



**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
January 13, 2025

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| 4:45 p.m. | 1. CALL TO ORDER | Board Chair |
| 4:48 p.m. | 2. CLOSED SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 12/9/2024B. 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/
WELCOME/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 |
| 6:15 p.m. | 7. STUDENTS’ REPORT | Ms. Athena Elliott
Ms. Mia Llibre |
| 6:20 p.m. | 8. SPECIAL/PUBLIC RECOGNITION <ul style="list-style-type: none">★ School Board Appreciation Month★ Bright Ideas Grant Recipients★ 2022-23 National Board Certified Teachers★ 2023-24 National Board Certified Teachers★ NBPTS Tamara Stamey Memorial Fund Scholarships | Dr. Leslie Alexander
Dr. Leslie Alexander
Ms. Keana Triplett
Ms. Keana Triplett
Dr. Scott Elliott |

6:40 p.m.	9. PUBLIC COMMENT	Board Chair
6:45 p.m.	10. CONSENT AGENDA A. Approval of the Minutes for 12/9/2024 B. Field Trip Request C. Declaration of Surplus D. 2024-25 Budget Amendment #3 E. Personnel Report	Dr. Leslie Alexander
6:48 p.m.	11. POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ • 4320: Tobacco Products ~ Students • 4329/7311: Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited • 5022: Registered Sex Offenders • 5026/7250: Smoking and Tobacco Products • 5150 (New): Reporting to External Agencies • 6120: Student Health Services • 6140: Student Wellness	Dr. Wayne Eberle
7:05 p.m.	12. BOARD OPERATIONS ➤ 2024-25 BOE Committee Assignments	Board Chair
7:15 p.m.	13. BOARD COMMENTS	Board Chair
7:20 p.m.	14. ADJOURNMENT	Board Chair



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WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: December 9, 2024

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: Margaret E. Gragg Education Center

PRESENT:

- Gary Childers, Jay Fenwick, Adam Hege, Alison Idol, Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd, *BOE Members*
- Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*
- Athena Elliott and Mia Llibre, *Student Board Representatives*

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Dr. Gary Childers called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

WELCOME/MOMENT OF SILENCE

After welcoming those attending the meeting, Dr. Childers talked about how much the Valle Crucis community has “risen to the occasion” with all of the recent changes after Hurricane Helene. He also expressed appreciation for the many donations/gifts given to WCS to help students and families. A moment of silence was then observed.

DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There was no discussion or adjustment to the agenda.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Adam Hege, Alison Idol, and Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd were sworn in, and the Honorable Rebecca Eggers-Gryder administered the oaths of office for the three new Board members. Many family members were present to show their support.

A five-minute recess was called to allow for people to congratulate the new Board members. Dr. Alexander called the meeting back to order at 5:26 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Alexander opened the floor for nominations for Board Chair and Vice-Chair. Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd nominated Gary Childers for Board Chair, and it was approved unanimously. Jay Fenwick nominated Alison Idol for Vice-Chair, and it was also unanimously approved.

CLOSED SESSION

Board Chair Dr. Gary Childers asked for a motion at 5:30 p.m. to enter into the closed session. The motion was made by Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd, seconded by Alison Idol, and approved by all Board members.

OPEN SESSION

Adam Hege made a motion at 6:46 p.m. to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd, and all Board members approved.

WELCOME

Dr. Gary Childers welcomed everyone in attendance. He commended Watauga County Schools on having so many National Board Certified Teachers. Dr. Childers expressed appreciation for the financial support given through the Stamey Memorial Scholarship and through the annual \$25,000 that the County Commissioners have designated.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- There are lots of holiday celebrations taking place across the district. The WHS Band/Chorus/Orchestra Kaleidoscope Concert will be on December 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Ross Auditorium.
- WCS K-12 Art Educators submitted personal works of art to the Blowing Rock Art & History Museum. Their showcase is entitled "High Country Visions: Watauga K-12 Educators," and their exhibit will be on view in the museum's Alexander Community Gallery from December 5-19.
- Congratulations to the thirteen teachers who recently received their National Board Certification, and the three teachers who received their Maintenance of Certification. They will be recognized at the January Board meeting.
- Congratulations to Lauren McCoy, a Cove Creek 7th grader, on winning the district Spelling Bee. Thanks to Meredith Jones, Dr. Chris Blanton, and other members of the Curriculum Team for conducting the competition that went ten rounds.
- Congratulations to the winners of this year's Bright Ideas Education Grants. Blue Ridge Energy is a great partner in awarding these grants to teachers with innovative ideas.
- Thank you to Skyline/Skybest for giving a very generous donation to go toward Watauga Middle School Athletics. They donate funds to our district annually, and WCS is very fortunate to have such supportive community partners.
- Much generosity continues to be shown to our district both from within and outside of Watauga County, and Dr. Alexander spotlighted two very special donations from the past month.

- Jocelyn Lacey serves as a Board member for the organization “Hope for Victims,” and their organization sponsors the Johnia Berry Memorial Toy Drive each year. The organization wanted to support students in Watauga County this year, so they delivered an impressive amount of toys to be distributed throughout the district.
- Two truckloads of toys were delivered to our district by Caleb, Lindsey, and Morgan Dunnam of Mississippi and Donna Miller of Watauga County. They are connected with Team Hope, which is a disaster-relief organization that travels throughout the United States to provide support. The Dunnam family drove for approximately twelve hours to deliver these items.
- December 20th will be an Early Release Day. Students will be on holiday break starting December 23rd, and they will return to school on January 6th.
- Recognition Date:
 - December 2: Special Education Day

VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL UPDATE

Area A: Cafeteria/Kitchen; Gym

Area B: Administrative Offices; Band

Area C: Classrooms

The HVAC unit start-up will begin on December 9th. Contractors are still waiting on approval for a change in the materials being used for the septic system design, but the water and sewer subcontractor is supposed to be on site this week to resume work. Most of the mechanical and electrical work should be done by mid-December, which will allow for the remaining drywall to be completed. Kitchen equipment installation should occur by the end of December, and the installation of carpet should begin in about two weeks. Sitework (storm drain, paving prep, concrete work, etc.) is expected to be completed in December. Some electrical fixtures, electrical control devices, and other specialty items that were damaged will be installed sometime in January. It was reported last month that the paving will not get started until spring 2025 due to the asphalt plants servicing infrastructure repairs, but there is a chance that the majority of the asphalt might be provided much sooner.

STUDENTS' REPORT

- The W.H.S. Media Center hosted its first-ever Scholastic Book Fair from November 16–20. Media Specialist Dana Lowery coordinated the event, and over \$3,000 was raised to support the purchase of new library books.
- Watauga's Marketing Club DECA competed in the District 9 Competition in Shelby, NC on November 21. Several students emerged as overall finalists, earning awards for top test scores and role-play performances for each event. Congratulations to Julia Bateman, JT Cook, Harper Costin, Natalie Fitch, and Autumn Neal for earning in the top three in their respective divisions.
- The 25th annual “Mr. WHS” Pageant was held on December 7th. Watauga High School partnered with McDowell High School and West Henderson High School, and the three schools raised a total of over \$50,000. 100% of the donations will go to families within these school communities who were affected by Hurricane Helene. The program at Watauga was directed by the Student Council Treasurer Gigi Waugh, and junior Levi Anderson was crowned “Mr. WHS.”
- The Watauga High School Music Department will present its annual Christmas Kaleidoscope concert on Tuesday, December 17th. This event will showcase performances by the Band, Choir, and

- Orchestra, and it will feature approximately twenty-five musical arrangements. Admission is \$5, with all proceeds supporting the Performing Arts Department.
- The Watauga High School Men's Basketball Team is currently undefeated (3-0) and have won each of their games by at least twenty-five points. During the game against T.C. Roberson, Watauga's Cade Keller broke the Pioneers' 3-point record by shooting nine 3-pointers and scoring a total of twenty-nine points.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no citizens who made public comments.

WCS TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Dr. Alison Schleede, *Director of Technology*, gave an annual update through a powerpoint highlighting the following areas: WCS Computing Devices, Classroom Technology, NC Digital Learning Plan and Learning Standards, Library Partnership, Technology Staffing, Professional Learning; Google Account Monitoring, Visitor Management Systems, Door Access, Surveillance, Technology Roadmap, E-rate, Strategic Device Planning, VoIP, and Cyber Security/Disaster Recovery. Dr. Schleede provided a handout to the Board with a 1-year plan (June 2024), 3-year plan (June 2026), and 5-year plan (June 2028).

