



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 July 13, 2026

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 4:30 p.m. | 1. CALL TO ORDER | Board Chair |
| 4:33 p.m. | 2. CLOSED SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 6/22/2026B. 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 |
| 6:30 p.m. | 3. OPEN SESSION CALL TO ORDER | Board Chair |
| 6:31 p.m.: | 4. DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA | Board Chair |
| 6:33 p.m. | 5. CONSENT AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Approval of the Minutes for 6/22/2026B. Field Trip RequestC. Declaration of SurplusD. 2026-27 WCS After School Rates/FeesE. FEMA Slope Failure ProjectF. Superintendent's Amended ContractG. Personnel Report | Board Chair |
| 6:35 p.m. | 6. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE RFQ
FOR ARTIFICIAL TURF | Board Chair |
| 6:40 p.m. | 7. POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1310/4000 (WCBE 4002): Parental Involvement• 2330 (WCBE 1430): Board Meeting Agenda• 2340 (WCBE 1440): Parliamentary Procedures• 3225/4312/7320: Technology Responsible Use• 4318: Use of Wireless Communication Devices• 4342: Student Searches• 5071/7351: Electronically Stored Information Retention | Dr. Tierra Stark |

- 6220: Operation of School Nutrition Services
- 7130: Licensure

7:05 p.m. 8. BOARD OPERATIONS Board Chair

7:10 p.m. 9. BOARD COMMENTS Board Chair

7:15 p.m. 10. ADJOURNMENT Board Chair



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WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: June 22, 2026

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Margaret E. Gragg Education Center

PRESENT:

- Marshall Ashcraft, Gary Childers, Alison Idol, Adam Hege, *BOE Members*
- Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Board Chair Dr. Gary Childers called the open session to order at 6:05 p.m. He welcomed those in attendance and asked everyone to observe a moment of silence. He acknowledged Board member Jay Fenwick's absence from the meeting and welcomed Marshall Ashcraft back to the Board.

DISCUSSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There was no discussion or adjustment of the agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Alexander expressed pride in the accomplishments of the 2025–26 school year, noting that these successes reflect the hard work and dedication of students, staff, families, and community partners.
- There are 47 students participating in Summer Reading Camps at the Green Valley and Mabel sites.
- The summer will include professional development for principals, district leaders, and other educators. Teachers will return on August 11, and students will return on August 17. The “Back 2 School Festival” will be held on Saturday, August 8.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

★ Resolutions of Achievement

Dr. Alexander and Board Chair Gary Childers recognized five outstanding spring athletic teams for their achievements with formal resolutions:

- Watauga High School Men's Tennis Team, Head Coach David Peeler and Assistant Coach Clinton Marsh for a successful season as the *2026 Northwestern 6A/7A Co-Champions* (tied with South Caldwell)

- Paul Bloemendaal, Evan Cutlip, Jaxson Marsh, and Sam Marsh were named Northwestern 6A/7A All-Conference players.
- Coach David Peeler was named the Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Coach of the Year.
- Watauga High School Women's Soccer Team, Head Coach Ash Morgan and Assistant Coach Jamie Raymond for an accomplished season as the *2026 Northwestern 6A/7A Co-Champions* (tied with St. Stephens)
 - Amelia Bennett, Mattie Durham, Savannah Duvall, Lizzie Laurencio, Samantha Morgan, Savannah Rogers, Mary Flynn Sevensky, Paige Shuman, and Chloe Weigl were named Northwestern 6A/7A All-Conference players.
 - Coach Ash Morgan was named the Northwestern 6A/7A Coach of the Year.
- Watauga High School Men's Golf Team, Head Coach Klay Anderson and Assistant Coaches Jerry Moretz & Jason Phelps for their remarkable performance as the *2026 Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Champions*
 - Oliver Lewis, Leo McEvoy, Chris Moore, and Jake Warren were named Northwestern 6A/7A All-Conference players.
 - Klay Anderson was named the Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Coach of the Year.
- Watauga High School Men's Outdoor Track & Field Team, Head Coach Scott Townsend, Assistant Coaches Matt Anderson, Adam Gilbert, Angela Honeycutt, Olivia Kop, Will Logan, Alayna McLaughlin, Trey Thompson, and Kevin Yandle for their outstanding successes as the *2026 Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Champions, the NCHSAA 6A West Regional Runner-Up, and the NCHSAA 6A State Runner-Up*
 - In addition to numerous athletes establishing new school records, Coy Johnson captured the NCHSAA 6A state championship in the shot put, and Nyle Peays captured the title in the 300-meter hurdles.
 - Levi Anderson, James Bostrom, Riley Ellison, Coy Johnson, Matthew Leon, Julian Miranda-Aponte, Nyle Peays, Eli Reed, Zeke Walker, Parker Williams, were named Northwestern 6A/7A All-Conference players.
 - Riley Ellison, Coy Johnson, and Nyle Peays were recognized as All-American by the National High School Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.
 - Riley Ellison earned Northwestern 6A/7A Track & Field All-Conference Co-Athlete of the Year honors; Nyle Peays was recognized as the Northwestern 6A/7A Track & Field All-Conference Overall Athlete of the Year; and Coy Johnson received the NC Farm Bureau Sportsmanship Award at the NCHSAA 6A State Championship.
 - Coach Scott Townsend was named the Northwestern 6A/7A Track & Field All-Conference Coach of the Year.
- Watauga High School Women's Outdoor Track & Field Team, Head Coach Kimberly Kop, Assistant Coaches Matt Anderson, Adam Gilbert, Angela Honeycutt, Will Logan, Trey Thompson, & Kevin Yandle for their exceptional achievements as the *2026 Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Champions, NCHSAA 6A West Regional Champions, and the NCHSAA 6A State Runner-Up*
 - Numerous athletes established new records and earned first- and second-place finishes in individual and relay events, including Tessa Buchanan, who captured the NCHSAA 6A West Regional Championship in the 300-meter hurdles, and Cali Townsend, who captured the title in the 1600-meter run.
 - Sydney Helms claimed the NCHSAA 6A state championship in the pole vault, and Lily Stough claimed the title in the long jump.

- Tessa Buchanan, Mackenzy Cheek, Vivian Hans, Ellie Helms, Sydney Helms, Ember Honeycutt, Lainey Johnston, Lily Kimbro, Hannah Kop, Sophia Kop, Eden Krenzin, Josie Mayo, Gracyn Phelps, Sophie Robbins, Charlotte Rosenbalm, Grace Scantlin, Lily Stough, Cali Townsend, and Sydney Townsend were named Northwestern 6A/7A All-Conference players.
- Tessa Buchanan, Lily Stough, and Cali Townsend were recognized as All-American by the National High School Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.
- Cali Townsend earned Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Track Athlete of the Year honors; Lily Stough earned recognition as the Northwestern 6A/7A Overall Conference Athlete of the Year and was named the Most Outstanding Female Athlete at the 2026 NCHSAA 6A Outdoor Track & Field State Championship; and Sophie Robbins received the NC Farm Bureau Sportsmanship Award at the NCHSAA 6A State Championship.

Several coaches, along with Athletic Director Dustin Kerley, offered remarks, expressing appreciation for the support they receive that helps their teams succeed.

★ **Recognition of Retirement**

Chief Academic Officer Phil Norman was recognized by the Board for his retirement following a decades-long career in education. Prior to entering public education, he served in the United States Navy. He began his education career as a middle grades math teacher in San Diego Unified School District and later served in Wake County Schools as a middle grades math and science teacher and assistant principal. Mr. Norman joined Watauga County Schools in 2005, where he served as assistant principal at Hardin Park for nine years, principal of Green Valley School for five years, and principal of Hardin Park for four years. For the past three years, he has served as Chief Academic Officer, providing instructional leadership, supporting staff development, and maintaining a strong focus on student success.

Dr. Alexander noted that his impact will be felt for years to come, and Dr. Brian Bettis described Mr. Norman's career as "service to others." Mr. Norman said, "I am very grateful for all of those positions, and just feel like I have lived a really blessed life." The district expressed appreciation for his many contributions to Watauga County Schools.

★ **Announcement of New Principal Appointments**

Dr. Alexander announced two principal appointments:

- Daniel Machon has been named principal of Bethel School, as Ricky Ward accepts the position of principal of Avery High School. Mr. Machon has 2.5 years of experience as an assistant principal at Watauga High School/Watauga Innovation Academy. He previously taught kindergarten at Parkway School for five years and completed his North Carolina Principal Fellows internship at Valle Crucis School.
- Farzana Stanley will be the new principal of Cove Creek School as Scott Carter assumes a new role as Director of Watauga Parks and Recreation. Mrs. Stanley has served as assistant principal at Valle Crucis, Green Valley, and Hardin Park schools. In addition to serving as a classroom teacher and curriculum facilitator, she spent a year at Hardin Park as a reading and math interventionist.

Mr. Machon and Mrs. Stanley expressed excitement and appreciation for the opportunity to lead their respective schools.

A 10-minute recess was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Julia Moretz commented on the difficulty of hearing in certain areas of the new Valle Crucis School when crowds are present and expressed the need for additional acoustic panels to improve sound quality.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for 5/11/2026
- B. Declaration of Surplus
- C. 2026-27 Request for Adoption of Interim Continuing Budget Resolution
- D. 2026-27 NC Driving School Contract
- E. Personnel Report

Marshall Ashcraft moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including the Personnel Report addendum. Alison Idol seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ACTION: 2025-26 BUDGET AMENDMENT #4

Chief Financial Officer Joe Nash requested that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

- Fund 1/Purpose Code 5000 - Additional state allotments include:
 - Annual Leave Payouts and Longevity: \$275,000
- Fund 1, Purpose Code 6000 - Additional state allotments include:
 - Annual Leave Payouts and Longevity: \$95,000
 - Transportation for Homeless and Foster Students: \$664
- Fund 2 - Move \$6,000 from Purpose Code 6000 to 8000 for Charter Schools.

Adam Hege made a motion to approve 2025–26 Budget Amendment #4. Marshall Ashcraft seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by all Board members.

ACTION: RENEWAL OF INSURANCE POLICIES

- Automobile
- Liability
- Property

CFO Joe Nash recommended that the Watauga County Board of Education continue its agreement with the North Carolina School Boards Trust Automobile Liability and Physical Damage policy for \$32,677 and the Errors & Omissions/General Liability Fund for \$10,228. Due to his membership on the NCSBT Board, Dr. Gary Childers recused himself from the vote. Vice-Chair Alison Idol called for a motion, which was made by Marshall Ashcraft to approve the continuation of the two policies. Dr. Adam Hege seconded the motion, and it carried.

