

**WATAUGA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**January Personnel Report
Board Meeting – January 12, 2026**

Resignations

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Amy Ashley		Cafeteria Employee	Resignation (12/4/2025)
Marcella “Marcye” Blatny	Hardin Park	Bus Driver	Retirement (12/31/2025)
Abigail Bumgarner	Mabel	Grade 5 Teacher	Other Employment (12/19/2025)
Matt Carpenter	WHS	Men’s Lacrosse Coach	Resignation (11/22/2025)
Hannah Carson	WHS	EC Teacher Assistant	Other Employment (1/26/2026)
Mackenzie Fox	WHS	EC Teacher	Resignation (12/19/2026)
Jennifer Franklin-Hurst	WHS	Science Teacher	Other Employment (1/19/2026)
Jill Gloster	Parkway	Bus Driver	Resignation (?????)
Elle Lowry	Parkway	Art Teacher	Other Employment (12/19/2025)
Kelly Parsons	Hardin Park	Middle Grades Math Teacher	Resignation (12/19/2025)
Kooper Poorbaugh	Bethel	Tutor	Resignation (12/13/2025)
Cheyenne Presnell	Valle Crucis	Pre-K Teacher Assistant	Family Responsibility (11/25/2025)

Certified Personnel

New Employment

Linda Baker

Parkway

Temporary Art Teacher

Ms. Baker earned a Bachelor’s degree in Art Education from Appalachian State University in December 2025. She completed her student teaching at Watauga High School during the fall semester of the 2025-2026 school year. Linda was employed by Patch’s Playhouse as a Pottery Studio Assistant and Afterschool Teacher from May 2021 until January 2022. Ms. Baker will apply for a North Carolina Professional Educator’s Certificate in the area of 00810 – Art (K-12).

Elizabeth Greene

Hardin Park

Temporary Middle Grades Math Teacher

Ms. Greene earned a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics Education from North Carolina State University in 2011. Elizabeth has taught Math at West Carteret High School (2012-2014 and 2018-2020), Watauga High School (2014-2018), West Wilkes Middle School (2020-2021), and Green Valley Elementary School (2021-2022). She obtained National Board Certification in the area of Mathematics – Adolescence and Young Adulthood in 2020. Ms. Greene will apply for a validated North Carolina Professional Educator’s Certificate in the areas of 00200 – Mathematics (grades 9-12) and 78200 – Middle Grades Mathematics (grades 6-9).

Claire Harvel

Mabel

Temporary Grade 5 Teacher

Ms. Harvel earned a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from Appalachian State University in December 2025. She completed her student teaching in second grade at Hardin Park Elementary School during the fall semester of the 2025-2026 school year. Claire has also worked as a Teacher Assistant at ASU’s Child Development Center and as a Summer Camp Counselor at Kid Cove Child Care. Ms. Harvel will apply for a North Carolina Professional Educator’s Certificate in the area of 00025 – Elementary Education (K-6).

Helena Jansen Figueras**WHS****Temporary Spanish Teacher**

Ms. Jansen Figueras earned a Bachelor's degree in Human Services from Appalachian State University in 2023 and completed the requirements for a Master's degree in Communication from Queens University in 2025. Helena has coached Tennis at Topten Tennis Academy in Spain, Deer Valley Racquet Club, and Queens University. She fluently speaks Spanish, Portuguese, and Catalan. Ms. Jansen Figueras will apply for a Permit to Teach North Carolina Professional Educator's Certificate.

Sydney Loftis**Hardin Park****Temporary Grade 5 Science Teacher**

Ms. Loftis earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Appalachian State University in December 2025 and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Literacy Education. Sydney completed her student teaching in kindergarten at Blowing Rock Elementary School during the fall semester of the 2025-2026 school year. Sydney will apply for a North Carolina Professional Educator's Certificate in the area of 00025 – Elementary Education (K-6).

Ruth Ann Marotta**County-Wide****Temporary ESL Teacher**

Ms. Marotta earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Tennessee Tech University in 1997. She earned a Master's in Creative Writing in 2001 from Southern Illinois University. Ruth Ann earned a second Master's degree in Teaching English in 2011 from East Tennessee State University. Ms. Marotta has taught English at Southern Illinois University, Northeast State Community College, East Tennessee State University, Appalachian State University, Emory & Henry University, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She has also served as an ESL Teacher with Yancy County Schools and as an ESL Tutor with Unicoi County Schools and East Tennessee State University. Ruth Ann holds a valid North Carolina Professional Educator's Certificate in the following areas: 00100 – English (grades 9-12), 00110 – English as a Second Language (K-12), and 78180 – Middle Grades Language Arts (grades 6-9).

