

# Yancey County Board of Education

## Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2007

### **Opening:**

*Ms. Van Thomas, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Yancey County Board of Education to order at 6:00 P.M. on August 6, 2007, in the Board Office. Ms. Thomas welcomed all participants and led in prayer.*

### **Present:**

*Ms. Van Thomas, Chair*

*Ms. Elaine Boone, Vice Chair*

*Dr. Iva Nell Buckner*

*Mr. Randy Banks*

*Mr. Jeremy Chandler*

*Dr. Thomas Little, Superintendent*

*Dr. Cheri Boone, Assistant Superintendent*

*Other interested parties*

### **A. Amend the Agenda**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include April Buchanan, Leslie Laws, Brittany Renfro, Jennifer Peterson, Sandra Wilkinson, and Jennifer Pearson in the personnel section. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **B. Approval of Amended Agenda**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the agenda with amendments. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **C. Approval of Minutes**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to approve the June 26<sup>th</sup> and July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes as submitted. Ms. Boone made that motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **D. Public Input**

*There was no response to the opportunity for public input.*

### **E. Good News**

*There was no good news.*

### **F. Old Business**

*Dr. Little presented to the Board of Education the Local Budget Update. The budget reflected the budget request from the county (\$2,781,264), actual funds received from the county (\$2,540,930), and the funds to be cut from the requested budget (\$240,334). A list of possible cuts and savings to the 2007-2008 budget was presented that would partially balance the budget that totaled \$348,068, leaving additional cuts that needed to be made of \$100,184.*

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*Dr. Little informed the Board that the Student Rights Handbook would be printed by an outside printer and that the revision/update made no content changes.*

*Mr. Niles Howell updated the Board on Ken McCurry's request for a 16' right of way at Clearmont Elementary School to access property he says is landlocked in order for his children to have a place on which to build their homes. The right of way would reduce the playground area and make it necessary to move playground equipment. Mr. McCurry proposed to Mr. Howell that he would be responsible for building a bridge (at a projected cost of \$60,000), however the school would be responsible for moving the fence. Dr. Buckner wondered if he had other intentions for the property if he was willing to build a bridge that would cost \$60,000. Mr. Howell explained that the right of way would make an extra egress from the campus, but Mr. McCurry wanted to restrict the use of that egress to emergency use only. Dr. Little mentioned he had spoken with Ms. Angie Anglin, Clearmont Elementary School Principal, about the matter and there were some issues, such as Yancey County Schools having to build a road at the school, that would further reduce the playground area. He also felt Mr. McCurry should not be able to tell the school what/when/how to use the egress. Mr. Chandler suggested Mr. McCurry approach another neighbor for said right of way. He felt there was no guarantee that Mr. McCurry's children would not sell the property for some other use than what has been proposed. Mr. Howell felt it was time to put this matter to rest. After a short discussion as to whether to grant or deny Mr. McCurry the right of way, Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to deny Mr. McCurry's request for a right of way. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

*Ms. Lynne Deyton, Child Nutrition Director, presented the Board with the proposed adult meal price increase. The actual cost of an adult meal is \$3.09. She explained that under federal guidelines, the price of a meal must be sufficient to cover the cost of the meal. The proposed increase in adult meal prices beginning 2007-2008 is as follows:*

*Regular Meal 2.75→3.00*

*Mega Meal 3.00→3.25*

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to increase the prices as presented. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.*

### **G. New Business**

*Mr. Ed Hunter gave a presentation and showed a very informative video about the Appalachian Therapeutic Riding Center, which began in 1986 under the direction of Ms. Lisa Mauney. The Center accommodates physically and mentally challenged children's therapeutic needs through horseback riding and operates with the help of volunteers and United Way funding. Mr. Hunter explained the Center is always in need of volunteers and invited the Board to come visit. Mr. Hunter commented on the recent article in the local newspaper about Ms. Lisa Mauney and thanked the Board for its time and attention.*

*Dr. Little presented the Board with the Board Breakfast Schedule. He asked the Board to let him know if it was necessary to make any changes to that schedule.*

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*Dr. Little presented the Board with the Substitute Teacher Handbook, which was prepared by Miranda Elkins of Cane River Middle School, and explained the placement of this handbook in all the schools in an orange folder along with other pertinent information that would be useful to the substitute.*

*Dr. Little told the Board that he would continue running buses in the summer and not just for long distances away from home. He also said that field trips would be closely monitored.*

*Mr. Niles Howell presented the following maintenance report:*

### Bald Creek

- *Moved and installed A/C unit from Bee Log*
- *Removed receptacle*
- *Removed window and cased doorway in former secretary's office*
- *Repaired sink trap in ladies restroom*
- *Assembled new office furniture*
- *Assisted in moving furniture for cleaning*
- *Moved telephone, internet and fax lines*
- *Removed some asbestos tile for new carpet in principal's office*

### Bee Log

- *Repaired plaster in wall of gym*
- *Repaired loose water closet in ladies restroom*