Mr. Nash recommended that the Board approve the renewal of the district's property insurance and workers' compensation insurance policies for the 2026–27 fiscal year. He further recommended authorizing the Superintendent to finalize negotiations and execute the respective renewal contracts, not

to exceed \$232,693 for property insurance and \$151,754 for workers' compensation insurance, subject to final pre-audit certification by the Finance Officer. Dr. Adam Hege made a motion to approve the recommendation for property insurance. Marshall Ashcraft seconded, and the motion was approved by all Board members. Marshall Ashcraft then made a motion to approve the recommendation for workers' compensation insurance. Dr. Adam Hege seconded, and the Board approved the motion.

PROPOSAL FOR WRESTLING FACILITY

John Grasinger, assistant coach for the Watauga High School men's wrestling team, and Bobby Plemons, a parent of a team member, presented an overview of the wrestling program and its participation statistics. They then asked the Board to consider constructing a dedicated wrestling facility at Watauga High School. Dr. Gary Childers expressed appreciation for their interest in and support of the wrestling program but noted that additional time and information would be needed before the Board could move forward. Dr. Alexander requested a conceptual layout of the proposed facility and parking area for the Board's consideration. She also thanked Athletic Director Dustin Kerley, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chris Blanton, and Watauga High School/Innovation Academy Principal Dr. Scott Strickler for their continued support of the district's athletic programs.

RESOLUTION FOR THE DESIGN-BUILD CONSTRUCTION METHOD FOR INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL TURF (for WHS Baseball and Flag Football Facility)

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chris Blanton reported that the NCHSAA has sanctioned two new sports: Women's Flag Football and Men's Volleyball. Watauga County Schools is exploring the use of the Design-Build method for the installation of artificial turf at the Watauga High School baseball facility, which will also support the upcoming flag football program. The Board reached unanimous consensus to proceed with the Design-Build method of construction delivery for the WHS Baseball and Flag Football Field Artificial Turf Resurfacing Project. The Superintendent will develop project requirements and issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit firms to design and construct the project.

POLICIES: SUBSTANTIVE FOR FIRST READ

- 1510/4200/7270: School Safety
- 3430: School Improvement Plan
- 3565/8307: Title I Program Comparability of Services
- 4001: Equal Educational Opportunities
- 7530: Military Leave

Dr. Tierra Stark, Director of Accountability and Federal Programs, presented minor revisions to five Board policies for first read. Marshall Ashcraft made a motion to approve the policies as amended. Dr. Adam Hege seconded the motion, and the Board approved the motion unanimously.

BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM PLAN

Dr. Katie Barbee, Director of K–8 Curriculum, presented an overview of the Watauga County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP). State policy requires all teachers with fewer than three years of experience, regardless of licensure type or pathway, to participate in the program for three years. During the 2025–26 school year, Watauga County Schools served 51 beginning teachers with the support

of 50 mentors. Dr. Barbee reviewed the program's survey requirements, which include feedback from beginning teachers, principals, and Educator Preparation Programs. She also outlined the components of the district's BTSP plan, including orientation, mentor assignments, professional development, observations and evaluations, program monitoring, peer review, and records management. The local plan aligns with current state requirements and policies.

Alison Idol made a motion to approve the Watauga County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Plan as presented. Dr. Adam Hege seconded the motion, and it was approved by all Board members.

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT END-OF-YEAR SUMMARY

Chief Academic Officer Phil Norman and Director of Elementary Education Dr. Brian Bettis provided a curriculum update for the 2025–26 school year. They shared EOG, EOC, mClass, and ACT WorkKeys results, noting overall increases in student proficiency across grade levels and subject areas, including a 10% increase in Grade 3 EOG proficiency, a 7% increase in combined high school EOC proficiency, and gains in Biology and Math I. Retesting efforts resulted in 161 K–8 students moving to proficient. They also highlighted K–3 literacy results, summer intervention and reteaching opportunities, and recent MTSS professional development, including Behavior Team Training and the District Facilitated Assessment of MTSS (FAM-D).

BOARD OPERATIONS

- Dr. Childers shared an updated Board of Education committee list.
- The July 13 Board of Education work session will begin at 12:00 p.m. at BREMCO, followed by a closed session at the Margaret E. Gragg Center. The open session will be limited to approving the Consent Agenda and discussing policies for first reading.

BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Childers remarked that the NCSBA Summer Leadership Conference was “the best one” he had attended.

ADJOURNMENT

Alison Idol made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Adam Hege. The motion was approved by all members, and the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Dr. Gary Childers, *Board of Education Chair*

Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent*

WATAUGA COUNTY FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

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

Day and overnight trips must be submitted to the principal 15 days before the trip. In-state overnight requests require the approval of the principal, Transportation Director, and Superintendent. Out-of-state field trip requests must be submitted to the Superintendent by the first day of each month, and require 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) Kim Pryor School: Watauga High School

Cell phone number: 828-773-3330 Grade(s): 9-12 Number of students: 18

Departure date: 8/8/26 Return date: 8/10/26

Departure time: 8:00 AM Return time: 5 PM

Educational purpose:

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

Isle of Palms + Charleston, SC
#1 55th Avenue; Isle of Palms, SC

Purpose of trip and how it relates to the curriculum: We will travel to Isle of Palms and Charleston for our varsity retreat. The purpose is to break away as a team and bond before our season begins.

Supervision and Safety:

Names of all school staff chaperones: Kim Pryor, Casey Gragg, Becca Burigamer, Susan Miller, Brittany Belick

Names of all non-school chaperones: _____

All chaperones have a background check completed: ☒ Sponsoring teacher initials: KP
Are all site(s) accessible to students with disabilities? ☒ yes ☐ no How will students with disabilities be
accommodated for site access and transportation? _____

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) KP

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) _____

(If applicable, bus request form must be attached)

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

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

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

Approval/Signatures:

Sponsoring teacher signature: [Signature] Date: 6 / 28 / 26

Principal approval: [Signature] Date: 6 / 29 / 26

Required signatures if applicable:

Transportation Director approval: [Signature] Date: 6 / 30 / 26

Superintendent approval: [Signature] Date: 6 / 30 / 26

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



**Watauga Volleyball
2026 Varsity Retreat**

Thursday

All Day Scrimmage at Marvin Ridge
Spend the night near Charlotte at hotel

Friday

8 am Travel to Isle of Palms in an activity bus
3 Arrive at beach house
4 Beach/Pool
6-7 Dinner at residence
7-9 Team Bonding
12 am Bedtime

Saturday

9-10 Breakfast
11-1 Beach Volleyball Tournament
1-5 Beach/Time
5-6 Team Building
6-7 Dinner
7-9 Team Questions/Games
12 am Bedtime

Sunday

9-10 Breakfast
11-1 Beach Volleyball Tournament/Activities
1-5 Beach/Time
5-6 Team Building
6-7 Dinner
7-9 Team Questions/Games
12 am Bedtime

Varsity Roster

TBD

****All coaches are CPR/AED certified (certification uploaded in Family ID)**

****All activities will be under the supervision of our staff, including all pool activities being supervised by an adult chaperone; water plan attached**



Water Activity Safety Plan

6/28/26

On Thursday, August 6 - 10, 2025 the Watauga Volleyball team will travel to Isle of Palms for our annual varsity retreat. The team will stay in a hotel on Thursday then a residence with a pool and hot tub and access to the beach on Friday-Monday. The following protocols will be followed:

- Kim Pryor, Casey Gragg, Becca Bumgarner, Susan Miller, and Brittany Bolick will chaperone the trip and are CPR-certified and one of these chaperones will be near the pool anytime the team is outside in proximity to the pool or hot tub or beach.
- Clear rules for pool and hot tub use will be discussed with the team and no horseplay or diving will be permitted.
- The team will only be allowed on the beach and in the water if 1 adult chaperone is on the beach with them. Isle of Palms Park has certified lifeguards on duty.
- There will be a curfew for the team to ensure that the girls are inside the residence by midnight each night and no one on the team will be allowed outside the residence in the mornings until accompanied by a chaperone.

If more details need to be added to this plan or clarification is required, please contact Kim Pryor at pryor@wataugaschools.org or 828-773-3330.

Declaration of Surplus Items - JULY 2026

Date Approved: _____

Bethel

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
100733	1	TABLE- CAFE BLUE		1
NONE	1	BOOKSHELF- WOODEN BLACK		1
2			0	2

Blowing Rock

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
51740	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51958	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33432	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35279	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35280	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35287	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35292	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35299	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35303	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35307	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35312	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35318	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35320	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35325	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35329	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35330	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35332	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35487	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35624	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35625	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35632	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35294	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35284	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35285	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35286	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35290	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35296	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35298	1	CHROMEBOOK		1

35316	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
35322	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
35291	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
34195	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
34208	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36289	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36291	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36315	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36316	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
42089	1 ACCESS POINT- WIRELESS		1
NONE	2 DESK- LARGE BLACK		2
NONE	1 PROJECTOR		1
NONE	13 CHAIRS- ROCKING		13
NONE	1 CHEST- WOODEN		1
NONE	2 SMARTBOARDS		2
NONE	1 WHITEBOARD W/ GRID		1
NONE	1 CABINET- FILING 2 DRAWER	1	
NONE	1 CABINET- FILING 2 DRAWER-TAN		1
NONE	1 DESK- STUDENT		1
NONE	8 STOOLS		8
NONE	1 TABLE- LOWER OVAL	1	
NONE	1 POPCORN MACHINE		1
NONE	1 TERRARIUM		1
NONE	1 CHAIR- BLK LEATHER OFFICE		1
NONE	5 DIVIDERS- PLEXIGLASS		5
NONE	1 CABINET- PLAY TENT/BOOK SHELF		1
NONE	10 CHAIRS- STUDENT- BURGUNDY		10
NONE	4 CHAIRS- STUDENT- RED		4
NONE	9 CHAIRS- WOODEN		9
NONE	1 CHAIR- WICKER		1
NONE	5 RUGS		5
NONE	1 CART- BOOK	1	
NONE	3 CHAIRS- PLASTIC- BLUE		3
NONE	4 CHAIRS- STUDENT- YELLOW		4

116

3

113

Cove Creek

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	2	STUDENT CHAIR		2
NONE	1	STERILIZER- GOOGLE		1

42112

1 ACCESS POINT- WIRELESS

1

4

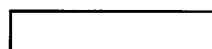
0

4

Green Valley

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
400415	1	iPAD		1
51834	1	WET/DRY VAC		1
51723	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33215	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33174	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33213	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33491	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33482	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33483	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33488	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33489	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33490	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33502	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33659	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51931	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34081	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34083	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34087	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34102	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34104	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34109	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34121	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34086	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34088	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34483	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34486	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34487	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34504	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34509	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34515	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52298	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52300	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
401100	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35511	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35514	1	CHROMEBOOK		1

