The Jackson County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at Smoky Mountain High School, 100 Smoky Mountain Drive, Sylva, North Carolina. The following members were present:

Ken Henke, Chairman  
Ali Laird-Large, Vice-Chairman  
Elizabeth Cooper  
Matt Wike  
Margaret McRae

Also present were Dr. Michael Murray, Superintendent; Dr. Kim Elliott, Assistant Superintendent; Chris Campbell, Board Attorney; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ken Henke called the business meeting to order.

Mr. Henke introduced Adam Larcher, SMHS Student Body President, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to include an informational discussion concerning calendar flexibility and approve the Agenda as amended.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Jake Buchanan introduced Mrs. Cindy Ensley. Mrs. Ensley has been chosen by the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching as the recipient of the Slater Family Honored Educator Scholarship.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Jake Buchanan introduced Ms. Amanda Bowers and the Nursing Fundamentals II Class students; Sydney Fulmer, Yolanda Gonzales, Savannah Kelly, Andee Parris and Shea Roper. The students demonstrated their skills and asked for volunteers to have their blood pressure taken.

**OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**CONSENT ACTION AGENDA**

*Action: Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

Page 1 of 5
A. Open Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 28, 2015.

**INFORMATION AGENDA**

A. **Agenda Item:** Superintendent’s Report  
   **Presenter:** Dr. Michael Murray

Dr. Murray updated the board on the following items:
1. Dr. Murray introduced newly selected School of Alternatives Principal, Mr. Kristopher Reis.
2. Dr. Murray attended the 2015 NCASA Conference on Educational Leadership and 175th Birthday celebration of North Carolina Public Schools from March 17th to 20th in Raleigh.

B. **Agenda Item:** Maintenance Report  
   **Presenter:** Joe Buchanan

Mr. Joe Buchanan informed the board about the following maintenance projects:
- **Smokey Mountain High School**
  1. Re-key A Building, B Building, C Building, Cafeteria, and All exterior doors
  2. Matched funds from high school to upgrade locks
- **Smoky Mountain Elementary**
  1. Replace carpet in 3 classrooms on primary wing.
  2. Currently have new carpet in 6 classrooms on that wing
- **Lighting Grant**
  1. School received funds from WNC Communities

C. **Agenda Item:** Unaudited Financial Summary  
   **Presenter:** Gwen Edwards


D. **Agenda Item:** Calendar Flexibility  
   **Presenter:** Dr. Michael Murray

Dr. Murray informed the board about several school districts requesting their legislators to introduce bills allowing for local control of the school calendar. The board asked to move this item to the action agenda. The board directed the Superintendent to ask our local legislators to introduce a local calendar flexibility bill on behalf of Jackson County Public Schools.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board voted unanimously to direct the Superintendent to ask our local legislators to introduce a local calendar flexibility bill on behalf of Jackson County Public Schools.

**ACTION AGENDA**

A. **Agenda Item:** Budget Amendments – State Fund and Federal Fund  
   **Presenter:** Gwen Edwards

Mrs. Edwards asked the board for approval of transfers and budget amendments for the State Public School fund, Local Current Expense Fund, Federal Fund, Capital Outlay Fund, and Other Specific Revenue Funds.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to approve the budget amendments.
B. **Agenda Item:** State Wireless Initiative  
**Presenter:** David Proffitt and Gwen Edwards

Mrs. Edwards asked the board for contingent approval for the State Wireless Initiative. The project has a maximum cost of $537,000 to provide wireless networking gear and professional services to move to high density wireless. Should the state not allot the funds for this project, we will not move forward.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mr. Matt Wike, the board voted unanimously to approve the State Wireless Initiative contingent upon state funding of the project.*

C. **Agenda Item:** Field Trip Request  
**Presenter:** Dr. Michael L. Murray, Superintendent

1. Andy’s Trout Farm - Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Otto, NC, May 1, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1133
2. Balsam Lake Lodge – Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, Grades K-8, Balsam Lake, NC, May 21-22, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1277
3. Dixie Classic Festivals Washington DC – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Washington, D.C., April 10, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1225
4. NC State University – Fairview Elementary School, Grades 6-8, Raleigh, NC, April 24 to 26, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1214
5. Ripley’s Aquarium of the Smokies - Fairview Elementary School, Grade 4, Gatlinburg, TN, April 16, 2015 to April 17, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1152
6. Ripley’s Aquarium of the Smokies – Smoky Mountain High School, Grades 9-12, Gatlinburg, TN, April 24, 2015 – Travel Tracker #1236

Dr. Murray reviewed the above listed field trip requests and asked the board for approval.