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for 11/12/2024
- B. Field Trip Requests
- C. Declaration of Surplus
- D. 2024-25 Budget Amendment #2
- E. 2024-25 Low-Performing School Improvement Plan for Bethel
- F. 2024-25 Low-Performing School Improvement Plan for Green Valley
- G. Beginning Teacher Support Program Plan
- H. 2025-26 School Calendar
- I. Personnel Report

Adam Hege made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR SECOND READ

- 1402: Remote Participation in Board Meetings
- 4002: Parental Involvement
- 3410: Testing and Assessment Program

Jay Fenwick moved to approve policies 4002 and 3410. Adam Hege seconded, and it was approved by all Board members.

No action was taken on Policy 1402 in order to wait on more counsel from the Board Attorney.

BOARD OPERATIONS

- Board members will have a work session on January 9th from 12:00-4:30 p.m. that will include mandatory Ethics Training. In addition, there will be information shared about calendar law, the district's strategic plan, test performance, and finance/budget. Board members will be given a survey to express what topics they would like to have more in-depth discussions about in the near future.
- Board members will attend Core Training in Asheville January 29-30.

BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Childers extended an official welcome to the three new Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Alison Idol made a motion to adjourn, Charlotte Mizelle Lloyd seconded, and it was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*

SETC
March 19-23

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

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

Day and overnight trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the trip. Overnight and out of state 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. The superintendent has the discretion to approve field trips on an emergency basis when the timing is between regular Board of Education meetings. The superintendent shall notify the board at the next regularly scheduled meeting of any trips approved on an emergency basis and the rationale.

Sponsoring teacher: (Print) Sarah Miller School: Watauga HS
Cell phone number: 828-273-1792 Grade(s): 10-12 Number of students: 19
Departure date: Wed March 19, 2025 Return date: Sun March 23, 2025
Departure time: 8:30 AM Return time: 5pm

Educational purpose:

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

Baltimore, Maryland for SETC - see attached itinerary

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: Playmakers will represent NC at SETC, perform their devised production of SURGE, and watch plays from 10 other states. This fulfills the following NC SOS in Advanced Honors theatre in: AD.CN.1; AD.CR.1.1; AD.CR.1.3; AD.PR.1.1; AD.PR.1.2; AD.PR.2.2; AD.PR.2.3; AD.PR.2.4; AD.RE.1.2

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Sarah Miller, Zach Walker, Daniel Machon

Names of all non-school chaperones: Heidi Tatt + other parents who HAVE been given the background check link. I will confirm with Christy Parker in February & provide list of parents who have submitted this and been approved - SM

All chaperones have a background check completed: ☒ N

Sponsoring teacher initials: SM

See note on previous page

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

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. Sponsoring Teacher Initials (If applicable) N/A Hotel does NOT have a pool

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/minivan
☒ Charter bus Other (Please explain) _____

Name of charter bus company (if checked above) STI LLC see attached contract
(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

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

Total cost per student \$ est 1,250.00 Source of funds: fundraisers

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: [Signature] Date: 12/14/24

Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 12/16/24

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 12/19/24

Superintendent approval: _____ Date: ____/____/____

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

DRAFT ITINERARY: PLAYMAKERS AT SETC, BALTIMORE MD MARCH 19-23 2025

SECONDARY SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL (SSTF)

SSTF held at The Lyric Baltimore, located on 140 West Mount Royal Avenue on March 20 & 21

SETC Convention held at Baltimore Convention Center on West Pratt Street

PERFORMANCE DATE: THURS MARCH 20 AT 2:15 PM

Hotel: Residence Inn by Marriott Baltimore Downtown /Inner Harbor

17 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

CHARTER COACH COMPANY: STI, LLC based out of Maiden NC - our 3rd time using them!

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

- ☐ COSTUME PIECES & DEODORANT
- ☐ Sleeping bag/blow up mattress if you don't want to bed share - AND each room has a pull out couch!

DAILY MEDICATIONS

- ☐ Must be given to Ms. Miller prior to bus boarding
- ☐ Clothing for 5 full days
- ☐ Fabulous wear for the awards ceremony & Hairspray Dance Party
- ☐ SHOW SHIRTS! (Watauga Strong)
- ☐ PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS!
- ☐ Layers - theatre can be cold!

Jacket/gloves/hat/scarf REQUIRED

- ☐ Chargers!
- ☐ Refillable water bottle!
- ☐ ENDURANCE & POSITIVITY! You'll be tired! You can do hard things!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

- Leaving a car? Park in 1st lot on right, teacher's overflow lot OR in your assigned parking space!

8:00 am: ARRIVE at WHS,

- load up luggage and set pieces and snacks and water and costumes on coach bus

8:30 am: DEPART WHS!

5:00 pm ish: ARRIVE at Baltimore Hotel

- Unload luggage, snacks, costumes
- Leave set on the bus

6:30 pm ish: Dinner & "NC Night" Mixer

- with Green Hope HS (location tbd)

9:00 pm: Production meeting, letters

9:30 pm: TAPE YOU IN!

- Early day on Thursday for some

THURSDAY MARCH 20 - PERFORMANCE!

6:40 am - Depart for Tech Demo

- Miller, Walker, Quigley, Greene & Sheffey board bus, travel to LYRIC BALTIMORE
- *Anyone is welcome to attend!*
M/W/Q/G are required to go

7:10 am - 7:25 AM: Tech Demo

- at the Lyric Baltimore Theatre
- REQUIRED

7:45 am - Travel from Lyric to Hotel

- Miller, Walker, Quigley, Green & Sheffey et al board bus, travel back to hotel

8:20 am - ALL board bus for Lyric at hotel

- Bus will NOT return to hotel until after our flight of shows (~ 6 pm)
- **Bring EVERYTHING you need - costumes, personal items, jacket/coats, journal basket, triple and double check, help each other, be organized, you CANNOT walk between the Hotel and the Lyric!**

8:22 am - DEPART HOTEL for LYRIC

8:30 am - Unload set into lobby, find place to stash our stuff in the lobby

MORNING SHOWS AT 9, 9:55 and 10:50

11:45 am - lunch in the lobby, grab n go

12:05 pm - Walk set to load in dock

12:10 pm - Load in show 4 SURGE!

12:30 pm - TECH TIME on stage!

- 20 minutes, can spike, practice set up and break down, check cues, etc.

1:15 pm - go to dressing rooms

2:00 pm - load out dressing rooms

2:15 PERFORM SURGE AT SETC!

DRAFT ITINERARY: PLAYMAKERS AT SETC, BALTIMORE MD MARCH 19-23 2025

THURSDAY MARCH 20 - PERFORMANCE!
CONTINUED

3:00 pm - private adjudication

- Load set & all personals & costume items back to lobby

SHOWS AT 3:10, 4:05, and 5 pm

6 pm - Bus returns to LYRIC

- Load in & secure set
- ALL Return to Hotel

7:00 pm - DINNER (tbd) & production mtg

7:50 pm - BUS returns to LYRIC

SHOWS AT 8:10 pm, 9:05 pm, 10 pm

- We can go, we can some of us go, we can none of us go - must have a chaperone if you return; we can decide there

10:50 pm - Bus returns to the Hotel

11 pm - TAPE IN! YOU'RE STILL WORKIN'!

FRIDAY MARCH 21 YOU CHOOSE!

****MUST HAVE A CHAPERONE STAY WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES IF GOING TO WORKSHOPS - WALK to & from Convention Center!**

8:30 am - Bus Departs for LYRIC

MORNING SHOWS AT 9, 9:55 and 10:50

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN - we'll give you \$\$, you give receipts, food / drink ONLY

SHOWS AT 2:15, 3:10, 4:05, and 5 pm

6 pm - Bus returns to LYRIC

DINNER: TBD

8:30 pm PRODUCTION MEETING

- Location TBD

9:45 pm TAPING YOU IN, YOU GOTTA CATCH UP ON REST!

SATURDAY MARCH 22 TBD

Inner Harbor & National Aquarium?

More workshops?

See plays at other festivals?

