriate procedures and for determining which tasks must be performed by registered nurses.
6. Procedures must be consistent with all related board policies, including policy 4230, Communicable Diseases – Students, and policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students.

7. Procedures must be consistent with state and federal law for students with disabilities, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities* will be followed, as applicable.
8. Procedures must be consistent with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education under G.S. 115C-12(31) to serve students with diabetes, including developing and implementing individual diabetes care plans for such students and providing information and training to school personnel to appropriately support and assist such students, in accordance with their individual diabetes care plans.
9. Written information maintained by the school or 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 (FERPA) and state confidentiality laws. Any employee who violates the confidentiality of the records may be subject to disciplinary action.
10. School personnel must obtain parental consent for medical services as required by law. Parents will be notified of their rights in accordance with policy 4002, Parental Involvement.
11. Health professionals will be consulted in the development of health services. Opportunities also will be provided for input from staff, parents, and students on the health services provided.

B. SCHOOL SYSTEM MENTAL HEALTH PLAN

The superintendent shall develop a school-based mental health plan that includes a mental health training program and suicide risk referral protocol that satisfies the requirements of State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003. The superintendent shall submit the plan to the board for approval and direct implementation of the plan within all applicable deadlines.

By September 15 of each year, the superintendent shall report to the Department of Public Instruction on (1) the content of the school system's mental health plan, including the mental health training program and suicide risk referral protocol, and (2) the school system's prior school year compliance with the requirements of State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003. The board will review the components of the school system's mental health plan at least every five years, starting August 1, 2025, and will update the mental health plan in accordance with any updated requirements provided by the State Board of Education.

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. 90-21.10B; 115C-12(12), -12(31), -36, -307(c), -375.1, -375.3, -376.5; 16 N.C.A.C. 6D.0402; 21 N.C.A.C. 36-.0221, .0224; *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*, State Board of Education Policies EXCP-000, SHLT-003

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), Communicable Diseases – Students (policy 4230), Student Records (policy 4700), Administering Medicines to Students (policy 6125)

Adopted: April 11, 2016

Revised: August 14, 2017 and April 9, 2018 and January 13, 2020 (Legal references only);
September 13, 2021; {DATE}

Replaces: Board policy 5.03.30, Student Health Services

For students to succeed, all school employees must approach their responsibilities conscientiously, always remembering that the ultimate responsibility of the school system is to provide students with the opportunity to receive a sound basic education. The standards shall apply to all school employees and shall be the basis for review of the performance of school employees. These standards shall establish prohibitions and mandatory requirements for all employees. Violation of these standards shall subject an employee to investigation and disciplinary action by the Watauga County School System and/or the State Board of Education.

All employees, student teachers, and volunteers shall adhere to the standards of professional conduct contained in this policy. Any act or omission that violates these standards is prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from employment.

A. STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

All school employees shall:

1. be familiar with, support, comply with and, when appropriate, enforce all applicable Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") policies, administrative procedures, school rules and applicable laws;
2. attend to the safety and welfare of students, including the need to provide appropriate supervision of students;
3. demonstrate integrity, respect and commitment to the truth through attitudes, behavior and communications with others;
4. address or appropriately direct any complaints concerning school employees, the school program or school operations;
5. develop, promote, and maintain courteous and professional working relationships with other staff members, students, parents, and visitors;
6. avoid confrontations with co-workers, including but not limited to engaging in actions or conversations which the employee knows or should know will result in a disruption;
7. direct all complaints regarding the work environment to the appropriate supervisors and/or file grievances and avoid any actions that may undermine the work or the authority of co-workers and supervisors;
8. not create or post any inappropriate online content that has an impact on their (or any employee's) ability to perform their job, especially if accessible to any student(s), and bear in mind that content created or posted online apart from the WCS network may be viewed by anyone, including students, parents, and other

- members of the community;
9. use the Watauga County Schools network only in a professional manner as described in policy 7335, Employee Use of Social Media, and 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use;
 10. be respectful in all conduct and communications with students as set forth in policy 4040/7310, Staff-Student Relations, and shall not abuse or exploit any student in person or in electronic communication in any manner, including but not limited to the actions listed below. Electronic communications include, but are not limited to, e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging, chat rooms, blogging, websites, and social media.
 - a. any use of language that is considered profane, vulgar, or demeaning;
 - b. any sexual act;
 - c. any solicitation of a sexual act, whether written, verbal, or physical;
 - d. any act of child abuse, as defined by law;
 - e. any act of sexual harassment, as defined by law; and
 - f. any intentional solicitation, encouragement, or consummation of a romantic or physical relationship with a student, or any sexual contact with a student. The term "romantic relationship" shall include dating any student.
 11. comply with all administrative directives in a timely and professional manner, including written directives regarding specific issues or behaviors;
 12. attend, participate in, and complete all required professional development activities and meetings;
 13. complete and transmit all required reports and other documentation in a timely and professional manner;
 14. maintain the confidentiality of records as required by law and more fully set forth in policy 1325/7315, Confidential Information, and 4250/5075/7316, North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program;
 15. faithfully account for all funds collected from students, colleagues, or other parties and not submit fraudulent requests for reimbursement, expenses, or pay;
 16. arrive at school each day at an appropriate time designated by the principal ready and prepared to complete all assigned duties; and

17. exercise proper care and maintenance of school property; and
18. support parents in effectively participating in their child's education and never encourage or coerce a child to withhold information from a parent.

B. NOTICE OF CRIMINAL OFFENSE

Employees shall notify the human resources director if they are arrested for, charged with or convicted of a criminal offense (including entering a plea of guilty or *nolo contendere*) other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., speeding, parking or a lesser violation). Notice must be in writing, must include all pertinent facts and must be delivered to the human resources director no later than the next scheduled business day following the arrest, charge or conviction, unless the employee is hospitalized or incarcerated, in which case the employee must report the alleged violation within 24 hours after his or her release. Upon judicial action in the matter, the employee must report the disposition and pertinent facts in writing to the human resources director no later than the next business day following adjudication.

In addition, all driver education instructors must immediately report to the board any conviction that results in three or more points, and any conviction that could cause suspension or revocation of the driver license in any state. The board will notify the Department of Public Instruction when an instructor loses his or her privilege to drive in North Carolina or any other state. The superintendent or designee shall conduct annual checks of the driving records of all driver education instructors.

Failure by an employee to provide timely notice as described in this policy may lead to disciplinary action up to, and including, dismissal.

Legal References: G.S. 114A-20; 115C-47, -307, -308; State Board of Education Policies DRIV-003, DRIV-004

Cross References: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities (policy 4022/7231), Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace (policy 7240), Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying (policy 4021/7230), Staff-Student Relations (policy 4040/7310), Confidential Information (policy 1325/7315), North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program (policy 4250/5075/7316), Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), Copyright Compliance (policy 3230/7330), Professional Standards of Conduct and Performance for Teachers (policy 7305), Duty to Report a Criminal Offense (policy 7307), Employee Use of Social Media (policy 7335), Employee Dress and Appearance (policy 7340), Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition (policy 5070/7350), Electronically Stored Information Retention (policy 5071/7351), Extracurricular and Non-Instructional Duties (policy 7405), Employee Conflict of Interest (policy 7730)

Adopted: December 14, 2015

Revised: March 11, 2019; {DATE}