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper the board voted unanimously to approve the above listed field trips.*

**CLOSED SESSION**

The board unanimously approved a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, to enter into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143.318.11 for the following purposes: under subsection; (a) (1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-319-32 and (a) (3) to discuss matters protected by attorney-client privilege.

*Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large and seconded by Mrs. Margaret McRae, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.*

**OPEN SESSION**

**Action:** *Upon a motion by Mrs. Ali Laird Large and seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, the board unanimously approved the consent action agenda:*

A. Closed Session Minutes of Meeting on February 24, 2015.

**PERSONNEL ACTION AGENDA**
Action: A motion was made by Mrs. Ali Laird-Large to approve the personnel agenda as recommended by Dr. Murray and was seconded by Mr. Matt Wike. The board unanimously approved the following recommendations:

Employee Recommendations:
1. Buchanan, Larry – Substitute Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Caldwell, Susan – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
3. Carter, Thomas – Substitute Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Davidson, Todd – Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
5. Hoyle, Joe – Substitute Bus Monitor, Scotts Creek Elementary School
7. Sides, Mark – Activity Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School
8. Stepp, Peggy – Bus Driver, Smoky Mountain High School

Employee Resignations:
1. Bethea, Michelle – EC Teacher, School of Alternatives
2. Hennessee, Carol – After School Assistant, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
3. Mayse, Tim – Head Boy’s Basketball Coach, Blue Ridge Early College
4. Mears, Kelsey – Head Volleyball Coach, Blue Ridge Early College
5. Zerressen, Mike – Teacher, Blue Ridge Early College

Employee Retirements:
1. Barker, Mary Anne – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Elkovich, Thomas – Custodian, Smokey Mountain Elementary School
3. Reece, Sandra – Teacher Assistant, Fairview Elementary School
4. Simmons, Si – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
5. West, Dona – EC Teacher, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School

Non-Staff Coach Recommendations:
1. Bullis, Courtney – Assistant Track Coach, Fairview Elementary School
2. Crow, Zachariah – Assistant Junior Varsity Baseball Coach, Smoky Mountain High School
4. Leaming, Zachary – Assistant Track Coach, Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
5. Orr, Seth – Head Baseball Coach, Fairview Elementary School

Special Requests – One Year Leave of Absence:
1. Kane, Jennifer – EC Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School
2. Lanoue, Lauren – Teacher, Scotts Creek Elementary School
3. Lanoue, Robert – Teacher, Smoky Mountain High School

Extended Summer Employment:

Summer Day Camp
1. Allen, Laura - Fairview Elementary School
2. Caudle, Crystal – Fairview Elementary School
3. Fisher, Vyanne – Fairview Elementary School
4. Franklin, Traci - Fairview Elementary School
5. French, Betty Ann - Fairview Elementary School
6. Henson, Julie - Fairview Elementary School
7. Karup, Aimee - Fairview Elementary School
8. Morgan, Jessica - Fairview Elementary School
9. Sloan, Patricia - Fairview Elementary School
10. Stanley, Rhea - Fairview Elementary School
11. Tierney, Sarah - Fairview Elementary School
12. Watson, Joshua - Fairview Elementary School
13. Woody, Chad - Fairview Elementary School

**Summer Reading Camp**
1. Barkiewicz, Amanda – Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
2. Bryant, Pam - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
3. Caudle, Kim – Fairview Elementary School
4. Harris, Donna – Smokey Mountain Elementary School
5. Houtzer, Deborah – Blue Ridge School
6. Kilpatrick, Alicia – Smokey Mountain Elementary School
7. Macaulay, Eleanor – Fairview Elementary School
8. McCue, Gretchen - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
9. McDaniel, Erin - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
10. Rearigh, Andrea – Fairview Elementary School
11. Stillwell, Renee - Cullowhee Valley Elementary School
12. Turner, Sutton – Blue Ridge School
13. Whisnant, Holly – Fairview Elementary School

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Education is April 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., at Cullowhee Valley Elementary School, 240 Wisdom Drive, Cullowhee, N.C.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection, Chairman Ken Henke adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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Ken Henke, Chairman                  Dr. Michael L. Murray, Secretary