****MUST HAVE A CHAPERONE STAY WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES IF GOING TO WORKSHOPS - WALK to & from Convention Center!**

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN - we'll give you \$\$, you give receipts, food / drink ONLY

_____ pm DINNER, tbd

7:30 pm Walk to Renaissance Hotel together

8:00 pm HAIRSPRAY Dessert party

10 pm Walk back to Residence Inn

10:30 pm TAPING YOU IN!

SUNDAY MARCH 23

8:00 am: Load bus at Residence Inn

8:30 am: Depart for Boone, NC

- Lunch on the road

5:00 pm: Arrive in Boone, NC

- Unload bus
- We did it! Yaaaas! That's a wrap!

WHAT NOT TO BRING WITH YOU

- ☐ Controlled substances/alcohol
- ☐ Tobacco products/vapes/matches
- ☐ Weapons

crazy that all that up there has to be in print

- ☐ Excess junk food
- ☐ Tons of cash and/or credit cards
- ☐ BAD ATTITUDES. Ain't nobody got time for that.....

DRAFT ITINERARY: PLAYMAKERS AT SETC, BALTIMORE MD MARCH 19-23 2025

Total shift from regionals & state: *Playmakers are in charge of and can keep their phones on them throughout our SETC time.*

This is for safety and to communicate where/when/how smaller chaperoned groups will travel.

We will communicate through the WCS-approved REMIND platform
Link to that is forthcoming.

Parents can be included on that too.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE remember to turn phones OFF during shows.

Phones cannot be in pockets during our performance. #eeeww #tacky

ANOTHER TOTAL SHIFT - bring your school computer & homework.

You will have time on the bus on the way up and back to work.

You must keep up with your academic work.

We return & hit the ground running for TECH with MEAN GIRLS.

Gotta stay ahead of the work!

Remember: Adjudication will happen in a private room immediately following our load out. That adjudication is for cast & crew & directors ONLY. Parents, friends & family, we will rendezvous with you IN THE LOBBY of the Lyric Baltimore when we bring our set & costumes & personal belongings back to the lobby.

A NOTE ABOUT PACKING: We've typed a lot of packing notes and reminders above. Traveling out of state requires planning and preparedness. Parents & guardians, please check *behind* your Playmaker to make sure they have what we've asked them to bring. You must bring & wear warm clothing, including hats, coats, gloves, scarves. We're not joking. Long hair is not a hat. Your jean jacket pockets are not gloves. Your jean jacket is not a jacket. Baltimore is COLD.

DRAFT ITINERARY: PLAYMAKERS AT SETC, BALTIMORE MD MARCH 19-23 2025

ROOMING LISTS FOR RESIDENCE INN By Marriott Downtown Inner Harbor

As per WCS overnight trip guidelines, we have requested that all 11 of the ensemble's rooms be on the same side of the same floor.

We also requested that the 3 chaperones be "spread out" among the students to allow for easier monitoring.

As is our custom, students will be "taped in" to their rooms at lights out.

<u>ROOM TYPE</u>	<u>ASSIGNED TO</u>	<u>ROOM #</u>
Room 1: King studio	Sarah Miller, lead chaperone/teacher	
Room 2: King studio	Zach Walker, chaperones/teachers	
Room 3: King studio	Daniel Machon, Administrator	
Room 4: two queens studio	Students (3 males): Brian Newmark, M Quigley, William Greene	
Room 5: two queens studio	Students (2 males): Jaxson Marsh, Rowan Tait	
Room 6: two queens studio	Students (3 females): Alexis Edgerton, Liliana Lemus, Brecken Sauthoff	
Room 7: two queens studio	Students (3 females): Chloe Greer, Edie Berke, Clara Lappan	
Room 8: two queens studio	Students (3 females): Kelley Donnelly, Lilly Hampton, Hannah Sheffey	
Room 9: two queens studio	Students (2 females): Bailey Reece, Eriana Fidler	
Room 10: two queens studio	Students (2): Kyleigh Hogan, Abby Barr	
Room 11: King studio	CHARTER BUS DRIVER, name TBD	

Total: 7 queen/queen student rooms
4 king chaperone rooms

STI LLC

P.O. Box 39 ♦ Maiden ♦ North Carolina 28650
Phone 828-428-2101 ♦ Fax 828-428-9128

CONFIRMATION/INVOICE

Customer Name: Watauga High School
Address: 300 Go Pioneers Dr

City: Boone, NC

Contact Name: Sarah Miller
Group: Students
Remarks: Pioneer Playmakers Acting

Issue Date: December 11, 2024
Salesperson: Nick White

Phone #1: 828-273-1792
Phone #2:
Email: millers@wataugaschools.net
Fax #:

of Vehicles: 1
Max.# of Passengers 56
Vehicle Capacity: 56

Departure City: Boone, NC
Departure Date: March 19, 2025
Departure Time: PLEASE PROVIDE

Destination City: Baltimore, MD
Return Date: March 23, 2025
Return Time: TBD

Customer Also Pays:

	Yes	No
Driver's Overnight Lodging (Private Hotel/Motel room required)	☒	☐
Highway Toll	☒	☐
Parking Fees	☒	☐

Itinerary: PLEASE PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR TO TRIP

STI Does Not Accept Responsibilities for Quality of DVD's Supplied By The Customer

Payment will be made ☒ Day of Trip ☐ Before Trip Date

Charter Total:	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	Due:	<u></u>
Deposit of:	<u>-----</u>	Due:	<u></u>
Final Payment of:	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	Due:	<u>March 19, 2025</u>

Select Payment Method: ☒ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card (cc processing fee of 3.45%) ☐ Other

PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BEFORE ANYONE BOARDS BUS FOR TRIP

Fuel surcharge may apply.

Confirmation must be signed and returned to our office within seven days after issue date to reserve buses.

Charges specified based on information as shown above. Baggage and all other property will be handled only at passenger's own risk. **Negligent damage** to the vehicle caused by the contracted party may be charged by the carrier to the contracted party. If a greater number of passengers than specified on the order are carried, charges may be increased to applicable tariff rate. Also, an extra charge for mileage will be added if this charter is re-routed resulting in additional mileage. *Our drivers must operate in compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. Drivers are restricted to a maximum of ten (10) hours driving and shall not be on duty more than fifteen (15) hours following eight (8) consecutive hours off duty. Regular 15-minute rest stops are taken every 2 ~ 2 1/2 hours for the safety and comfort of both driver and passengers.*

ABSOLUTELY No smoking or alcoholic beverages permitted aboard motorcoaches.

Cancellation Policy

If cancellation is necessary, we request that you contact our office as soon as possible. Normally there is not a fee for cancellation. If you notify us while the bus is en route to or after it has arrived at your location, there will be a fee to cover expenses such as driver's pay and fuel.

PLEASE READ BACK OF PAGE CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Payment

As listed on the front, all payment is due on the day of or before your trip. Deposits are only necessary if stated on the front page of this document. Failure to make payment by the stated date will result in the bus not being sent, or the bus not leaving the pick-up location. Payment can be made via check, cash or credit card. Please keep in mind that credit card payments will result in an additional fee of 3.25%. If in need of an alternate payment method, please contact our office, and we will work with you as best we can.

Pricing

Pricing is calculated per itinerary given to STI. Any deviation from the given itinerary that results in additional mileage or labor hours, may result in an additional charge to the original quoted price to cover cost.

Additional Charges

Clients are responsible for all fees that may apply during the trip, either stated or unstated on confirmation.

Cancellation

If cancellation is necessary, we request that you contact us at least 7 days prior to departure. Failure to notify will not result in a cancellation fee. However, if we are notified while bus is en route or has arrived at departure destination, necessary fees will be applied.

Insurance and W-9

Please contact office to request any relevant documents needed such as W-9 or insurance certificate

Itinerary

A complete itinerary is due at least 7 days prior to trip departure. Itinerary should include exact dates, times and locations of any stops being made.

Driver Restrictions

By law, drivers may not drive more than 10 hours during any 15 hours on duty without having an 8 hour off duty period. During off duty periods, the motorcoach **MAY NOT** be occupied by any passengers for any reason. It is the responsibility of the client to make sure the itinerary follows these previously stated requirements. Any failure to do so will result in a hold on the trip until our driver can legally transport any and all passengers. **STI DOES NOT** permit overnight driving. Unless previously stated or listed on the signed contract, STI reserves the right to cancel any charter that requires overnight driving of any kind.