Extended Employment for Remainder of 2025-2026 School Year

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current Assignment</u>	<u>Employment Extension</u>
Allen Ingram	Middle Grades Teacher at Valle Crucis	Part-Time Custodian at Valle Crucis

Classified Personnel**New Employment**

Rachel Andrade	County-Wide	Cafeteria Substitute
Samantha Bradshaw	WHS	Cafeteria Employee
Elizabeth "Betsy" Bretz	Hardin Park	After School Group Leader
Caroline Bryson	Hardin Park	After School Group Leader
Jeremiah Ford	Bus Garage	Mechanic
Rachel MacFarland	Central Office	Accounts Payable
Olivia Pound	WHS	Temporary ISS Coordinator
Emily Wilson	Central Office/WHS	Technology Technician I
Amy Yount	Hardin Park	After School Group Leader

Transfer of Assignment for Remainder of 2025-2026 School Year

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current Assignment</u>	<u>New Assignment for 2025-2026 School Year</u>
Hakisha Crawford	Bus Monitor at Cove Creek & WHS	Bus Driver at Hardin Park
Genevieve Frawley	After School Group Leader at Hardin Park	After School Substitute
Lisa Harmon	Cafeteria Manager at Bethel	Bus Driver at Valle Crucis
Joshua Matheson	Cafeteria Employee at Bethel	Cafeteria Manager at Bethel

Extended Employment for Remainder of 2025-2026 School Year

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current Assignment</u>	<u>Employment Extension</u>
Caroline Shelkey	EC Teacher Assistant at WHS	Bus Monitor at WHS

Substitutes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Kathleen Bartemes	Bachelor's Degree	Previous Substitute
Emily Crain	Master's Degree	Admissions Counselor at Lees-McRae College
Carol Critcher*	Educational Specialist Degree	Retired WCS Media Specialist
Steven Furr	Master's Degree	Cottage Parent at Crossnore School & Children's Home
Calista Giles*	Bachelor's Degree	Retired WCS Teacher
Curtis Hubbard	Master's Degree	High School Band & Orchestra Teacher
Ralph "Bill" Mathews	Bachelor's Degree	Previous Substitute
Kiah Mathis	College – 2 Years	After School Employee at Valle Crucis
Cheyenne Presnell	Early Education Certificate	Pre-K Teacher Assistant at Valle Crucis
Paige Roten	College – 2 Years	Classroom Volunteer
Stephanie Rudisill	Bachelor's Degree	ASU Lab Instructor
Matias Akers	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Katherine Anderson	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Cove Creek
Katie Baker	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Emma Beam	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Gracen Breckenridge	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Jordan Brooks	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Bethel
Katie Collins	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Blowing Rock
Taylor Conlogue	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Blowing Rock
Chase Critcher	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Caitlin Curatolo	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Stephen Davis	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Mabel
Mia Dontino	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Amelia Fernald	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Sierra Fridinger	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
John Geese	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Katie Geschickter	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Ava Ghamsari	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Valle Crucis
Emma Greer	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Cove Creek
Adelle Hayes	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Lauren Huneycutt	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Jordy Jackson	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Valle Crucis
Amanda Jacobs	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Green Valley
Mary Johnson	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Valle Crucis

Morgan Kibble	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Blowing Rock
Jessica Kraynak	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Green Valley
Cassidy Lamoureux	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Isabella Lantz	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Jake Lathrop	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Mabel
Ashlinn Laverty	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
Sydney Lockhart	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Cove Creek
Hannah Mckee	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Amari Mealy	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Blowing Rock
Hannah Mullis	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
McKenna Phelps	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Mabel
Caroline Ragland	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Green Valley
Lillian Russell-Pinson	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Jordan Sabbaghrabaiotti	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
Madelyn Shepard	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Cove Creek
Jordan Sherrill	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Samuel Sipling	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Mason Smargissi	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
Taylor Smith	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Blowing Rock
Carson Street	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Cove Creek
Emily Tatur	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
Lillian Wagner	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Parkway
Olivia Wasson	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Elizabeth Webster	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at WHS
Chloe Wilburn	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Hardin Park
Natalie Wooten	College – 3 Years	Student Teacher at Green Valley
* Retired North Carolina Professional Educator		

Long-Term Substitute

Louisa Currie	WHS	Exceptional Children
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