35586	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35587	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35589	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35590	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35591	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35593	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35595	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35596	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35598	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35599	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35600	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35601	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35602	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
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35617	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35618	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35619	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35630	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35631	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35633	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35634	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35635	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35592	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35515	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36357	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36358	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36298	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36300	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36302	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36354	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36355	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
51723	1 CHROMEBOOK	1



75



0

75

Hardin Park

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
900184	1	LAPTOP- HP PROBOOK		1
NONE	1	SCOREBOARD- FF FIELD		1
NONE	1	TABLE- WOODEN PICNIC		1
501230	1	MOWER- RIDING HUSQVARNA		1
33352	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
33407	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
33410	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
33417	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
33735	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34320	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34359	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34386	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34711	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34717	1	CHROMEBOOK 100e		1
34398	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
33510	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
33519	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
36281	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
51744	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
36262	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
52094	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
33563	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34929	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
35576	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34943	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
33564	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
51651	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34311	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34319	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
36266	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
36271	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
36268	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
33516	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
52257	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
35477	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34488	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34914	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
34931	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1
35469	1	CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO		1

34330	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34494	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
33527	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36264	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
33539	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
33524	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34358	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34491	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34493	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
33531	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
33538	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34497	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34498	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34506	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34511	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34514	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52275	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52287	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52303	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52299	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52293	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52289	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52302	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34962	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36273	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
35416	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
35571	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36356	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36252	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34939	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36259	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36348	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36250	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36249	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36246	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36253	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36245	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36348	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36350	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36278	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34890	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36290	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36261	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1

52308	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36260	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36277	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36256	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36255	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36258	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36243	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36263	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36280	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36279	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36352	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36269	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36267	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36265	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36248	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
35438	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
31389	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34976	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
52204	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51937	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51929	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34398	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51936	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51938	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51935	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
51928	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
34510	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36301	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1
36276	1 CHROMEBOOK- LENOVO	1

111

0	111
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Mabel

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

Parkway

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
51660	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51661	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51663	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51664	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51665	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51666	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51729	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51731	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51732	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51741	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51743	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51810	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33240	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51900	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51901	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51903	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
51902	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
33976	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34251	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34262	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34302	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34306	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34536	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34525	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52101	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52102	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34663	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
34668	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35871	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52269	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
52270	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35346	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35354	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35398	1	CHROMEBOOK		1
35519	1	CHROMEBOOK		1

35520	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35636	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35647	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35662	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35674	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
35343	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36201	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36202	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36203	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36205	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36206	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36207	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36209	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36213	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36214	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36215	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36216	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36217	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36218	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36220	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36222	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36223	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36224	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36226	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36227	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36228	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36231	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36232	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36233	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36235	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36238	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36240	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36282	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36284	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36285	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36287	1 CHROMEBOOK	1
36292	1 CHROMEBOOK	1

36295	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36296	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36297	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36303	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36304	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36305	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36307	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36308	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36309	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36310	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36311	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36360	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36361	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36362	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36364	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36365	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36366	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
36367	1 CHROMEBOOK		1
NONE	15 TABLES- CLASSROOM/CONFERENCE	15	
NONE	5 CABINETS- FILING	5	
NONE	2 CABINET- STORAGE	2	
NONE	75 CHAIRS- K-2 STUDENTS	75	
NONE	50 DESKS- STUDENT	50	
NONE	1 DESK- TEACHER WOODEN	1	
NONE	1 CABINET- ROLLING WOODEN	1	
NONE	1 SHELF- ROLLING WOODEN	1	
NONE	2 DESK- LAREGE LIBRARY	2	

242

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152

90

Valle Crucis

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
36392	1	CHROMEBOOK- 100e		1
35263	1	LAPTOP- HP ELITEBOOK		1
35258	1	LAPTOP- HP ELITEBOOK		1

3

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0

3

Watauga High School

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
900828	1	SMARTBOARD 680		1
51941	1	LAPTOP- HP PROBOOK		1
29888	1	PROJECTOR- POWERLITE		1
42345	1	ACCESS POINT- WIRELESS		1
4			0	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>
NONE	1	CLOCK- IP VALCOM		1
NONE	3	COMPUTER EQUIP-MISC		3
NONE	8	KEYBOARDS		8
NONE	11	CAMERA- IP SECURITY		11
NONE	5	PHONES- IP CISCO		5
28			0	28

Transportation Department

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

Maintenance Department

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

Child Nutrition

<u>Asset #</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usable</u>	<u>Unusable</u>
NONE	1	MILK BOX		1
NONE	1	TILT-SKILLET		1
NONE	1	STEAMER- CONVECTION		1
NONE	1	WASHING MACHINE		1
	4		0	4

Watauga County Schools
2026-27
After School Rates and Fees
Presented to the BOE 07/13/2026

AFTER SCHOOL - MONTHLY FEES PER CHILD

<u># days per week</u>	<u>REGULAR RATE</u>	<u>**Reduced</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>WCS</u>	<u>Employee</u>
		<u>Scholarship</u>		<u>Scholarship</u>	
3 days or less	\$215.00	N/A		\$40.00	
4	\$280.00	\$140.00		\$47.00	
5	\$290.00	\$145.00		\$57.00	

SNOW DAY PROGRAM FEES- PER DAY, PER CHILD

9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Per Day	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$10
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PREDETERMINED SCHOOL CLOSURES PROGRAM FEES - PER DAY, PER CHILD
(such as teacher workdays or PD days)

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Per Day	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$10
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***The reduced rate is available only to low-income families who do not qualify for child care subsidies from the Department of Social Services and who meet specific criteria.*

Other fees and charges:

1. Unscheduled use rate After-school: \$35/day for kids not enrolled
2. Unscheduled Early Release Rate: \$40 / day for kids not enrolled
3. Unscheduled use rate After-school: \$20 / day for kids that are enrolled
4. Unscheduled Early Release Rate: \$25 / day for kids that are enrolled
5. Late payment fee: \$10.00 first 2 times, \$15.00 thereafter
6. Late pickup charge: \$1.00 per minute after 6:00
7. Returned check fee: Determined and collected by a private contractor – not a revenue for the after-school program.

Last Revision
06/08/2026



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

MEMORANDUM

To: Watauga County Board of Education Members

From: Dr. Leslie Alexander, *Superintendent* and Dr. Chris Blanton, *Assistant Superintendent*

Date: July 13, 2026

RE: Request for Approval for FEMA Slope Failure Project

A Request for Proposals was issued for the FEMA Slope Failure Project to repair the washout located at the Maintenance Building. Two proposals were received in response to the RFP:

- Andrews Construction & Grading, LLC: \$168,150
- Estate Maintenance Company: \$125,000

The Board is requested to consider awarding the contract to Estate Maintenance Company in the amount of \$125,000. Estate Maintenance Company submitted the lower of the two proposals received and meets the project requirements.

Requested Board Action:

Approve the recommendation to award the FEMA Slope Failure Project contract to **Estate Maintenance Company** in the amount of **\$125,000** for the repair of the washout at the Maintenance Building.

Andrews Construction & Grading LLC
 130 Birchwood Drive
 Boone, NC 28607 US
 8287739542
 n.andrewsconstruction@yahoo.com

Estimate



ADDRESS
Watauga County Board of Education

SHIP TO
Watauga County Board of Education

ESTIMATE #	DATE	
1346	01/11/2026	

P.O. NUMBER

Slope Failure Job at Bus Garage

DATE		DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	Site work	General - Mobilization Project Management Site Cleaning Porta John			7,500.00
	Site work	Erosion Control - Silt Fence Hydroseed Erosion Matting Silt Fence cleanup			5,000.00
	Site work	Clearing and Debris Removal - Clearing of area to create road to the bottom of the slide area Cleanup and removal of debris left on county land at the bottom of the slide, no cleanup on neighboring property included.			7,000.00
	Site work	Excavation and Grading - Excavation to create a bench at the bottom of the slide Import of structural fill dirt Installation and compaction of fill dirt in lifts Installation of geogrid in 2' lifts			148,650.00

TOTAL

\$168,150.00

Accepted By

Accepted Date

Estate Maintenance Company

2260 AHO ROAD
BOONE, NC 28607
828-264-7441

MAY 2, 2025

WATAUGA COUNTY SCHOOLS
251 PIONEER TRAIL
BOONE, NC 28607
ATTN: ERIC BOLICK

PROPOSAL

ESTATE MAINTENANCE PROPOSES TO REPAIR WASH OUT AT MAINTENANCE SHOP.

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS TO DIG THE BANK DOWN BEHIND MAINTENANCE SHOP TO SOURCE THE DIRT FOR THE WASH OUT. THE WASH OUT WILL BE FILLED IN TWO FOOT LIFTS WITH GEO TEXTILE FABRIC AND COMPACTED WITH VIBRATORY ROLLER. THE DIRT AFFECTED AREA WILL BE HYDROSEEDDED.

THE TOTAL ESTIMATE FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE \$125,000.00.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO PRICE THIS PROJECT FOR YOU.

SPECIAL NOTE: IF UNFORSEEN COMPLICATIONS SHOULD ARISE DURING PROJECT MAINTENANCE WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE PRICE CHANGE.

THIS PROPOSAL IS ONLY VALID FOR 30 DAYS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL MY CELL PHONE 828-268-1770.

THANK YOU
DARREN WALLACE
wemcoinc@charter.net
NC Certified Landscape Contractor #1604

The board recognizes the critical role of parents in the education of their children and in the schools. The board directs school administrators to develop programs that will promote and support parental involvement in student learning and achievement at school and at home and encourage successful progress toward graduation. Each parent is encouraged to learn about the educational program, the educational goals and objectives of the school system, and his or her own child's progress. The board also encourages parents to participate in their children's education and in activities designed by school personnel to involve them, such as parent conferences, in order to foster effective teacher and parent communication. Parents are responsible for cooperating with school employees to facilitate their children's compliance with board policies concerning homework, school attendance, and behavior.

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

A. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLANS

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

The board directs each principal to ensure that the school improvement team develops a plan for the school's parental involvement program as a part of the school improvement plan. The principal shall publicize drafts of the parental involvement plan prior to finalization and solicit input from parents of students in the school. This plan must include, at a minimum, efforts to enhance parental involvement by promoting the following priorities:

- a. regular, meaningful, two-way communication between home and school;
- b. responsible parenting;
- c. involvement of parents in student learning;
- d. parental volunteering in the school;
- e. involvement of parents in school decisions that affect children and families;
- f. parental training based on parents' informational needs;
- g. collaboration with community agencies and other organizations to provide resources to strengthen school programs, families, and student learning; and
- h. student health awareness among parents by addressing the need for health programs and student health services, which are linked to student learning.

2. Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Each school participating in the Title I program must develop, with parents and family members, a school-level written parent and family engagement plan that involves parents in the planning and improvement of Title I activities and describes the means for carrying out school-level policy, sharing responsibility for student academic achievement, building the capacity of school staff and parents for involvement, and increasing accessibility for participation of all parents and family members of children participating in Title I programs. See policy 1320/3560, Title I Parent and Family Engagement.

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

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

B. PARENT COMMUNICATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CONFERENCES

1. Communication with Parents

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

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

To the extent practicable, parents and students will be provided advance notice of classroom discussions, activities, or assigned readings so that the parent has the opportunity to request that the student be excused from such classroom discussions, activities, or assigned readings in accordance with policy 3510, Religious-Based Exemptions from School Programs.

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

The principal or designee shall strive, through oral or written communication or other means, to include the parents of students identified as at-risk in the implementation and review of academic and/or behavioral interventions for their children, in accordance with policy 3405, Students at Risk of Academic Failure.

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

2. Parent Participation at Schools

The board encourages parents to engage in activities in their children's schools. Parents are welcome to visit schools in accordance with policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools, and, if interested, are urged to participate in school volunteer programs as described in policy 5015, School Volunteers. In addition, opportunities exist for parents to participate on school advisory councils, such as the school health advisory council (see policy 6140, Student Wellness), school improvement teams (see policy 3430, School Improvement Plan), school media and technology advisory committees (see policy 3200, Selection of Instructional Materials), and the business advisory council (see policy 2670, Business Advisory Council).

3. Conferences

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

C. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

1. Title I Notifications

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

(policy 1320/3560) and the school-wide parent involvement plan.

2. Parent Guide for Student Achievement

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

At a minimum the guide will include the following:

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

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

- f. educational choices available to parents, including each type of public school unit available to residents of the county in which the child lives and nonpublic school options, educational choice options offered within the school system, and programs for scholarship grants for nonpublic schools (Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C) and for personal education student accounts for students with disabilities (Article 41 of Chapter 115C);
- g. rights of students who have been identified as students with disabilities, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 115C;
- h. contact information for school and unit offices;
- i. resources for information on the importance of student health and other available resources for parents, including the following information on available immunizations and vaccinations: (1) a recommended immunization schedule in accordance with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations; and (2) information about meningococcal meningitis and influenza, including the causes, symptoms, and vaccines, how the diseases are spread, and places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children as required by G.S. 115C-375.4; and
- j. this policy (policy 1310/4002, Parental Involvement); policy 1320/3560, Title I Parent and Family Engagement; policy 2670, Business Advisory Council; policy 3210, Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials; policy 3430, School Improvement Plan; policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program; policy 4400, Attendance; policy 5015, School Volunteers; policy 5020, Visitors to the Schools; and policy 6140, Student Wellness.

3. Additional Annual Notifications

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

- a. parental rights related to student records (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- b. parental rights related to student surveys (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
- c. the approximate dates of any non-emergency, invasive physical

- examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance, (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration, and (c) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of students;
- d. the schedule of pesticide use on school property and their right to request notification of nonscheduled pesticide use (see policy 9205, Pest Management);
 - e. student behavior policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and school standards and rules (see policies in the 4300 series);
 - f. the permissible use of seclusion and restraint in the schools (see regulation 4302-R, Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools);
 - g. policy 1735/4329/7311, Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited;
 - h. policy 1740/4010, Student and Parent Grievance Procedure;
 - i. the dates of the system-wide and state-mandated tests that students will be required to take during that school year, how the results from the tests will be used, and whether each test is required by the State Board of Education or by the local board;
 - j. grading practices that will be followed at the school and, for parents of high school students, the method of computing the grade point averages that will be used for determining class rank (see policies 3400, Evaluation of Student Progress, and 3450, Class Rankings);
 - k. available opportunities and the enrollment process for students to take advanced courses and information explaining the value of taking advanced courses;
 - l. if applicable, that their child will be provided advanced learning opportunities in mathematics or will be placed in an advanced mathematics course;
 - m. when a student initially creates a career development plan, that the plan has been created and information on how to access the plan;
 - n. a clear and concise explanation of the North Carolina testing and accountability system that includes all information required by federal law;
 - o. a report containing information about the school system and each school, including, but not limited to:
 - i. the following information both in the aggregate and disaggregated

- by category: student achievement, graduation rates, performance on other school quality and/or student success indicators, the progress of students toward meeting long-term goals established by the state, student performance on measures of school climate and safety, and, as available, the rate of enrollment in post-secondary education;
- ii. the performance of the school system on academic assessments as compared to the state as a whole and the performance of each school on academic assessments as compared to the state and school system as a whole;
 - iii. the percentage and number of students who are:
 - 1. assessed,
 - 2. assessed using alternate assessments,
 - 3. involved in preschool and accelerated coursework programs, and
 - 4. English learners achieving proficiency;
 - iv. the per pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds; and
 - v. teacher qualifications;
- p. the grade earned by the school on the most recent annual report card issued for it by the State Board of Education if the grade was a D or F;
 - q. if the school and/or the school system is identified by the State Board of Education as low-performing, the notifications required by G.S. 115C-105.37(b) and/or G.S. 115C-105.39A(c);
 - r. supportive services available to students, including health services;
 - s. for parents of students in grades 5 through 12, information about cervical cancer, cervical dysplasia, and human papillomavirus, including the causes and symptoms of these diseases, how they are transmitted, how they may be prevented by vaccination, including the benefits and possible side effects of vaccination, and places parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children;
 - t. how to reach school officials in emergency situations during non-school hours;
 - u. information about and an application form for free and reduced price meals and/or free milk (see policy 6225, Free and Reduced Price Meal Services);
 - v. information about the school breakfast program;

- w. information about the availability and location of free summer food service program meals for students when school is not in session;
- x. for parents of children with disabilities, procedural safeguards (see also policy 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
- y. information on the availability of the asbestos management plan and planned or in-progress inspections, re-inspections, response actions, and post-response actions, including periodic re-inspection and surveillance activities;
- z. education rights of homeless students (see policy 4125, Homeless Students);
- aa. the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy (see policy 6140, Student Wellness);
- bb. their right to take four hours of unpaid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in their child's school as stated in G.S. 95-28.3 (see policy 5015, School Volunteers);
- cc. that the school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age, and the school system's processes for resolving discrimination and harassment complaints (see policies 1710/4020/7230, Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law, 1720/4030/7235, Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex, 1725/4035/7236, Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process, 1726/4036/7237, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process, and 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
- dd. that the school system provides equal access to its facilities, programs, and activities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups (see policy 1710/4020/7230, Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law); and
- ee. the availability of and the process for requesting a waiver or reduction of student fees (see policy 4600, Student Fees).

4. Opportunities to Withhold Consent/Opt Out Notifications

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

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

- b. release of their child's name, address, and telephone listing to military recruiters or institutions of higher education (see policy 4700, Student Records);
- c. their child's participation in curricula related to (a) prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; (b) avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy; or (c) reproductive health and safety education, as provided in policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program. A copy of the materials that will be used in these curricula will be available in the school media center during the school year and at other times that the media center is available to the public. To meet any review periods required by law, materials also may be made available for review in the central office;
- d. their child's participation in academic or career guidance or personal or social counseling services of a generic nature offered to groups of students (e.g., peer relations strategies offered to all sixth graders). However, parents do not have the right to opt out of: (a) short-duration academic, career, personal, or social guidance and counseling and crisis intervention that is needed to maintain order, discipline, or a productive learning environment; (b) student-initiated individual or group counseling targeted at a student's specific concerns or needs; and (c) counseling if child abuse or neglect is suspected (see policies 3610, Counseling Program, and 4240/7312, Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety);
- e. their child's participation in any protected information survey given as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System or National Youth Tobacco Survey or the North Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
- f. their child's participation in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance; (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration; and (c) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of students;
- g. the collection, disclosure, or use of their child's personal information for marketing purposes (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students); and
- h. release of their child's free and reduced-price meal information to State Medicaid or State children's health insurance program (SCHIP).

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

made available.

D. PARENTAL PERMISSION REQUIRED

Written parental permission is required prior to the following activities:

1. the administration of medications to students by employees of the school system (see policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students);
2. the release of student records that are not considered directory information, unless the release is allowed or required by law (see policy 4700, Student Records);
3. off-campus trips;
4. students' participation in high-impact or high-risk sports or extracurricular activities, such as football or mountain climbing (see policy 4220, Student Insurance Program);
5. all decisions or actions as required by the IDEA with regard to providing special education or related services to students with disabilities (see policy 3520, Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities);
6. certain health services, as required by law;
7. participation in a mental health assessment or mental health services under circumstances prescribed by federal law;
8. students' participation in programs or services that provide information about where to obtain contraceptives or abortion referral services;
9. students' participation in any protected information survey other than those given as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System or National Youth Tobacco Survey or the North Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
10. disclosure of students' free and reduced price lunch eligibility information or eligibility status;
11. students' access to school system technological resources, including the Internet, as described in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use; and
12. students sharing sleeping quarters with a member of the other biological sex during any activity or event authorized by the school, unless the member of the other biological sex is the student's immediate family member (see policies 3320, School Trips, and 3620, Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations).

E. PROCEDURES FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN STUDENT HEALTH**1. Parent Notifications Regarding Student Physical and Mental Health**

At the beginning of each school year, the principal or designee shall notify parents of (1) each health care service offered at their children's schools and the means for parents to provide consent for any specific services; (2) acknowledgement that consenting to a health care service does not waive the parents' right to access their children's educational records or health records or to be notified of changes in their children's services or monitoring; and (3) the procedures to exercise the parental remedies for concerns related to student health provided by G.S. 115C-76.60 and described below in subsection E.6.

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

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

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

2. Discussions Related to Student Well-Being

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

3. Parent Access to Student Records

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

4. Student Support Services Training

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

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

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

6. Remedies for Parental Concerns Related to Student Health

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

If the concern has not been resolved within 15 days after the parent initially submitted the concern, the superintendent or designee shall schedule a board hearing to be conducted pursuant to policy 2500, Hearings Before the Board, to occur within the next 15 days. If the concern is not resolved 30 days after the parent initially submitted the concern, the board will provide a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern.