Driver Lodging

The client is responsible for the drivers overnight lodging, unless otherwise stated. When booking a driver's room, it needs to have adequate bus parking. It is okay if the driver's room is located at a different hotel to accommodate that need. We just ask that the hotel be a nice, upkept place. If you need help in finding a hotel to fit these needs, please contact the office.

Gratuity

Gratuity is not included in the charter price. Our drivers work very hard to make your experience as satisfying as possible and gratuity is a kind expression in thanking them.

Food & Drinks

Only drinks with screw on lids are permitted inside the coach. Please dispose of all food and drink in the trashcans that are provided on the bus. Failure to do so, or any excess mess left on the bus, may be subject to additional charges.

Motorcoach Equipment/Accessories

Accessories such as, but not limited to, WiFi, power outlets, video equipment and restrooms are not guaranteed by STI and if requested may result in additional charges to the charter quote. Any damage done to any of this equipment will be the responsibility of the client.

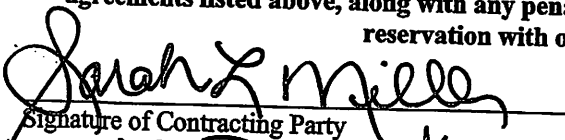
Damage & Cleaning Fees

The charter group is responsible to pay for any damages to the bus caused by irregular use and will be billed accordingly. Excessive cleaning required by negligence of the group, will also result in a fee.

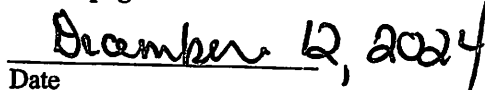
Lost Items

It is the responsibility of the group to make sure they do not leave any luggage or items on the bus following the trip. STI is not responsible for any items left on the coach. If you feel you have left something, please contact our office and we will check our lost and found

These above guidelines are to ensure the safety of all passengers. STI, LLC takes pride in not only providing luxury, comfort and satisfaction, but also safety. By signing below, you are agreeing to abide by all rules, regulations and contractual agreements listed above, along with any penalties and charges that may apply. By signing, you are also confirming your reservation with our company for the dates listed on the first page.


Signature of Contracting Party

WHS Playmakers


Date

We look forward to doing business with you soon!

For more info on STI, LLC visit our website @

www.stibuscharters.com

January 2024

Bethel

Blowing Rock

Cove Creek

Green Valley

Hardin Park

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
500717	1	VCR/DVD PLAYER- EMERSON		1
500726	1	VCR/DVD PLAYER- SONY		1
34968	1	CHROMEBOOK- 100e		1

500168	1	DOC CAMERA- ELMO		1
500406	1	LAMINATER- USI		1

	5		0	5

Mabel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
29894	1	PROJECTOR- POWERLITE		1
600012	1	SMARTBOARD 680		1
600029	1	PROJECTOR- 400P		1
28766	1	PROJECTOR- BRIGHT LINK		1
6000560	1	SMARTBOARD 680		1
	5		0	5

Parkway

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
700154	1	SMARTBOARD		1
NONE	1	AMPLIFIER		1
NONE	1	BRACKETS/MOUNT FOR PROJECTOR		1
700175	1	PROJECTOR- NP410		1
700116	1	PROJECTOR- NEC		1
34788	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34840	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34847	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34853	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34856	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34858	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34859	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34862	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34863	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34864	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34867	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34868	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34869	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34870	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34872	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34874	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
34876	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
35010	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	

35022	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35024	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35028	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35029	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35030	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35036	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35038	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35041	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35042	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35043	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35044	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35046	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35047	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35049	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35052	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35053	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35054	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35057	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35068	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35073	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35075	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35076	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35080	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35084	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35090	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35096	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35097	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35107	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35119	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35124	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35140	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35153	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35172	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35173	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35174	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35176	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
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35182	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35183	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
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35188	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35189	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35190	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35192	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35216	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35217	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35218	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35221	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35223	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35224	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35225	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35226	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35227	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35228	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35229	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35230	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35231	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35232	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35233	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35238	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35239	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35242	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35243	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35244	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35249	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35680	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35710	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35777	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35795	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35806	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35823	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35829	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35841	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35846	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35857	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
35858	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
36059	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
36417	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
36420	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1
36421	1 LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1

Valle Crucis

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
36843	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33640	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35545	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
3			0	3

Watauga High School

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
29445	1	LAPTOP	1	
35063	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK	1	
40634	1	CHROMBOOK- HP		1
40569	1	CHROMBOOK- HP		1
37044	1	CHROMBOOK- HP		1
904783	1	DOC CAM- POWERLITE		1
80153	1	IFP	1	
N/A	1	SPEAKERS	1	
	1	Box of cable	1	
35757	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
35754	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
35700	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
35729	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
35762	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
37570	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOKG2	1	
15			11	4

Central Office

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

Technology Department

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
35151	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	
35131	1	LAPTOP- ELITEBOOK 1030	1	

[illegible][illegible]

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

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



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Leslie Alexander, Superintendent
Members, Watauga County Board of Education

FROM: Joseph Nash, Finance Officer

DATE: January 13, 2025

RE: 2024-25 Budget Amendment #3

Attached is Budget Amendment #3 that changes totals in Watauga County Schools 2024-25 adopted budget.

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>Amendments</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
Local Current Expense	\$ 18,400,589	\$ (335,567)	\$ 18,065,022
State Public School	37,176,166	277,417	37,453,583
Federal Grants	2,581,674	8,500	2,590,174
School Nutrition	2,581,900	0	2,581,900
Extended Learning Centers	725,550	0	725,550
Capital Outlay	4,735,000	0	4,735,000
Special Revenue/Scholarship	1,410,171	450,870	1,861,041
Total	\$ 67,611,050	\$ 401,220	\$ 68,012,270

Watauga County Schools
BUDGET AMENDMENT #3
January 13, 2025

Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

BA #3-1 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget additional appropriations received from the State for hurricane relief and recovery, and principal and other teacher bonuses.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1.3100.000.000.000	State Revenues	277,417
1.5000.000.000.000	Instructional Services	192,504
1.7000.000.000.000	Ancillary Services	84,913

BA #3-2 Explanation:

This amendment is to remove prior budgeted amounts from fund balance, which we forecast are no longer needed to balance current expenditures. Additionally, adjustments were made to reduce budgets where feasible, and to reconcile the purpose code used in the budget with the purpose code used on actual expenditures.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2.4110.999.000.000	Fund Balance Appropriation	(335,567)
2.5000.000.000.000	Instructional Services	(252,099)
2.6000.000.000.000	Support Services	(83,468)

Watauga County Schools
BUDGET AMENDMENT #3
January 13, 2025

BA #3-3 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget additional appropriations received from Federal Grants for special education state improvement and targeted assistance.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3.3600.082.000.000	Special Education State Imp.	5,000
3.3600.118.000.000	Special Needs Targeted Assistance	3,500
3.5000.000.000.000	Instructional Services	8,500

BA #3-4 Explanation:

This amendment is to budget additional appropriations received from Medicaid reimbursements, sales tax refunds, interest earned, indirect costs from Federal Grants, and other miscellaneous receivables. Additionally, adjustments were made to reduce budgets where feasible, and to reconcile the purpose code used in the budget with the purpose code used on actual expenditures.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
8.3000.000.000.000	Special Revenue Fund	162,870
8.4000.000.000.000	Miscellaneous Revenues	288,000
8.5000.000.000.000	Instructional Services	394,684
8.6000.000.000.000	Support Services	56,186

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) is committed to creating safe, orderly, clean and inviting schools for all students and staff. To this end, the board supports state laws that prohibit the sale or distribution of tobacco products to minors and that prohibit the use of tobacco products by minors. The board also supports state and federal laws that prohibit the use of tobacco products in school buildings, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board. For the purposes of this policy, the term “tobacco product” means any product that contains ~~or that is made or derived from tobacco~~ and is intended for human consumption. The term “tobacco product” also includes alternative nicotine products (noncombustible products that contain nicotine, whether natural or synthetic, but do not contain tobacco and are intended for human consumption whether chewed, absorbed, dissolved, ingested, or by other means), consumable products (nicotine liquid solutions or other materials containing nicotine that is depleted as a vapor product is used), vapor products (noncombustible products that employ a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit regardless of shape or size and that can be used to heat consumable products) including all lighted and smokeless tobacco products, as well as electronic cigarettes, , electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, and electronic pipes, and components of vapor products vaporizers, and other electronic smoking devices even if they do not contain tobacco or nicotine.

A. PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

In support of the board’s commitments and state and federal law, students are prohibited from using, possessing or displaying any tobacco product (1) in any school building, on any school campus, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board, including school vehicles; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; or (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including during school trips.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the use, possession or display of tobacco products for an instructional or research activity conducted in a school building, provided that the activity is conducted or supervised by a faculty member and that the activity does not include smoking, chewing or otherwise ingesting tobacco.

B. CONSEQUENCES

The disciplinary consequences for violations of this policy shall be consistent with Section D of policy 4300, Student Behavior Policies. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this policy.

In determining appropriate consequences for violations of this policy, school officials are encouraged to identify programs or opportunities that will provide students with a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use, the hazards of secondhand smoke, and the impact of tobacco use on efforts to provide a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment.

C. SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

The administration shall consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide students with information and access to support systems and programs to encourage students to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school system may, from time to time, provide free non-smoking programs and services to its students.

D. NOTICE

Students will be provided with notice of the information in this policy through the Code of Student Conduct, student handbooks, or other means identified by the principal. In addition, the principal shall post signs in a manner and at locations that adequately notify students, school personnel, and visitors about prohibitions against the use of tobacco products in all school facilities, on all school grounds, and at all school-sponsored events.

Legal References: Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. 6081 *et seq.*; 21 U.S.C. 321 (rr); 21 C.F.R. 1100 *et seq.*; G.S. 14-313; 115C-47, -288, -307, -390.2, -407

Cross References: Student Behavior Policies (policy 4300), Smoking and Tobacco Products (policy 5026/7250)

Adopted: October 13, 2014

Revised: January 11, 2016; April 9, 2018 (Legal references only); DATE

Replaces: Policy 5.07.60, Tobacco Use

BULLYING AND HARASSING BEHAVIOR PROHIBITED

Policy Code: **4329/7311**

The board is committed to providing a safe, inviting, and civil educational environment for all students, employees, and other members of the school community. The board expects all students, employees, volunteers, and visitors to behave in a manner consistent with that goal. The board recognizes that bullying and harassing behavior creates an atmosphere of intimidation and fear, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious misconduct or to violence. Accordingly, the board prohibits all forms of bullying and harassing behavior, including encouragement of such behavior, by students, employees, volunteers, and visitors. "Visitors" includes parents and other family members and individuals from the community, as well as vendors, contractors, and other persons doing business with or performing services for the school system.

This policy prohibits bullying and harassing behavior, or the encouragement of bullying or harassing behavior, that takes place (1) in any school building or on any school premises before, during or after school hours; (2) on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity; (3) at any bus stop; (4) during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity; (5) through the use of school system technological resources; (6) at any time or place when the student, employee, or other person is subject to the authority of school personnel; or (67) at any time or place when the bullying has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline in the schools.

This policy is not intended to prohibit expression of religious, philosophical, social, or political views, provided that the expression does not substantially disrupt the educational environment.

A. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy applies to bullying and harassing behavior that is not otherwise prohibited by the following board policies that address discriminatory harassment in violation of federal law:

- Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law, policy 1710/4020/7230 (prohibiting harassment based on federally protected characteristics, such as race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age (40 or older) or, religion, military affiliation, or genetic information)
- Title IX Sexual ~~Discrimination~~ Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process Grievance Procedures, policy 1725/4035/7236 (prohibiting sex-based dual harassment)
- ~~Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace, policy 7232 (prohibiting harassment of employees and applicants based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, military affiliation, or genetic information)~~

Individuals who wish to report bullying or harassing behavior that is based on sex, race,

color, national origin, disability, religion, or other personal characteristic addressed by the policies above should refer to and follow the reporting processes provided in those policies.

Conduct that may constitute discriminatory harassment under federal law must be addressed first in accordance with the requirements of the applicable policy(ies) listed above. If subsequently, the conduct is determined not to rise to the level of discriminatory harassment prohibited by those policies, the conduct may be addressed under this policy. Conduct that does not rise to the level of bullying or harassing behavior as defined and prohibited in this policy may nevertheless violate other board policies or school rules.

B. CONDUCT THAT IS CONSIDERED BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR

1. Bullying is deliberate conduct intended to harm another person or group of persons. It is characterized by repeated unwanted aggressive behavior that typically involves a real or perceived imbalance of power, such as a difference in physical size, strength, social standing, intellectual ability, or authority. It may consist of either physical, verbal, or nonverbal behavior. Cyberbullying is a form of bullying that is carried out using electronic communication media, such as words, action, or conduct conveyed through email, instant messages, text messages, tweets, blogs, photo or video sharing, chat rooms, or websites, and may exist in the absence of a power imbalance typical of other forms of bullying.
2. Harassing behavior is conduct that is intimidating, hostile, or abusive, or is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Harassing behavior may violate this policy even if no harm is intended to the target and no power imbalance is evident.
3. Bullying or harassing behavior includes conduct that is, or reasonably appears to be, motivated by actual or perceived differentiating personal characteristics, or by a person's association with someone who has or is perceived to have a differentiating personal characteristic. Differentiating personal characteristics include, but are not limited to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, socioeconomic status, academic status, gender identity, physical appearance, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, developmental, or sensory disability. Bullying and harassing behavior can violate this policy regardless of a student's motivation.
4. Examples of behavior that may constitute bullying or harassing behavior are repeated acts of disrespect, intimidation, or threats, such as verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs, epithets, derogatory or lewd comments, spreading rumors, extortion of money or possessions, implied or stated threats, assault, offensive touching, physical interference with normal work or movement, visual insults, such as derogatory posters or cartoons, and sharing intimate photos or video of a person or sharing photos or videos that may subject a person to ridicule or insult.
5. Other behaviors that may constitute bullying or harassing behavior under this policy are deliberate, unwelcome touching that has sexual connotations or is of a sexual nature, pressure for sexual activity, offensive sexual flirtations, advances or

propositions, verbal remarks about an individual's body, sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual, or the display of sexually suggestive drawings, objects, pictures, or written materials.

6. These examples are not exhaustive but are intended to illustrate the wide range of behavior that may constitute bullying and harassing behavior.
7. Conduct such as the following is not considered bullying or harassing behavior: legitimate pedagogical techniques, the exercise of legitimate authority, and academic or work performance monitoring and evaluation.

C. WHEN BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR VIOLATES THIS POLICY

Not all conduct that may be described as bullying or harassing behavior violates this policy. Bullying or harassing behavior violates this policy when any pattern of repeated gestures or written, electronic, or verbal communications, or any physical act or threatening communication:

1. places a student, an employee, or other person in actual and reasonable fear of harm to their person or property; or
2. creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits.

"Hostile environment" means that the victim subjectively views the conduct as bullying or harassing behavior and the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree that it is bullying or harassing behavior.

The definition of bullying and harassing behavior in this section is intended to be no less inclusive than the definition of bullying and harassing behavior in G.S. 115C-407.15.

Bullying or harassing behavior based on sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or religion, age (40 or older), military affiliation, or genetic information may also constitute discriminatory harassment in violation of federal law and other board policies as described in Section A, above.

D. REPORTING BULLYING AND HARASSING BEHAVIOR

1. Reports by Students and/or Parents and Guardians
 - a. The board encourages students or parents/guardians of students who have been the victim of or who have witnessed bullying or harassing behavior in violation of this policy to immediately report such incidents to a teacher, counselor, coach, assistant principal, or the principal.

- b. Reports may be made orally or in writing and may be made anonymously.
- c. All reports of serious violations and complaints made under this policy will be investigated expeditiously. Anonymous reports will be investigated to the extent reasonably possible under the circumstances.
- d. If, at any time, school officials determine that the alleged bullying or harassing behavior appears to be based on sex, race, color, national origin, disability, ~~or religion, age (40 or older), military affiliation, or genetic information~~, the matter will be investigated in accordance with the applicable policy listed in Section A above.

