



Cherokee County Schools

Dr. Jeana Y. Conley, Superintendent
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Minutes of the Cherokee County Board of Education Meeting held Thursday,
September 14, 2017 beginning at 6 pm at Central Office

Board Members Present

Ms. Wanda Arrowood, Chair, Mr. Winfield Clonts, Mr. Tim Coffey, Mr. Arnold Mathews, Mr. Jeff Tatham, and Mr. Tim West

Board Member Absent: Mr. Paul Brown

Board Attorney Present: Mr. Chad Donnahoo

1. **Call to Order.** Ms. Wanda Arrowood called the Board of Education meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Mr. Winfield Clonts led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Mission Statement.** Mr. Arnold Mathews read the mission statement.
4. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was accepted as presented.
5. **Approval of Minutes.** The Minutes of the August 10, 2017 regular board meeting were approved as presented.
6. **Public Input.** Ms. Arrowood called for public comment. Ms. Dana Bolyard appeared to appeal to the Board of a school bus to be provided TCEC.
7. **Cherokee County Schools Facilities Study & Priorities.** Mr. Paul Boney and Ms. Ginny Magrath appeared and delivered a Cherokee County Schools Facilities Study and Priorities briefing to the Board. During the briefing, goals of the study were presented, as well as, priorities, options, and funding options. There was much discussion during and after the delivery of the briefing.
8. **Alternative Accountability Model Option.** Dr. Conley presented the Alternative Accountability Model Options for the 2017/18 School Year. Dr. Conly explained the four ways to participate in the Alternative Schools' Accountability Model and recommended the Board adopt Option B: Alternative schools may return data/results back to students' home schools receive no designations.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Mr. Tim Coffey) to accept Option B as recommended by the Superintendent. Voting is unanimous.

Dr. Conley next delivered a detailed overview of Cherokee County Schools' School Performance Grade and Graduation Rate percentages. During the presentation, Dr. Conley informed the Board that all but three of the Schools met growth expectations and that Cherokee County Schools has a graduation rate of 92.5%.

Board of Education

Ms. Wanda Arrowood, Chair, Mr. Paul Brown, Vice Chair, Mr. Arnold Mathews, Scribe
Mr. Winfield Clonts, Mr. Tim Coffey, Mr. Jeff Tatham, and Mr. Tim West

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9. **Financial Planning Update.** Mr. John Higdon delivered a report from the Financial Planning Subcommittee meeting held September 7, 2017. During the report, Mr. John Higdon proposed approval of the following charter bus companies:
- a. Holiday Tours,
 - b. Cross Roads Charter,
 - c. Young Transportation,
 - d. Cherokee Boys Club, and
 - e. Premier Transportation Burke International

Motion made (Mr. Tim Coffey) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) to approve the charter bus companies as presented by Mr. Higdon. Voting is unanimous.

Next, Mr. Higdon and Mr. John Parker proposed contracting with National Communications, Inc., as a service provider for fire and burglar alarm services. There was much discussion as to the necessity of this change in service provider.

Motion made (Mr. Winfield Clonts) and seconded (Mr. Tim West) to approve contracting with NCI as a service provider for fire and burglar alarm services as proposed by Mr. Higdon and Mr. Parker. Voting is unanimous.

Lastly, Mr. Higdon identified items that received consent during the Financial Planning Subcommittee meeting and requested approval of the use of ½ cent sales tax funds in the amount of \$22,763; those being:

a. NCI - AHS Entry Doors (3 additional)	\$7,062
b. Communication Service - District (Bus Radios)	\$2,722
c. MSS Solutions, LLC - Oaks (HVAC Controller)	\$1,340
d. Appalachian Generator - REMS &MHS (Transfer Switch)	\$10,000
e. Communication Service - District (Base Station)	\$1,639

Motion made (Mr. Arnold Mathews) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) to approve the usage of ½ cent sales tax as requested by Mr. Higdon. Voting is unanimous.

10. **Budget Request.** Ms. Stephanie Hass informed the Board that amendments to the Capital Projects fund resulting from items approved as recommended by the Financial Planning Subcommittee would appear as amendment #2 at the October meeting.

11. **Policy Review.** Mr. Jeff Tatham presented several policies for 2nd reading; those policies presented are:
- a. 3640-5130 Student Voter Registration and Preregistration
 - b. 4150 School Assignments
 - c. 4250-5075-7316 North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program

Motion made (Mr. Jeff Tatham) and seconded (Mr. Tim Coffey) to approve the policies presented for second reading. Voting is unanimous.

Mr. Tatham next presented policy for first reading as prepared by the Policy Subcommittee. The policy presented is:

- a. 3460 Graduation Requirements

12. **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Conley delivered her superintendent's report by reading from a list of good news items provided by school principals.

13. **Adjourn for Break and Closed Session.** Mr. Arnold Mathews read the motion to adjourn to closed session.

Motion made (Mr. Arnold Mathews) and seconded (Mr. Jeff Tatham) for the Board of Education to adjourn to break and closed session pursuant to the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and 143-318.11(c), for the following purposes: under subsection (a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential personnel information, under subsection (a)(3) to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege, and under subsection (a)(5) to discuss the terms of a contract for employment. Voting is unanimous.

14. **Return to open session & Closed Session Decisions.** Ms. Wanda Arrowood called the meeting to order and returned to open session.

Motion made (Mr. Tim West) and seconded (Mr. Tim Coffey) to return to open session. Voting is unanimous.

After returning to open session, the Board took the following actions based on closed session discussions.