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

F. PARENT REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

A parent may request in writing from the principal any of the information the parent has

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

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

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

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

G. COMMUNITY SERVICES AVAILABLE

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

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

H. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

By September 15 of each year, the superintendent or designee shall report to the State Board of Education parental involvement information as required by State Board of Education Policy PRNT-002 and G.S. 115C-76.70.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 15 U.S.C. 2641, *et seq.*; Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. 7905, 34 C.F.R. 108.9; Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. pt. 200; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, 34 C.F.R. pt. 99; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400, *et seq.*; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431, *et seq.*; National School Lunch Program, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*, 7 C.F.R. 210.12, 7 C.F.R. pt. 245; Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. 1232h, 34 C.F.R. pt. 98; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 705(20), 794, 34 C.F.R. pt. 104; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d *et seq.*,

34 C.F.R. pt. 100; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. pt. 106; 20 U.S.C. 7908; G.S. 90-21.1, -21.10B; 95-28.3; 114A-10; 115C-47(47), -47(51), -47(54), -47(58), -76.1, -76.20, -76.25, -76.30, -76.35, -76.40, -76.45, -76.50, -76.55, -76.60, -76.65, -76.70, -76.110, -81.25, -81.30, -81.36, -105.37(b), -105.39A(c), -105.41, -109.1, -158.10, -174.26(d), -307(c), -375.4, -390.2, -391.1, -402.15, -407.16; 16 N.C.A.C. 6D .0307, 6G .0701; State Board of Education Policies KNEC-002, PRNT-000 and -002, TEST-001

Cross References: Title I Parent and Family Engagement (policy 1320/3560), Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law (policy 1710/4020/7230), Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex (policy 1720/4030/7235), Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process (policy 1725/4035/7236), Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process (policy 1726/4036/7237), Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities (policy 1730/4022/7231), Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited (policy 1735/4329/7311), Student and Parent Grievance Procedure (policy 1740/4010), Hearings Before the Board (policy 2500), Business Advisory Council (policy 2670), Selection of Instructional Materials (policy 3200), Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials (policy 3210), Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), School Trips (policy 3320), Evaluation of Student Progress (policy 3400), Students at Risk of Academic Failure (policy 3405), School Improvement Plan, (policy 3430), Class Rankings (policy 3450), [Religious-Based Exemptions from School Programs \(policy 3510\)](#), Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities (policy 3520), Comprehensive Health Education Program (policy 3540), Counseling Program (policy 3610), Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations (policy 3620), Homeless Students (policy 4125), Student Insurance Program (policy 4220), Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety (policy 4240/7312), Student Behavior Policies (4300 series), Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools (regulation 4302-R), Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues (policy 4341), Attendance (policy 4400), Student Fees (policy 4600), Student Records (policy 4700), Surveys of Students (policy 4720), School Volunteers (policy 5015), Visitors to the Schools (policy 5020), Registered Sex Offenders (policy 5022), Student Health Services (policy 6120), Administering Medicines to Students (policy 6125), Student Wellness (policy 6140), Free and Reduced Price Meal Services (policy 6225), Pest Management (policy 9205)

Adopted: July 14, 2014

Replaces: Policy 2.04.60, Parental Involvement (in part)

Revised: January 11, 2016; February 13, 2017; February 12, 2018, November 13, 2018; February 10, 2020; August 12, 2020, January 11, 2021, December 13, 2021(Legal references only); November 6, 2023; January 16, 2024; July 11, 2024; December 9, 2024; October 6, 2025; [DATE](#)

The chairperson and the superintendent will prepare a proposed agenda for each Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") meeting. ~~A request to have an item of business placed on the agenda must be received at least six working days before the meetings. (See also policy 1410, Public Participation at Board Meetings, regarding agenda requests by individuals or groups.) A board member may, by a timely request, have an item placed on the agenda.~~

Except in emergency or special meetings, each board member will receive a copy of the proposed agenda four days prior to the meeting, and the proposed agenda will be available for public inspection and/or distribution when it is distributed to the board members. The board shall receive information on each item of business placed on the agenda whether submitted by the public or by a board member.

A board member may have an item placed on the agenda of a regular or special meeting of the board by submitting the item in writing to the superintendent's office no later than 5:00 p.m. six working days prior to the meeting. An agenda item requested less than six working days prior to the meeting will be included only if: (1) the inclusion of the item will not unduly prolong the meeting, and there is adequate time available to prepare any necessary materials; or (2) the chairperson and superintendent determine the item is of an urgent nature. Otherwise, an untimely requested item will be added to the agenda for the next regular meeting. A member of the public may submit a request for an item to be placed on the agenda in accordance with policy 1410, Public Participation at Board Meetings.

At the meeting, the board may, by a majority vote, add or delete an item that is not on the proposed agenda before the agenda is adopted. After the agenda has been adopted, a two-thirds vote is required to add an item to the agenda. Any new policy or budgetary items presented as an addendum to the published agenda may be acted upon at the same meeting only with the unanimous consent of the board members present at that meeting. Items may be added to the agenda of a special meeting only if all members of the board are present. Items may be deleted from the agenda of a special meeting by a majority vote. Only the business connected with the emergency may be discussed at an emergency meeting.

Items shall be placed on the agenda according to the order of business. The order of business for each regular meeting shall be as follows:

1. Discussion/adjustment of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes
3. Reports for board action
4. Reports for board information
5. Informal discussion and public comment

By general consent of the board, items may be considered out of order.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36

Cross References: Duties of Officers (policy 1350), Public Participation at Board Meetings (policy 1410), Advance Delivery of Meeting Materials (policy 1435)

Adopted: November 9, 2015

Revised: September 9, 2019; DATE

Replaces: Board policy 1.04, Procedures for Board Meetings (in part)

Except as otherwise provided by law or by the policies of the Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”), meetings of the board will be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. The board will follow the rules in *Robert's* for small boards except that motions need to be seconded to move forward and there is no limit on the chairperson's ability to make motions or vote on all questions.

The chairperson is authorized to entertain and rule on questions concerning parliamentary procedure and to seek counsel of the board attorney when necessary to clarify or construe any relevant procedural provision.

A. ACTION BY THE BOARD

The board shall proceed by motion, except as otherwise provided for in board policies or the laws of North Carolina. Any member, including the board chair, may make a motion. All motions require a second.

B. ADOPTION BY MAJORITY VOTE

A motion shall be adopted by a majority of the votes cast, a quorum being present, unless otherwise required by board policies or the laws of North Carolina.

C. DEBATE

The board chair shall state the motion or have it stated and then open the floor to debate. The board chair shall preside over the debate according to the following principles:

1. The maker of the motion is entitled to speak first;
2. To the extent possible, the debate shall alternate between proponents and opponents of the measure; and
3. A member who has not spoken on the issue shall be recognized before one who has already spoken.

Legal References: G.S. 143-318.12

Cross References:

Adopted: November 9, 2015; DATE

Replaces: Board policy 1.04, Procedures for Board Meetings (in part)

The board provides its students and staff access to a variety of technological resources. These resources provide opportunities to enhance learning, appeal to different learning styles, improve communication within the school community and with the larger global community, and achieve the educational goals established by the board. Through the school system's technological resources, users can observe events as they occur around the world, interact with others on a variety of subjects, and acquire access to current and in-depth information.

The board intends that students and employees benefit from these resources while remaining within the bounds of safe, legal, and responsible use. Accordingly, the board establishes this policy to govern student and employee use of any technological resources owned, leased, maintained, or otherwise controlled by the school system. This policy applies regardless of whether such use occurs on or off school system property, and it applies to all school system technological resources, including but not limited to computer networks and connections, the resources, tools, and learning environments made available by or on the networks, and all devices that connect to those networks.

A. EXPECTATIONS FOR USE OF SCHOOL TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The use of school system technological resources, including access to the Internet, is expected to be exercised in an appropriate and responsible manner. Individual users of the school system's technological resources are responsible for their behavior and communications when using those resources. Responsible use of school system technological resources is use that is ethical, respectful, academically honest, and supportive of student learning. Each user has the responsibility to respect others in the school community and on the Internet. Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette.

General student and employee behavior standards, including those prescribed in applicable board policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and other regulations and school rules, apply to use of school technological resources, including access to the Internet.

In addition, anyone who uses school system computers or electronic devices, accesses the school's electronic storage or network, or connects to the Internet using school system-provided access must comply with the additional rules for responsible use listed in Section B below. These rules are intended to clarify expectations for conduct but should not be construed as all-inclusive.

All students must be trained about appropriate online behavior as provided in policy 3226/4205, Internet Safety.

B. RULES FOR USE OF SCHOOL TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

1. School system technological resources are provided for school-related purposes only. Acceptable uses of such technological resources are limited to responsible,

efficient, and legal activities that support the educational objectives of the Watauga County Schools. Use of school system technological resources for any non-educational purposes is prohibited, including but not limited to use for commercial gain or profit, for charitable purposes other than school fund-raising, or for amusement or entertainment.

Student personal use of school system technological resources for amusement or entertainment is prohibited unless approved for special situations by the teacher or school administrator. In addition, student access to social media platforms is prohibited, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes.

Because some incidental and occasional personal use by employees is inevitable, the board permits infrequent and brief personal use by employees so long as it does not interfere with school system business and is not otherwise prohibited by board policy or procedure.

~~School system Wi-Fi hotspots and/or services may be used off school system property only by students and school staff members who need them. Such use must be primarily for activities that are integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students. The superintendent or designee will provide guidelines to ensure that any Wi-Fi hotspots used off school system property were not purchased using E-Rate funds.~~

2. Unless authorized by law to do so, users may not make copies of software purchased by the school system. Software purchased by the school system may be copied for personal use only when expressly permitted by the terms of a specific software licensing agreement.
3. Users must comply with all applicable laws, board policies, administrative regulations, and school standards and rules, including those relating to copyrights and trademarks, confidential information, and public records. Plagiarism of Internet resources will be treated in the same manner as any other incidents of plagiarism, as stated in the Code of Student Conduct.
4. Users must follow any software, application, or subscription services terms and conditions of use.
5. No user of technological resources, including a person sending or receiving electronic communications, may engage in creating, intentionally viewing, accessing, downloading, storing, printing, or transmitting images, graphics (including still or moving pictures), sound files, text files, documents, messages, or other material that is obscene, defamatory, profane, pornographic, harassing, abusive, or considered to be harmful to minors.