2. Mandatory Reporting by School Employees

An employee who witnesses or who has reliable information that a student or other individual has been bullied or harassed in violation of this policy must report the incident to his or her supervisor or to the building principal immediately. If ~~sex-based~~ harassment is suspected, the employee also must report the incident to the Title IX coordinator. An employee who does not promptly report possible bullying or harassing behavior will be subject to disciplinary action.

3. Reporting by Other Third Parties

Other members of the school community may report incidents of bullying or harassment to the school principal or the superintendent or designee.

4. Reporting False Allegations

It is a violation of board policy to knowingly report false allegations of bullying or harassing behavior. A student or employee found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to disciplinary action.

E. **REPORTS OF BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR BASED ON A FEDERALLY PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC** ~~SEX, RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, OR RELIGION~~

Bullying or harassing behavior that is based on a federally protected characteristic, such as sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or religion, age (40 or older), military affiliation, or genetic information, may constitute discriminatory harassment that is a violation of the individual's civil rights. A school employee who receives a report of bullying or harassing behavior that may constitute ~~sex-based~~ harassment must immediately contact the Title IX coordinator. If the reported behavior appears to be based on any other ~~such personal~~ federally protected characteristic, the employee must immediately notify the appropriate civil rights coordinator designated in policy 1710/4020/7230, Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law. Uncertainty as to whether alleged bullying or harassing behavior is based on ~~sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or religion~~ a federally protected characteristic should be resolved by notifying the Title IX Coordinator.

F. RESPONSE TO REPORTS OF BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR

1. Reports of bullying and harassing behavior or the encouragement of such behavior under this policy will be investigated promptly by the principal or ~~the principal's designee~~ or site supervisor and addressed in accordance with this policy and policy 4340, School-Level Investigations, when appropriate. If the principal or site supervisor is the alleged perpetrator, the superintendent will designate an appropriate investigator.
2. If at any time before, during, or after the investigation under this policy, the ~~principal or designee~~ investigator determines or suspects that the alleged bullying or harassing behavior is based on sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or religion, the ~~principal or designee~~ investigator shall notify the appropriate civil rights coordinator and proceed in accordance with the applicable board policy as described in Section A, above. However, referral to the civil rights coordinator will not preclude appropriate disciplinary consequences for a violation of this policy if, following the designated investigation and resolution process under the appropriate board policy, the behavior is determined not to constitute discriminatory harassment in violation of federal law.
3. No reprisals or retaliation of any kind are permitted as a result of good faith reports of bullying or harassing behavior. An employee who engages in reprisal or retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. A student who does so is subject to disciplinary consequences as provided in Section G, below.

G. CONSEQUENCES**1. Students**

The disciplinary consequences for violations of this policy should take into consideration the frequency of incidents, the developmental age of the student involved, and the severity of the conduct and must be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this policy.

A student who is convicted under G.S. 14-458.2 of cyberbullying a school employee will be transferred to another school. If there is no other appropriate school within the school system, the student will be transferred to a different class or assigned to a teacher who was not involved as a victim of the cyberbullying. The superintendent may modify the required transfer of an individual student on a case-by-case basis and shall provide a written statement of this modification in the student's record.

2. Employees

Employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

3. Others

Volunteers and visitors who violate this policy will be directed to leave school property and/or reported to law enforcement, as appropriate, in accordance with policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools. A third party under the supervision and control of the school system will be subject to termination of contracts/agreements, restricted from school property, and/or subject to other consequences, as appropriate.

H. OTHER INTERVENTIONS

Interventions designed to remediate the impact of a violation of this policy and to restore a positive school climate will be provided as determined necessary by school officials.

I. NOTICE

This policy must be provided to employees, students, and parents, guardians, and caregivers at the beginning of each school year. Notice of this policy must be included in the Code of Student Conduct and in all student and employee handbooks. Principals are encouraged to post a copy or summary of this policy in each classroom and in a prominent location within the school building and to make an age-appropriate summary of the policy available to elementary students. Information about this policy must also be incorporated into employee training programs.

J. RECORDS

The superintendent or designee shall maintain confidential records of complaints or reports of bullying or harassing behavior under this policy. The records must identify the names of all individuals accused of such offenses and the resolution of such complaints or reports. The superintendent also shall maintain records of any remedial interventions or other steps taken by the school system to provide an environment free of bullying.

Legal References: G.S. 14-458.2; 115C-105.51, -366.4, -407.15 through -407.18

Cross References: Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law (policy 1710/4020/7230), Title IX Sexual ~~Discrimination~~ Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Grievance Procedures Reporting Process (policy 1725/4035/7236), School-Level Investigations (policy 4340), Visitors to the Schools (policy 5020), ~~Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace~~ (policy 7232)

Adopted: August 12, 2020

Revised: November 8, 2021; {DATE}

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") is committed to the safety of students and other persons on school property. In order to maintain a safe school environment, the superintendent and all school personnel shall enforce the provisions of this policy at all times.

A. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply.

1. Registered Sex Offender

A registered sex offender is a person who (1) is required to register under the Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program and (2) has committed any of the following: an offense in G.S. 14, art. 7B; a federal offense or offense committed in another state, which if committed in this state, is substantially similar to an offense in G.S. 14, art. 7B; an offense in which the victim was under the age of 18 years at the time of the offense; ~~or an offense in violation of G.S. 14-190.16, 14-190.17, or 14-190.17A, or 14-190.17C;~~ or any federal offense or offense committed in another state, which if committed in this state, is substantially similar to an offense in violation of G.S. 14-190.16, 14-190.17, ~~or 14-190.17A or 14-190.17C.~~

2. School Property

School property is defined as any school grounds or any property owned or operated by the school system where minors frequently congregate.

B. REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS BANNED FROM ALL SCHOOL PROPERTY

In accordance with G.S. 14-208.18, registered sex offenders are expressly forbidden to knowingly be present on any school property, whether before, during, or after school hours. In addition, registered sex offenders may not attend or be present at any student function or field trip on or off school property that is (1) school-sponsored or (2) otherwise under the official supervision or control of school personnel. This policy applies to all registered sex offenders regardless of their relationship to or affiliation with a student in the school system.

C. ENFORCEMENT

All school personnel must immediately report to a school administrator the presence or suspected presence of a known or suspected registered sex offender on school property. School administrators and other supervisory personnel shall report to the superintendent and law enforcement when they reasonably believe that a registered sex offender is or has

been on school property or at a school event.

School administrators also shall notify the superintendent or designee of any known student or parent or guardian of a student at their school who is suspected to be a registered sex offender.

D. EXCEPTIONS

There shall be no 'special permission' given by the board of education, the superintendent, or any principal in the school system for a person subject to G.S. 14-208.18 to be on school grounds or attend events or activities in violation of this policy. A person who is banned from school property under G.S. 14-208.18 may be on school property only under the following circumstances.

1. Students

Students who are registered sex offenders may be on school property only in accordance with policy 4260, Student Sex Offenders.

2. Voters

Registered sex offenders who are eligible to vote may be present on school property for the sole purpose of voting if the school property is being used as a voting place. The voter must not be outside the voting enclosure other than for the purpose of entering and exiting the voting place. If the voting place is a school, the voter must notify the principal of the school that he or she is registered under the Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program. In addition, the individual must be under the direct supervision of school personnel at all times. The voter must leave school property immediately after voting.

3. Parents or Guardians

a. A registered sex offender who is the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in school may be on school property only for the following reasons:

- 1) to attend a scheduled conference with school personnel to discuss the student's academic or social progress; or
- 2) at the request of the principal or designee, for any reason relating to the welfare or transportation of the student.

b. In order to visit school property for one of the reasons authorized by subsection (a) above, the parent or guardian must notify the principal of his or her registration under the Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program and of his or her presence at school. Notice of his or

her presence at school includes the nature and specific times of the visit.

- c. For each visit authorized by subsection (a) above, the parent or guardian must arrange to meet a staff member at the edge of school property, check in at the principal's office upon arrival and departure, and remain under the direct supervision of school personnel at all times. If school personnel are not available to supervise the parent or guardian during any visit, then the parent or guardian will not be permitted to enter or remain on school property.
- d. For each visit authorized by subsection (a) above, the parent or guardian must comply with all reasonable rules and restrictions placed upon him or her by the principal, including restrictions on the date, time, location, and length of meeting.