Motion made (Mr. Tim Coffey) and seconded (Mr. Jeff Tatham) to approve the retirement and resignations, personnel hiring recommendations, substitute teachers, cafeteria substitutes, and helping hands volunteers as presented by the Superintendent. Voting is unanimous.

Those items contained on the closed session agenda and approved are:

(a) The Board approved the following Retirement and Resignations:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position & Assignment,</i>	<i>Type of Request</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
Rhonda Smiley	Teacher, MMS	Retirement	10-01-2017
Jonathan Watson	Teacher, MHS	Resignation	08-02-2017
Zack Lovingood	Teacher, MMS	Resignation	08-17-2017

(b) The Board approved the following hiring recommendations:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position & Assignment</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
Douglas Andrews	EC Teacher, MHS	09-14-2017
Brian Davenport	Teacher/Bus Driver, MHS/District	09-14-2017

(c) The Board approved the following Substitute Teachers:

- Niccole Aikey
- Madison Bias
- Angel Long
- Johanna Messer
- Paulette Smithmeyer

(d) The Board approved the following Cafeteria Substitutes:

- Martha Duffell
- Amy Guffey
- Samantha Postell
- Paige McNabb
- Ashley Williams
- Robert Raver

(e) The Board approved the following 21st CCLC Site Directors/Tutors:

- Amanda Barber, MCEMS, Site Director
- Alex Hughes, MMS, Site Director
- Charlotte Hill, MMS, Tutor

- o Natalee Palmer, MMS, Tutor
- o Carolyn Postell-Cordell, MMS, Tutor
- o Sandra Smith, MMS, Tutor
- o Gail Hubbard, MMS, Tutor

Motion made (Mr. Jeff Tatham) and seconded (Mr. Winfield Clonts) to approve the substitute teachers as presented by the Superintendent. Mr. Tim West recused himself from the vote. Voting is unanimous.

(f) The Superintendent announced the following transfers:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position, From</i>	<i>Position, To</i>	<i>Effective</i>
Michael Verola	Teacher, REMS	TA EC, MES	08-17-2017
Whitney King	Teacher, AHS	Teacher, MMS	08-17-2017
Brandon Dietz	TA EC, AMS	Custodian, AHS	08-29-2017
Tasha Williamson	TA PK, HDEMS	PK Lead Teacher, REMS	09-11-2017
Bryan McDonald	Custodian, MMS	Custodian, AMS	09-12-2017
Robin Hughes	Custodian, AMS	Custodian, MMS	09-12-2017

(g) The Board approved the following Helping Hands School Volunteers

<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Reason for Volunteering</i>	<i>Application Renewal Date</i>
Candace DeVore	AMS	Volleyball	09-14-2018
Ashlyn Rowland	AMS	Sports	09-14-2018
Brittany Rowland	AMS	Volleyball	09-14-2018
Lori Roland	AMS	Sports	09-14-2018
Trent Abling	MHS	Basketball	09-14-2018
Madison Boehne	MHS	Band Events	09-14-2018
Holly Gutierrez	MHS	Basketball	09-14-2018
Stephanie Howe	MHS	Band Events	09-14-2018
Robert Ledford	MHS	Band Events	09-14-2018
Al Lovingood	MHS	Basketball	09-14-2018
Cody Webb	MHS	Basketball	09-14-2018
Cathy Latulipe	MHS	Cheerleading/Dance	09-14-2018
Taylor Keen	HDHS	Cheerleading	09-14-2018

Note: The motion approving entering into the service contract with National Communications, Inc., as proposed by Mr. Higdon and Mr. Parker during the Financial Planning Subcommittee report (item number 9 on the agenda) has been recorded under item number 9 herein.

Motion made (Mr. Tim Coffey) and seconded (Mr. Tim West) to recess the meeting to reconvene at 6 pm, Friday, September 15, 2017 at Central Office. Voting is unanimous.

Reconvening of the Board

Board Members Present

Ms. Wanda Arrowood, Chair, Mr. Paul Brown, Vice Chair, Mr. Winfield Clonts, Mr. Tim Coffey, Mr. Jeff Tatham, and Mr. Tim West

Board Member Absent: Mr. Arnold Mathews

1. **Call to Order.** Ms. Wanda Arrowood called the Board of Education meeting to order.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The Agenda was approved as presented.
3. **Public Input.** Ms. Arrowood called for public comment. There was none.

4. **Cherokee County Schools Facilities Study & Priorities.** Ms. Arrowood opened the floor for discussions. There was much discussion by and between the Board members present. The discussions included disposition of renovations to existing structures at TCCC to be used by TCEC, School Construction Grant application, timeline, and planning to apply for the grant during its next cycle, and new construction of an Early College Oaks Academy building. The discussions next turned to student teacher assignment at each school and student populations—Ms. Kim Gibson informed the Board of each grade student/teacher ratio for each elementary and middle school. Following this, Dr. Conley proposed a 2 high school scenario as being the best configuration for Cherokee County Schools, she explained this configuration in great detail which prompted much discussion. At the conclusion of the discussions Ms. Arrowood proposed Building Exploration Subcommittee meetings be held each month to develop and refine a plan. The Board agreed.
5. **Announcement of the next Board of Education Meeting.** Ms. Arrowood announced a regular Board meeting to be held October 12, 2017 at Central Office beginning at 6 pm. It was also announced that the Building Exploration Subcommittee meet October 5, 2017 beginning at 4 pm at Central Office to be followed by the Policy Subcommittee meeting.
6. **Adjournment.** There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7 pm.

Motion made (Mr. Tim Coffey) and seconded (Mr. Tim West) to adjourn the meeting. Voting is unanimous.


Jeana Y. Conley, Secretary


Wanda Arrowood, Board Chair