6. Users must not circumvent fire walls. The use of anonymous proxies to circumvent content filtering is prohibited.
7. Users may not install or use any Internet-based file sharing program designed to facilitate sharing of copyrighted material.
8. Users of technological resources may not send electronic communications fraudulently (i.e., by misrepresenting the identity of the sender).
9. Users must respect the privacy of others.
 - a. Students must not reveal any personally identifying, private, or confidential information about themselves or fellow students when using email, chat rooms, blogs, or other forms of electronic communication. Such information includes, for example, a person's home address or telephone number, credit or checking account information, or social security number. For further information regarding what constitutes personal identifying information, see policy 4705/7825, Confidentiality of Personal Identifying Information.
 - b. School employees may disclose student directory information (such as name, photograph, or digital image) on school system websites and web pages unless parents/guardians/eligible students have opted out of the release of directory information pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and in accordance with Policy 4700, Student Records.
 - c. Users may not forward or post personal communications without the author's prior consent.
 - d. Students may not use school system technological resources to capture audio, video, or still pictures of other students and/or employees in which such individuals can be personally identified, nor share such mediarecording or pictures in any way, without the consent of the other students and/or employees and the principal or designee. An exception will be made for recordings at events that are open to the public, such as athletic competitions, band and choral concerts, assemblies, presentations, and award ceremonies. If recording at a public event is restricted for any reason, including due to copyright issues (e.g., a school play), students, employees, and all other members of the audience will be notified of the recording restrictions before the event begins. An exception will be made for settings where students and staff cannot be identified beyond the context of a sports performance or other public event or when otherwise approved by the principal.

10. Users may not intentionally or negligently damage computers, computer systems, electronic devices, software, computer networks, or data of any user connected to school system technological resources. Users may not knowingly or negligently transmit computer viruses or self-replicating messages or deliberately try to degrade or disrupt system performance, including by streaming audio or video for non-instructional purposes. Users may not disable antivirus programs installed on school system-owned or issued devices.
11. Users may not create or introduce games, network communications programs, or any foreign program, executable program, or software onto any school system computer, electronic device, or network without the express written permission of the technology director or designee. All school purchases of games and other software addressed by this provision, regardless of the funding source, must be approved in advance by the technology director or designee.
12. Users are prohibited from engaging in unauthorized or unlawful activities, such as “hacking” or using the computer network to gain or attempt to gain unauthorized or unlawful access to other computers, computer systems, accounts, data, or information.
13. Users are prohibited from using another individual’s ID or password for any technological resource or account without permission from the individual and from the teacher or other school official. Sharing of an individual’s ID or password is strongly discouraged.
14. Users may not read, alter, change, block, execute, or delete files or communications belonging to another user without the owner’s express prior permission.
15. Employees shall not use passwords or user IDs for any data system (e.g., the state student information and instructional improvement system applications, time-keeping software, etc.) for an unauthorized or improper purpose.
16. If a user identifies or encounters an instance of unauthorized access or another security concern, he or she must immediately notify a teacher, school system administrator, or the technology director or designee. Users must not share the problem with other users. Any user identified as a security risk will be denied access.
17. It is the user’s responsibility to back up data and other important files.
18. Employees shall make reasonable efforts to supervise students’ use of the Internet during instructional time.
19. Views may be expressed on the Internet or other technological resources as representing the view of the school system or part of the school system only with prior approval by the superintendent or designee.

20. Use of social media during instructional hours, and at any time using school technology, is prohibited except when approved and monitored by a teacher or other school official. All school personnel will comply with policy 7335 Employee Use of Social Media.
21. Users who are issued school system-owned and -maintained devices for home use (such as laptops, Chromebooks, etc.) must adhere to any other reasonable rules or guidelines issued by the superintendent or technology director for the use of such devices.

Exceptions to these rules may be made for employees whose activities are necessary to carry out their job responsibilities and are authorized by law.

C. RESTRICTED MATERIAL ON THE INTERNET

The Internet and electronic communications offer fluid environments in which students may access or be exposed to materials and information from diverse and rapidly changing sources, including some that may be harmful to students. The board recognizes that it is impossible to predict with certainty what information on the Internet students may access or obtain. Nevertheless, school system personnel shall take reasonable precautions to prevent students from accessing material and information that is obscene, pornographic, or otherwise age-inappropriate or harmful to minors, including violence, nudity, or graphic language that does not serve a legitimate pedagogical purpose as well as websites, web applications, or software that do not protect against the disclosure, use, or dissemination of a student's personal information. The superintendent shall ensure that technology protection measures are used as provided in policy 3226/4205, Internet Safety, and are disabled or minimized only when permitted by law and board policy. The board is not responsible for the content accessed by using a cellular network to connect a personal device to the Internet.

D. PRIVACY

Students, employees, visitors, and other users have no expectation or right of privacy in anything they create, store, send, delete, receive, or display when using the school system's network, devices, Internet access, email system, or other technological resources owned or issued by the school system, whether the resources are used at school or elsewhere, and even if the use is for personal purposes. Users should not assume that files or communications created, transmitted, or displayed using school system technological resources or stored on servers the storage mediums of individual devices, or on school managed cloud services will be private. Under certain circumstances, school officials may be required to disclose such electronic information to law enforcement or other third parties, for example, as a response to a document production request in a lawsuit against the board, in response to a public records request, or as evidence of illegal activity in a criminal investigation.

School system personnel shall monitor online activities of individuals who access the Internet via a school-owned device. The school system may, without notice, (1) monitor, track, and/or log network access, communications, and use; (2) monitor and allocate fileserver space; and (3) access, review, copy, store, delete, or disclose the content of all user files, regardless of medium, the content of electronic mailboxes issued by the school system, and system outputs, such as printouts, at any time for any lawful purpose. Such purposes may include, but are not limited to, maintaining system integrity, security, or functionality, ensuring compliance with board policy and applicable laws and regulations, protecting the school system from liability, and complying with public records requests.

By using the school system's network, Internet access, electronic devices, email system, devices, or other technological resources, individuals consent to have that use monitored by authorized school system personnel as described in this policy.

E. USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY ON SCHOOL SYSTEM PROPERTY

Users may not use private WiFi hotspots or other personal technology on campus to access the Internet outside the school system's wireless network. Personal technology devices (including, but not limited to smart phones, tablets, laptops, etc.) may be used on campus only in accordance with written guidelines approved by the superintendent or designee. Students shall not use such devices to take and/or send pictures of other students, faculty or staff by email or other electronic means unless instructed to do so by a Watauga County Schools employee. Personal technology devices may be used in classrooms only for instructional purposes under the direction of Watauga County Schools faculty. If these devices are used for cheating, the responsible student(s) will be dealt with in accordance to Board policies on student behavior (4300 series). Students' personal devices are also governed by policy 4318, Use of Wireless Communication Devices. Use of personal technology devices is also subject to any rules established by the superintendent under a bring your own device plan authorized by Section C of policy 3220, Technology in the Educational Program, and for employees, policy 3228/7323, Use of Personal Technology to Conduct School Business. The school system assumes no responsibility for personal technology devices brought to school.

F. PERSONAL WEBSITES

The superintendent may use any means available to request the removal of personal websites that substantially disrupt the school environment or that utilize school system or individual school names, logos, or trademarks without permission.

1. Students

Though school personnel generally do not monitor students' Internet activity conducted on non-school system devices during non-school hours, when the student's online behavior has a direct and immediate effect on school safety or maintaining order and discipline in the schools, the student may be disciplined in accordance with board

policy to the extent consistent with law (see the student behavior policies in the 4300 series and policy 4021/7230).

2. Employees

Employees' personal websites are subject to policy 7335, Employee Use of Social Media. Employees may not use their personal websites to communicate with students, as prohibited by policy 7335 and policy 4040/7310, Staff-Student Relations.

3. Volunteers

Volunteers are to maintain appropriate relationships with students at all times. Volunteers are encouraged to block students from viewing personal information on volunteer personal websites or online networking profiles in order to prevent the possibility that students could view materials that are not age-appropriate. An individual volunteer's relationship with the school system may be terminated if the volunteer engages in inappropriate online interaction with students.

G. USE AGREEMENTS

All students, parents, and employees will be informed annually of the information in this policy and in any applicable generative artificial intelligence (AI) guidelines developed in accordance with policy 3220, Technology in the Educational Program. Prior to using school system technological resources, students and employees must agree to comply with the requirements of this policy and the generative AI guidelines and consent to the school system's use of monitoring systems to monitor and detect inappropriate use of technological resources. In addition, the student's parent must consent to the student accessing the Internet and to the school system monitoring the student's Internet activity and electronic mailbox issued by the school system and must sign a copy of the generative AI guidelines as part of the district's Responsible Use Agreement.

H. CONSEQUENCES

Based on the nature and severity of the offense and the circumstances surrounding the incident, violations of this policy will result in appropriate remedial actions or discipline up to and including long-term suspension for students and dismissal for employees and may result in revocation of user privileges. Willful misuse may also result in criminal prosecution under applicable state and federal law.

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend. I; Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5); 47 C.F.R. 54.516; Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2522; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; 17 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.*; 20 U.S.C. 7131; G.S. 115C—47(70), -102.10, -325(e) (applicable to career status teachers), -325.4 (applicable to non-career status teachers); 143-805

Cross References: Curriculum and Instructional Guides (policy 3115), Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), Internet Safety (policy 3226/4205), Web Page Development (policy 3227/7322), Use of Personal Technology to Conduct School Business (policy 3228/7323), Copyright Compliance (policy 3230/7330), Student Behavior Policies (all policies in the 4300 series), Student Records (policy 4700), Confidentiality of Personal Identifying Information (policy 4705/7825), Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition (policy 5070/7350), Use of Equipment, Materials, and Supplies (policy 6520), Network Security (policy 6524), Staff Responsibilities (policy 7300), Employee Use of Social Media (policy 7335)

Other Resources: North Carolina Generative AI Implementation Recommendations and Considerations for PK-13 Public Schools, available at https://go.ncdpi.gov/AI_Guidelines

Adopted: June 8, 2015

Revised: November 14, 2016; January 13, 2020; January 10, 2022; July 11, 2024; April 15, 2025; August 11, 2025; March 9, 2026; **DATE**

Replaces: Policy 4.02.50, Responsible Use for Access to Networked Information Resources

USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Policy Code:

4318

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) recognizes that cellular phones and other wireless communication devices are an important tool through which parents communicate with their children and through which students gather information. The board also understands that excessive use of wireless communication devices may pose significant health and social risks for students. Therefore, to balance these interests and the needs of students, parents, and the school community, the board limits the use of wireless communication devices as provided in this policy.

A. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply.

1. “Instructional time” is the time during which students are assigned to a teacher for the primary purpose of instruction.
2. A “wireless communication device” is any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties, including but not limited to cellular telephones, tablet and laptop computers, paging devices, two-way radios, and gaming devices.

B. AUTHORIZED USE DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

Students are permitted to possess wireless communication devices on school property so long as the devices are not turned on, used, or displayed during instructional time or as otherwise directed by school rules or school personnel.

Additionally, individual students may use wireless communication devices as required by the student’s Individualized Education Program or Section 504 plan or to manage the student’s health care in accordance with a documented medical condition. Teachers may authorize individual students to use the devices for instructional purposes, provided that they supervise the students during such use, or in the event of an emergency.