E. CONTRACTUAL PERSONNEL

Each contract executed by the board must include a provision requiring the other party to the contract to conduct an annual check of the State Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program, the State Sexually Violent Predator Registration Program, and the National Sex Offender Registry for all contracted employees whose contractual job with the board requires or may result in direct interaction with students, including but not limited to any employee whose contractual job duties include: (1) delivering services directly to students; or (2) performing tasks on or delivering products to school property.

The contract must specify that no contractor or employee of a contractor registered with the State Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program, the State Sexually Violent Predator Registration Program, or the National Sex Offender Registry may have direct interaction with children. This provision applies to contracts with a single individual.

Legal References: G.S. ch. 14, art. 7B, 14-190.16, -190.17, -190.17A, -190.17C, -208.18, -208.19; 115C-332, -332.1

Cross References: School Safety (policy 4200/7270), Student Sex Offenders (policy 4260), Visitors to the Schools (policy 5020), Recruitment and Selection of Personnel (policy 7100)

Adopted: February 8, 2016

Revised: November 13, 2017; February 14, 2022; DATE

Replaces: Policy 2.04.71, Registered Sex Offenders

The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") promotes the health and safety of all students and staff and the cleanliness of all school facilities. The board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, in or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board, or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff and school visitors. To this end, and to comply with state and federal law, the board adopts this tobacco-free policy that prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products as follows. For the purposes of this policy, the term "tobacco product" means any product that contains ~~or is made or derived from~~ tobacco and is intended for human consumption. The term "tobacco product" also includes alternative nicotine products (noncombustible products that contain nicotine, whether natural or synthetic, but do not contain tobacco and are intended for human consumption whether chewed, absorbed, dissolved, ingested, or by other means), consumable products (nicotine liquid solutions or other materials containing nicotine that is depleted as a vapor product is used), vapor products (noncombustible products that employ a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit regardless of shape or size and that can be used to heat consumable products) including all lighted and smokeless tobacco products, as well as electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, and electronic pipes, and components of vapor products vaporizers, and other electronic smoking devices even if they do not contain tobacco or nicotine.

1. All employees and other persons performing services or activities on behalf of the school system, including volunteers and contractors, as well as students and visitors, are prohibited from using any tobacco products at any time in any school building, in any school facility, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board.
2. In addition, persons attending a school-sponsored event at a location not specified in subsection 1 above are prohibited from using tobacco products when (a) in the presence of students or school personnel, or (b) in an area where use of tobacco products is otherwise prohibited by law.
3. Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of tobacco products for an instructional or research activity conducted in a school building, provided that such activity is conducted or supervised by a faculty member and that the activity does not include smoking, chewing or otherwise ingesting tobacco.
4. The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide employees with information about support systems and programs to encourage employees to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school system may, from time to time, provide free non-smoking programs and services to employees of the school system after the regular school day.
5. The principal of each school and other school personnel responsible for school facilities shall post signs in system facilities in a manner and location that adequately notify staff,

students and visitors that the use of tobacco products by any person is prohibited at all times in or on school property.

6. The superintendent and designees shall ensure that adequate notice of this policy is provided to students, parents, school personnel and the public.
7. All school personnel are required to adhere to and enforce this policy and other policies, rules or regulations addressing the use of tobacco products.

Legal References: Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. 6081 *et seq.*; 21 U.S.C. 321(rr); 21 C.F.R. 1100 *et seq.*; G.S. 14-313; 115C-47(18), -407

Cross References: Tobacco Products – Students (policy 4320)

Adopted: February 9, 2015

Revised: February 12, 2018 (Legal references only); DATE

Replaces: Policy 3.08.70, Tobacco Use and policy 5.07.60, Tobacco Use

The policies listed below require the superintendent or other school system employees to report certain information to various external governmental agencies and officials. This list is not exhaustive of all external reporting requirements. In addition to the reporting requirements described in this policy, the superintendent or designee shall make any other reports to external governmental agencies or officials when required by law or regulation or when required as a condition of a federal grant or award (see policy 8305, Federal Grant Administration).

A. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION/DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

The superintendent must ensure that all required data, reports, and other information are submitted to the State Board of Education (SBE)/Department of Public Instruction, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. that a licensed individual has been found through a criminal records check to have a criminal history (see policy 7100, Recruitment and Selection of Personnel);
2. the reason for the resignation of certain licensed employees if the employee's criminal history is relevant to the resignation (see policy 7900, Resignation);
3. that certain licensed employees, who have been recommended for dismissal, have resigned without the superintendent's written consent (see policy 7900, Resignation);
4. parental involvement information as required by SBE Policy PRNT-002 and G.S. 115C-76.70 (see policy 4002, Parental Involvement);
5. certain crimes occurring on school property or on school sponsored field trips as required by 16 N.C.A.C. 6E .0107 (see policy 4335, Criminal Behavior);
6. if at least two violent criminal offenses and at least five or more such offenses per 1000 students were committed during each of the two most recent school years, any conditions in the school that may have contributed to the commission of the violent criminal offenses and any plans to eliminate such conditions; and each student transfer made pursuant to SBE Policy SSCH-006 (see policy 4152, Unsafe School Choice Transfer);
7. a copy of the Chemical Hygiene Plan (see policy 7265, Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Science Laboratories);
8. a plan for the literacy interventions the school system will offer in the following school year, as required by G.S. 115C-83.6A (see policy 3420, Student Promotion and Accountability);

9. the Watauga County Board of Education's determination of how each alternative school will participate in the State Alternative Schools' Accountability Model (see policy 3470/4305, Alternative Learning Programs/Schools);
10. the comparability testing report assessing the equivalent distribution of state and local resources among schools (see policy 3565/8307, Title I Program Comparability of Services);
11. mental health and student wellness information required by SBE Policy SHLT-003 (see policy 6120, Student Health Services);
12. a copy of policy 6140, Student Wellness, if requested (see policy 6140, Student Wellness);
13. a report that provides information pertaining to the school system's efforts to comply with policy 6140, Student Wellness, and SBE Policy SHLT-000 (see policy 6140, Student Wellness);
14. a copy of any threat assessment policies, procedures, or protocols when newly approved or revised (see policy 4200/7270, School Safety);
15. quantitative data on the activities of all threat assessment teams as required by G.S. 115C-105.65(g) and the North Carolina Center for Safer Schools guidance (see policy 4200/7270, School Safety); and
16. student disciplinary data.

In addition, any administrator who knows, has reason to believe, or has actual notice of a complaint that a licensed employee has engaged in misconduct that (1) would justify automatic revocation of the employee's license pursuant to G.S. 115C-270.35(b), has resulted in a criminal charge or indictment for any of the crimes listed in G.S. 115C-270.35(b), involved the infliction of physical injury against a child or student other than by accident or in self-defense, or involved any sexual contact with a child or student, and (2) resulted in dismissal, disciplinary action, or resignation shall report the misconduct to the SBE (see policy 7130, Licensure). If a licensed employee is dismissed, is demoted, or resigns as the result of conduct that is not covered by the preceding sentence but that may otherwise justify disciplinary sanctions against the employee's license under 16 N.C.A.C. 6C .0604, the superintendent or designee shall report the conduct to the SBE (see policy 7130, Licensure).

B. LAW ENFORCEMENT

School employees, contractors, and volunteers must report to local law enforcement when they know or reasonably should know that a child has been a victim of a sexual offense or an offense that inflicts serious bodily injury or serious physical injury upon the child by nonaccidental means or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit either

of those offenses, or misdemeanor child abuse (see policy 4240/7312, Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety).

Principals must report to law enforcement certain crimes occurring on school property (see policy 4335, Criminal Behavior, and policy 5027/7275, Weapons and Explosives Prohibited, and policy 7240, Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace, and administrative regulation 4200/7270-R, Responding to Bomb Threats).

School administrators and other supervisory personnel also must report to law enforcement when they reasonably believe that a registered sex offender is or has been on school property or at a school event (see policy 5022, Registered Sex Offenders).