C. AUTHORIZED USE DURING NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

Although use of wireless communication devices is generally permitted during non-instructional time and before and after school, the principal may establish additional limitations on the use, possession, or display of such devices consistent with this policy.

Students may not use wireless communication devices inside school buildings, at school-sponsored events, or on school buses to capture audio, video, or still pictures of other students and/or employees in which such individuals can be personally identified, nor share such recordings or pictures in any way, without the consent of the other students and/or

employees. An exception will be made for recordings at events that are open to the public, such as athletic competitions, band and choral concerts, assemblies, presentations, and award ceremonies. If recording at a public event is restricted for any reason, including due to copyright issues (e.g., a school play), the students and all other members of the audience will be notified of the recording restrictions before the event begins.

Use of wireless communication devices may be prohibited on school buses when noise from such devices interferes with the safe operation of the buses. In addition, elementary and middle school students who participate in after-school programs are prohibited from using wireless communication devices during such programs.

D. CONSEQUENCES

School employees may immediately confiscate any wireless communication devices that are on, used, or displayed in violation of this policy. In general, the confiscated device will be returned to the student at the end of the school day. However, an administrator may require a student's parent to recover a confiscated device if the student has repeatedly violated this policy.

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.

The following factors should be considered when determining appropriate consequences: whether the wireless communication device was used (1) to reproduce images of tests, obtain unauthorized access to school information or assist students in any aspect of their instructional program in a manner that violates any school board policy, administrative regulation, or school rule; (2) to bully or harass other students; (3) to send illicit text messages; (4) to take and/or send illicit photographs; or (5) in any other manner that would make more severe disciplinary consequences appropriate.

E. SEARCH OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

In accordance with policy 4342, Student Searches, a student's wireless communication device and its contents, including, but not limited to, text messages and digital photos, may be searched whenever a school official has reason to believe the search will provide evidence that the student has violated or is violating a law, board policy, the Code of Student Conduct, or a school rule. The scope of such searches must be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the nature of the suspected infraction.

F. LIABILITY

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their wireless communication devices. The school system is not responsible for the theft, loss, or damage of a personal wireless communication device.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -76.100, -390.2

Cross References: Student Behavior Policies (policy 4300), Disruptive Behavior (policy 4315), Student Searches (policy 4342)

Adopted: October 13, 2014

Revised: January 12, 2026; DATE

School officials have the authority to conduct reasonable searches of students and to seize students' unauthorized materials for the purposes of maintaining a safe, orderly environment and upholding standards of conduct established by the Watauga County Board of education (the "board") or school. Any searches or seizures must be conducted in accordance with the standards described in this policy and any other applicable legal requirements. All school officials carrying out a search or seizure are expected to be knowledgeable about the legal rights of students and the appropriate procedures for conducting the search or seizure. A search must be justified at its inception, permissible in scope, and conducted using methods that are narrowly tailored to be minimally intrusive. School officials shall make reasonable, good faith efforts to investigate allegations of misconduct before a student search is conducted.

This policy applies to searches conducted on school grounds, in school facilities, or at school-sponsored events.

Policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use, not this policy, applies to the search of school system-owned technological resources and the data located on school system-owned electronic equipment.

A. SEARCHES BASED ON INDIVIDUALIZED REASONABLE SUSPICION

A student or the student's possessions may be searched when a school official has reasonable suspicion that the search will turn up evidence that the particular student has violated or is violating a specific law or school rule. This reasonable suspicion must be based upon specific and articulable facts, which have been acquired through reliable and/or corroborated information from employees, students, law enforcement officers, or other credible sources, or upon visual or other evidence (e.g., the smell of alcohol or marijuana, an alert from a metal detector or drug dog) viewed in light of the totality of the circumstances and the school official's professional judgment. The scope of the search must be reasonably related to the objectives of the search, and the methods used to conduct the search must be narrowly tailored to be minimally intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

Reasonable suspicion is not required if a student freely and voluntarily consents to the search of his or her person or possessions.

In accordance with the standards described above, the board authorizes the following types of searches based on reasonable suspicion.

1. Searches of Personal Effects

School officials may search a student's desk, locker, and/or personal effects, including but not limited to purses, book bags, and clothing (for example, coats or jackets) not currently being worn by the student.. Policy 4318, Use of Wireless

Communication Devices, addresses the circumstances under which searches of student cell phones and other electronic devices may be conducted.

2. Searches of Motor Vehicles

School officials may search the interior of a student's motor vehicle.

3. "Pat-down" Searches

A school official may conduct a frisk or "pat-down" search of a student's person. The search must be conducted in private by a school official with an adult witness present. Both the school official conducting the search and the adult witness must be the same sex as the student.

4. More Intrusive Personal Searches

More intrusive personal searches are discouraged and are to be used only in very limited circumstances. A personal search is more intrusive when it extends beyond a student's personal effects and outer clothing and potentially exposes intimate body parts and/or undergarments. Such intrusive personal searches will be permissible only if: (1) the school official has reasonable suspicion that a search of a particular student will yield dangerous contraband (e.g., drugs or weapons); and (2) the school official has reasonable suspicion that the student has hidden the contraband in his or her undergarments. This search must be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex as the student, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only with the prior approval of the superintendent or designee, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay that might be caused by following these procedures. Body cavity searches and searches that require a student to completely disrobe are strictly prohibited.

5. Metal Detector Searches

~~Except as provided in Section B.2, below, a~~ metal detector may be used to search a student's person and/or personal effects. The search must be conducted by a school official and will be done in private, when feasible.

B. SUSPICIONLESS GENERAL SEARCHES

In an effort to maintain a safe, drug-free, and weapon-free learning environment, school officials may conduct certain types of general, suspicionless searches in the schools. All general searches must be conducted in a minimally-intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., all students in randomly selected classrooms, every third individual entering a school-sponsored extracurricular activity) and may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals. The searches must be conducted in accordance with standardized procedures established by the superintendent or designee. Absent

exigent circumstances (e.g., a report of a weapon on campus), prior to conducting general searches, school administrators must: (1) demonstrate to the superintendent or designee the need for general searches based upon a pattern or expectation of violence, drug activity, or disruption; and (2) provide written notice to students and parents of the school policy and/or procedures governing general searches, but not of specific times when or places where searches will be conducted.

When conducted in accordance with the standards described above and any corresponding procedures, the board authorizes the following types of general, suspicionless searches.

1. Searches of Desks and Lockers

School officials may conduct routine searches of student desks and lockers. Student desks and lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school. However, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their desks and lockers. Student desks and lockers may not be used to store illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials.

A student's personal effects found within a desk or locker, such as a backpack, gym bag, or purse, may be searched only in accordance with the guidelines for individualized searches of personal effects described in Section A, above.

2. Point-of-Entry Metal Detector Searches

School officials may use metal detectors to conduct general point-of-entry searches of students and other persons for weapons.

3. Use of Trained Dogs

With the prior approval of the superintendent, and in conjunction with local law enforcement, school officials may use trained dogs (canines) to locate illegal materials. All dogs must be accompanied by a certified and authorized trainer who is responsible for the dog's actions and who is able to verify the dog's reliability and accuracy in sniffing out illegal material. Trained dogs may sniff lockers, desks, book bags, motor vehicles, and other inanimate objects. Dogs may not be used to sniff students or other persons under any circumstances. No students should be present during a dog search. Before a search occurs in a classroom, students will first be moved to a location outside the classroom.

C. SEIZED ITEMS

Any illegal contraband seized by school officials must be promptly turned over to the proper law enforcement authorities.

D. FAILURE TO COOPERATE

A student's failure to cooperate with a reasonable search or seizure as provided in this policy will be considered a violation of the expected standard of behavior, and will subject the student to appropriate consequences.

Any person who is not a student who refuses to permit a general metal detector search of his or her person and/or belongings at the point-of-entry to a school-sponsored activity may be denied entry to the activity.

E. NOTICE

School principals shall take reasonable steps to provide notice of this policy to students and parents at the start of each school year.

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend. IV; *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985), *Safford United School District #1 v. Redding*, 557 U.S. 364 (2009); G.S. 115C-47, -288, -307, -390.2, 391.2

Cross References: Technology Responsible Use (policy 3225/4312/7320), School Plan for Management of Student Behavior (policy 4302), Use of Wireless Communication Devices (policy 4318), School-Level Investigations (policy 4340)

Adopted: February 9, 2015

Replaces: Policy 5.05.64, Search and Seizure

Revised: April 16, 2024: DATE

ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION RETENTION

Policy Code:

5071/7351

Public record-keeping requirements and federal and state law require that the Watauga County school system properly manage its electronically stored information ("ESI"). To the extent required by law, school personnel shall maintain ESI in accordance with this policy and/or the applicable Records Retention and Disposition Schedule(s) ("Schedule") issued by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

School business-related ESI sent and/or received by an employee using a personal technology device or account is subject to this policy and policy 3228/7323, Use of Personal Technology to Conduct School Business.

A. SYSTEM-WIDE E-MAIL RETENTION AND EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESI

All e-mailsemails produced and received using the school system email platform system are the property of the school system and will automatically be retained by the school system for a minimum of three years. In some cases, business-related e-mailsemails must be retained longer, according to the Schedule, and individual employees are required to review the Schedule and save such e-mailsemails, in hard copy or electronic format, for the applicable time period. For ESI other than e-mail, each employee shall retain such records, in hard copy or electronic format, for the time period required by the Schedule.

B. LITIGATION HOLDS FOR ESI

The school system will have an ESI team. The ESI team is a designated group of individuals who implement and monitor litigation holds, which are directives not to destroy ESI that might be relevant to a pending or imminent legal proceeding. The ESI team must include a designated school administrator, the school board attorney, and a member from the technology department. In the case of a litigation hold, the ESI team shall direct employees and the technology department, as necessary, to suspend the normal disposition procedure for all related records.

C. INSPECTION OF ESI

Any requests for ESI records should be made in writing and will be reviewed by the records officer (see policy 5070/7350, Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition), in consultation with the school board attorney if needed, and released in accordance with North Carolina public records laws.

D. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Watauga County Board of Education delegates to the superintendent or designees the right to implement and enforce additional procedures or directives relating to ESI retention consistent with this policy.

Legal References: Fed. R. Civ. P. 16, 26, 33, 37, 45; North Carolina Public Records Act, G.S. 132; *E-Mail as a Public Record in North Carolina: A Policy for Its Retention and Disposition*, N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (2009), available at <https://archives.ncdcr.gov/government/digital-records/digital-records-policies-and-guidelines/e-mail-public-record-north>; *Program Records Schedule: Local Public School Units*, N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (2021), available at <https://archives.ncdcr.gov/documents/local-education-agenciesschedule>; *General Records Schedule: Local Government Agencies*, N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (2021), available at <https://archives.ncdcr.gov/government/retention-schedules/local-government-schedules/general-records-schedule-local-government>

Cross References: Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition (policy 5070/7350)

Other Resources: *Digital Records, State Archives of North Carolina*, <https://archives.ncdcr.gov/government/digital-records>

Adopted: June 8, 2015

Replaces: Policy 3.10.10, Electronic Stored Information Retention

Revised: January 28, 2016; June 11, 2018 (Legal references only); February 10, 2020; June 28, 2021; June 30, 2022; June 17, 2023; DATE

All schools will participate in federal National School Nutrition Programs and will receive commodities donated by the United States Department of Agriculture. All federal and state revenues will be accepted and applied to maximize the use of such funds for the purposes of providing nutritional meals to students at the lowest possible price. The superintendent or designee shall develop procedures as necessary to implement the operational standards established in this policy.

A. OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

The school nutrition services program will be operated in a manner consistent with Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) goals and board policy. The program also will be operated in compliance with all applicable state and federal law, including requirements of the National School Lunch Program and all federal guidelines established by the School Nutrition Division of the United States Department of Agriculture. Specific legal requirements that must be met include, but are not limited to, the following.

1. School officials may not discriminate based on race, sex, , color, national origin, disability, age, or eligibility status for free and reduced price meals. School officials are also prohibited from retaliating against an individual for prior civil rights activity.
2. The school nutrition services program will meet safety and sanitation requirements established in local, state, and federal rules and guidelines for school nutrition services programs.
3. The school nutrition services program will have a written food safety program that includes a hazard analysis critical control point plan for each school.
4. Menu preparation, purchasing, and related record keeping will be consistent with applicable state and federal rules and guidelines.
5. Banking, financial record keeping, budgeting, and accounting will be conducted in accordance with generally accepted practices and procedures, as dictated by the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act and in accordance with state and federal guidelines.
6. Commodity foods donated by the United States Department of Agriculture will be used and accounted for in accordance with federal regulations.
7. Preference will be given in purchasing contracts to high-calcium foods and beverages, as defined in G.S. 115C-264.1 and to foods grown or raised within North Carolina.

8. School Nutrition Program (SNP) funds will be used only for the purposes authorized by law. Indirect costs, as defined by law, will not be assessed to the SNP unless the program has an operating balance of at least two months.
9. The price for meals will be determined in accordance with federal law.
10. Non-program foods will be priced to generate sufficient revenues to cover the cost of those items. A non-program food is defined as a food or beverage, other than a reimbursable meal or snack, that is sold at the school and is purchased using funds from the school nutrition account.
11. All school nutrition services will be operated on a non-profit basis for the benefit of the SNP. School nutrition services are those that operate from 12:01 a.m. until 30 minutes after the end of the school day.
12. All income from the sale of food and beverages that is required by law or regulation to be retained by the SNP will be deposited to the SNP account and will be used only for the purposes of the school's non-profit lunch and breakfast programs. All other funds from food and beverage sales not otherwise required by law to be deposited to the SNP account will be deposited into the proper school account in accordance with guidelines developed by the superintendent or designee.
13. All competitive foods sold on school campuses will meet federal and state standards for nutrient content.
14. To the extent feasible consistent with legal, regulatory, and budgetary limits, the purchase of locally sourced foods and beverages is encouraged in the School Nutrition Program.
15. All employees whose job duties include procurement activities involving School Nutrition Program funds shall adhere to the conflict of interest rules and standards for ethical conduct established by the board in policies 6401/9100, Ethics and the Purchasing Function, and 8305, Federal Grant Administration. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in disciplinary action.

B. MEAL CHARGES

Students who are required to pay for meals are expected to provide payment in a timely manner. The board recognizes, however, that students may occasionally forget or lose their meal money. No adults will be permitted to charge meals or other items in the school cafeteria. No student will be permitted to charge supplemental or a la carte items, including milk.

No student will be deprived a meal nor served an alternate meal due to forgotten or lost money. At no time will a student meal be retrieved once the student has received the tray. The student shall be allowed to eat the meal and the student's account will be charged

accordingly.

If a student meal account has a negative balance, money offered by the student for purchase of supplemental or a la carte items cannot be used to pay against the negative balance without the student's permission.

The school nutrition director and principal shall work jointly to prevent meal charges from accumulating. Every effort will be made to collect all funds due to the school nutrition program on a regular basis and before the end of the school year. This may include but is not limited to sending letters home with students, sending emails to parents and guardians, and sending automated calls to homes. If a parent or guardian regularly fails to provide meal money and does not qualify for free meal benefits, the school nutrition program director shall inform the principal, who shall determine the next course of action. This may include working with the parent or guardian to establish a long-term repayment plan notifying the department of social services of suspected child neglect and/or taking legal steps to recover the unpaid meal charges. Efforts to recover unpaid meal charges should not have a negative impact on the students involved and instead should focus primarily on the adults in the household responsible for providing funds for meal purchases. The principal shall not impose any administrative penalties take any punitive actions against on a student for unpaid meal charges. Administrative penalties Prohibited punitive actions include requiring a student to work to pay off the debt, withholding a student's records, denying a student a diploma, and prohibiting a student from participating in graduation, class trips, or school-sponsored extracurricular activities or social events and denying a student a diploma.

Parents and guardians are expected to pay all meal charges in full by the last day of each school year. Negative balances on student meal accounts cannot be carried forward to the following school year. All negative balances will continue to be owed to the school office until paid in full. The superintendent shall ensure that federal school nutrition funds are not used to offset the cost of unpaid meals and that the SNP is reimbursed for bad debt resulting from uncollected student meal charges prior to the last day of the school year. The school's general fund, or other fund designated by the school principal, will be financially responsible for outstanding charges that have not been paid.

This policy and any applicable procedures regarding meal charges must be communicated to school administrators, school food service professionals, parents and guardians, and students. Parents and guardians will receive a written copy of the meal charges policy and any applicable procedures at the start of each school year and at any time their child transfers into a new school during the school year.

Legal References: Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771 *et seq.*; National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*, 2 C.F.R. pt. 200; 7 C.F.R. pt. 210; 7 C.F.R. pt. 215; 7 C.F.R. pt. 220; United States Department of Agriculture Policy Memos SP 46-2016, 47-2016, and 23-2017, available at https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources?f%5B0%5D=program%3A39&f%5B1%5D=resource_type

[%3A160&keywords=&page=1](#); G.S. 115C-47(7), -47(22), -263, -264, -264.1, -426, -450, -522; 147 art. 6E, art. 6G; 16 N.C.A.C. 6H .0104

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002), Goals of School Nutrition Services (policy 6200), School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards (policy 6230), Goals of the Purchasing Function (policy 6400), Ethics and the Purchasing Function (policy 6401/9100), Federal Grant Administration (policy 8305)

Adopted: March 9, 2015

Replaces: Policy 5.07.90, Charging of School Meals

Revised: May 9, 2016; June 12, 2017; August 14, 2017 and April 9, 2018 (Legal references only); June 11, 2018; April 8, 2019; January 13, 2020; July 26, 2021 (Legal references only); June 30, 2022; December 12, 2022; January 16, 2024; August 11, 2025; **DATE**

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

A. LICENSURE AND OTHER QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

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

B. EXCEPTIONS TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

1. Adjunct CTE Instructors

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

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

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

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

3. Interim Principals

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

4. Cherokee Language and Culture Instructors

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

5. Driver Education Instructors

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

6. Service Members and their Spouses Relocating to North Carolina

A service member or the spouse of a service member who is under military orders to relocate to North Carolina, is in possession of a current educator's license from another jurisdiction, and meets any other conditions established by 50 U.S.C. 4025a or State Board of Education Policy LICN-~~001028~~ will be considered to hold a valid North Carolina educator's license until the military orders expire or June 30th of the year in which the military orders expire, whichever is later.

C. BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM

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

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

D. LICENSE CONVERSION

Teachers must meet all requirements of the State Board of Education ~~in order to~~ do any of the following: convert a residency license to an initial professional license or a continuing professional license; move from an initial professional license ~~or residency license~~ to a continuing professional license or ~~to~~ move from a continuing professional license to a lifetime license.

E. LICENSE RENEWAL

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

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

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

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

F. REPORTING MISCONDUCT

Any superintendent, associate superintendent, assistant superintendent, personnel, administrator, or principal, 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 termination of employment, nonrenewal of an employment contract, suspension without pay, disciplinary action, or resignation shall report the misconduct in writing to the

State Board of Education within five days of the termination, nonrenewal, suspension, disciplinary action, or resignation. If the employee resigns within 30 days of a complaint for misconduct or during an ongoing investigation of a complaint, the alleged misconduct is presumed to have resulted in the resignation.

In addition, if a licensed employee is dismissed, is demoted, does not have an employment contract renewed, or resigns as the result of conduct that is not covered by the preceding paragraph 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 in writing to the State Board of Education within 30 days of the dismissal, demotion, nonrenewal, or resignation.

G. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

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

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

H. EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS

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

Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*; 50 U.S.C. 4025a; 34 C.F.R. 200.55-57, 200.61; G.S. 115C art. 17E; 115C-157.1, -270.15, -270.20, -270.21, -270.35, -284, -295, -298.5, -325(e)(1)(m) (applicable to career status teachers), -325.4(a)(12) (applicable to non-career status teachers), -326.20, -333, -333.1; 16 N.C.A.C. 6C .0301, .0302, .0304, .0305, .0306, .0307, .0308, .0313, .0336, .0337, .0338, .0340, .0341, .0342, .0344, .0346, .0349, .0350, .0360, .0361, .0362, .0363, .0602, .0604, .0605, .0608; State Board of Education Policies CTED-004, DRIV-003, DRIV-004, EVAL-004, EVAL-023, EVAL-034, EVAL-035,

LICN-001, ~~LICN-005~~, LICN-007, ~~LICN-010~~, ~~LICN-011~~, ~~LICN-012~~, ~~LICN-013~~, ~~LICN-021~~~~014~~, ~~LICN-015~~, ~~LICN-017~~, ~~LICN-018~~, ~~LICN-019~~, ~~LICN-020~~, ~~LICN-023~~, ~~LICN-024~~, ~~LICN-025~~, ~~LICN-026~~, ~~LICN-027~~, ~~LICN-028~~, ~~LICN-030~~, ~~LICN-031~~, ~~LICN-032~~, ~~LICN-033-021~~, ~~LICN-022~~, TCED-016; *Beginning Teacher Support Program Handbook* (NCDPI), available at <https://sites.google.com/dpi.nc.gov/ncref/bt-support-program-resources>

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 7800)

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Replaces: Policy 3.02.40, Qualifications of Certified Personnel