The superintendent must provide law enforcement with (1) schematic diagrams of all school facilities, (2) updates of the schematic diagrams when the school system makes substantial facility modifications, (3) either keys to the main entrance of all school buildings or emergency access to key storage devices for all school buildings, and (4) updated access to school buildings when changes are made to the locks of the main entrances or to the key storage devices (see policies 4200/7270, School Safety, 5120, Relationship with Law Enforcement, and 9220, Security of Facilities).

C. LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Appropriate local emergency medical services officials must be notified of the location and most recent placement of AEDs within a reasonable period of time of placement (see policy 5028/6130/7267, Automated External Defibrillator).

D. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

School employees, contractors, and volunteers must report to the county department of social services if they suspect that a child is abused, neglected, dependent, or has died as the result of maltreatment (see policy 4240/7312, Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety).

E. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

School employees, contractors, and volunteers must report to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) if they have cause to suspect that a child in a child care facility has been maltreated by a caregiver or has died as a result of maltreatment occurring in a child care facility (see policy 4240/7312, Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety). The assistant superintendent of human resources also must notify DHHS if a child care provider has incurred any pending charges, indictments, or convictions (other than minor traffic offenses) since the last qualification letter was issued by DHHS's Division of Child Development and Early Education (see policy 7100, Recruitment and Selection of Personnel).

In addition, the principal shall provide DHHS with an annual immunization report and a

health assessment status report (see policy 4110, Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission).

F. COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The principal must report suspected cases of reportable diseases and conditions to the county health department (see policy 4230, Communicable Diseases – Students, and policy 7262, Communicable Diseases – Employees).

Supervisory personnel must report unsafe conduct to the county health department when they have a reasonable concern that such conduct may cause or may have caused the spread of a communicable disease (see policy 7262 Communicable Diseases – Employees).

G. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The superintendent must provide the Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management with (1) emergency response information it requests for the school risk management plan, (2) updated emergency response information when such updates are made, (3) schematic diagrams of all school facilities, and (4) updates of the schematic diagrams when the school system makes substantial facility modifications (see policies 4200/7270, School Safety, and 9220, Security of Facilities).

H. NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR MISSING PERSONS

School officials must report to the Center for Missing Persons any information received indicating that a student transferring into the school system is a missing child (see policy 4700, Student Records).

I. DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The following information must be provided to the Department of Administration: (1) all legally required reports regarding contract bids and contract purchases of goods and services from historically underutilized businesses, disabled business enterprises, and nonprofit work centers for the blind and the severely disabled (see policy 6402, Participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses); and (2) all legally required reports regarding the use of minority businesses in construction work (see policy 9125, Participation by Minority Businesses).

J. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The finance officer must provide notice to the board of county commissioners of any report received from the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System containing a list of employees whose retirement in the upcoming year would likely result in an assessment to the board for additional employer contribution (see policy 8510, School Finance Officer).

K. SECRETARY OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

The finance officer must submit reports to the Secretary of the Local Government Commission as required by law (see policy 8510, School Finance Officer).

L. FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Designated employees shall report required information regarding school system commercial motor vehicle operators through the federal Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (see policy 7241, Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators).

Legal References: 49 C.F.R. 382.705; G.S. 7B-301; 14-318.6; 110-105.4; 115C-12(27), -76.70, -83.6A, -105.53, -105.54, -105.65, -270.35, -288(g), -325(o)(2) (applicable to career status teachers), -325.9(b) (applicable to non-career status teachers), -326.20, -390.4(c), -403, -436, -446; 130A-136, -155, -441; 143-48, -128.3, -131; 10A N.C.A.C. 09 .2703(m); 16 N.C.A.C. 6C .0313, .0604, .0608; 16 N.C.A.C. 6E .0107; 16 N.C.A.C. 6G .0314; State Board of Education Policies PRNT-002, SHLT-000, SHLT-003, SSCH-006

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), School Safety (policy 4200/7270), Responding to Bomb Threats (administrative regulation 4200/7270-R), Student Promotion and Accountability (policy 3420), Alternative Learning Programs/Schools (policy 3470/4305), Title I Program Comparability of Services (policy 3565/8307), Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission (policy 4110), Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety (policy 4240/7312), Student Records (policy 4700), Registered Sex Offenders (policy 5022), Weapons and Explosives Prohibited (policy 5027/7275), Automated External Defibrillator (policy 5028/6130/7267), Relationship with Law Enforcement (policy 5120), Student Health Services (policy 6120), Student Wellness (policy 6140), Participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses (policy 6402), Recruitment and Selection of Personnel (policy 7100), Licensure (policy 7130), Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace (policy 7240), Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators (policy 7241), Communicable Diseases - Employees (policy 7262), Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Science Laboratories (policy 7265), Resignation (policy 7900), Federal Grant Administration (policy 8305), School Finance Officer (policy 8510), Participation by Minority Businesses (policy 9125), Security of Facilities (policy 9220)

Other Resources: *Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management: Best Practice Guidance for North Carolina Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Teams for Harm Prevention*, N.C. Department of Public Instruction Center for Safer Schools (March 2024), available at <http://www.dpi.nc.gov/best-practice-guidance-north-carolina-behavioral-threat-assessment-and-management-teams-harm>; Master Data Calendar, N.C. Department of Public Instruction, available at <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/data-calendar>

Adopted:

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 school employees to administer medication prescribed by a health care practitioner 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 all information required by State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003. ~~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; November 6, 2023; DATE

Replaces: Board policy 5.03.30, Student Health Services

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

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

A. SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

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

about the following areas or concerns: (1) physical activity, (2) health education, (3) employee wellness, (4) health services, (5) social and emotional climate, (6) nutrition environment and services, (7) counseling, psychological, and social services, (8) physical environment, (9) family engagement, and (10) community involvement.

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

B. NUTRITION PROMOTION AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. School Lunch, Breakfast and Snack Programs

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

2. Competitive Foods

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

Breakfast Programs ("competitive foods") must comply with the federal Smart Snacks in School standards. Competitive foods include food, snacks and beverages from a la carte menus, vending machines, and outside suppliers, as well as foods or beverages sold in school stores and at fund-raisers. Vending machine sales also must comply with the requirements of G.S. 115C-264.2.

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

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

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

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

4. Food and Beverage Marketing

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

D. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

1. Goals of the Physical Education Program

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

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

2. The Physical Education Course

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

3. Physical Activity Requirements and Goals

School personnel should strive to provide opportunities for age- and developmentally-appropriate physical activity during the day for all students in the interest of improving student mental health and so that students can learn how to maintain a physically active lifestyle. Schools must provide a minimum of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily for kindergarten through eighth-grade students. Such activity may be achieved through a regular daily physical education class as described in Sections D.1 and D.2 above, or through recess, dance, classroom energizers and/or other curriculum-based physical activity programs of at least 10 minutes duration, that, when combined, total 30 minutes of daily physical activity. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, students in grades 9-12 must be provided with 60 minutes of physical activity weekly. Principals shall work with teachers to ensure that students meet the minimum physical activity requirement. The board will periodically measure and report progress toward meeting these goals.

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

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

- K-8 schools and the high school will provide extra-curricular activities that enable students to select from a variety of sports and other active endeavors.
- Teachers will incorporate opportunities for physical activity in the classroom when possible.
- The K-8 schools will provide annual fitness testing for students in grades 3 through 8.

E. OTHER SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE WELLNESS

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

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

F. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW OF POLICY

1. Oversight and Monitoring of Implementation and Progress

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

2. Review of Policy

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

3. Annual Reporting

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

4. Triennial Assessment

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

- 1) the extent to which the individual schools are in compliance with this policy;
- 2) the extent to which the board's wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies and meets state and federal requirements; and

- 3) a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

The report may also include the following items:

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

G. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

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

H. RECORDKEEPING

The superintendent shall maintain records to document compliance with this policy and all

federal and state requirements. These records, at a minimum, must include:

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

Legal References: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, 42 U.S.C. 1751; Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, P.L. 111-296; National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*; 7 C.F.R. 210.11, 210.12, and 210.31; G.S. 115C-264.2; 16 N.C.A.C. 6H .0104; State Board of Education Policies CHNU-002, SHLT-000, SHLT-003-CHNU-002

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

Adopted: June 8, 2015

Replaces: Board Policy 4.01.80, Wellness Policy

Revised: January 15, 2018; November 13, 2018; January 13, 2020 (Legal references only); July 26, 2021; May 8, 2023; DATE