### Burnsville

- *Installed new gutter and roof drain lines on playground*
- *Contractor screened and finished gym floor*
- *Replaced broken playground fence posts*
- *Repaired vibration noise in classroom A/C unit*

### Cane River

- *Assembled furniture for new computer lab and began installation of wiring*
- *Replaced roof on walkway to shop*
- *Picked up yard debris from shrubbery trimming*
- *Replaced emergency/exit lights in gym*

### Clearmont

- *Secured loose tiles in gym area*
- *Cleared existing yard and gutter drain lines and installed new lines to relieve flooding of gym*

### East Yancey

- *Installed replacement bearings and brackets on energy recovery system*
- *Replaced roof on shop walkway*

### Micaville

- *Repaired cable TV*
- *Removed surplus furniture*
- *Repaired chlorinator*

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### Mountain Heritage

- Replaced exhaust fan for chemical storage cabinets
- Installed weather strip on kitchen door
- Moved internet wire in secretary's office
- Replaced 200 amp breaker and repaired 3-way switch in auditorium
- Picked up and delivered remaining equipment for Collaborative building from Mayland Community College
- Inspected and replaced bulb in auditorium house lights
- Contractor installed new tile in hallways and upstairs commons area
- Contractor sanded, painted and finished gym floor

### South Toe

- Delivered paint for gym floor
- Replaced some hallway tile

### Central Office

- Checked UPS system and outlet location in computer head-end room
- Moved furniture in board office for personnel relocations
- Remodel office door and painted office
- Cleared sink clog in workroom
- Moved internet and phone lines for relocated staff

### Bus Garage

- 

### Maintenance

- 

### Upcoming projects and updates

- Installed back flow prevention devices in all elementary well houses
- Installed new Tobacco Free Schools signs at some schools
- Contractor to repair roof leaks and damage at South Toe cafeteria

## **H. Other**

*The Board acknowledged a thank you note from Bailey Woods, recipient of the Service Award Scholarship.*

*The Board agreed to move the September Board Meeting from Monday, September 3, 2007, to Monday, September 10, 2007, due to the Labor Day holiday the first Monday of the month.*

*The Board reviewed the August VISION newsletter and commented on VISION in general and its interesting and informative content.*

## **I. Closed Session**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion that the Board go into Closed Session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board. [N.C. G.S. § 143-318-11(a)(6)]. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

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### **J. Return to Open Session**

*Ms. Thomas moved to go back into Open Session for the purpose of voting on personnel. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **K. Personnel**

*Dr. Little recommended the personnel list for Board approval as follows:*

#### **1. Resignations**

- *Jeannie D. Miller – Classroom teacher at Burnsville Elementary*
- *Amy McCurry – EC Teacher Assistant at Micaville Elementary*
- *Brian DeSua – Title I / Social Studies teacher at East Yancey Middle*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the resignation recommendations as presented. Ms. Boone made the motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

#### **2. Transfers**

- *Lynn Little – Title I Language Arts to regular Language Arts at CRMS*
- *Andrea Allen – Classroom teacher to Lead Teacher at Bee Log*
- *Jamie Pate – Half-time Media Coordinator at Clearmont and Bee Log to Half-time teacher and half-time Media at Bee Log*
- *Sunshine Williams – K-6 teacher at Bald Creek Elementary to EC teacher at Micaville*
- *Nicole Robinson – Data Manager at MHHS to Technology Assistant at EYMS*
- *Jennifer Pearson – At-Risk teacher at MHHS to Tutor at Micaville (first semester) and Tutor at MHHS (second semester)*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the transfer recommendations as presented. Mr. Banks made the motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

#### **3. Retirement**

- *Marsha D. Tipton – Teacher Assistant at Clearmont (Effective August 1, 2007)*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the retirement recommendation as presented. Ms. Boone made the motion. Dr. Buckner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

#### **4. Leave Requests**

- *Kristin Buchanan – School Social Worker*
  - *Request to extend maternity leave until September 4, 2007 but plans to work two day per week when school begins*

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- *Belinda Burlison – Guidance Counselor at Bee Log, Bald Creek, & Clearmont Elementary Schools*
  - *Maternity leave request / Will be leaving before the end of August and returning in approximately 10 weeks after the birth of her baby (Ms. Burlison is using her leave days and extended sick leave days to cover her time from work)*
- *Valerie Thomas Swann – Teacher Assistant at Burnsville*
  - *Request to extend maternity leave until November 5, 2007 (Original return to work date was October 1, 2007)*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the leave request recommendations as presented. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **5. Employment**

- *Angie Weatherman – Secretary to Superintendent (Verbally approved on July 17, 2007)*
- *Shane Cassida – Assistant Principal at Burnsville Elementary (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007)*
- *Jennifer Riddle – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teacher at Burnsville Elementary (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007)*
- *Steven DeWayne Grindstaff – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher at Burnsville Elementary (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007)*
- *Susana Veronia Hill – Kindergarten teacher at Bald Creek (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007)*
- *Margaret Joan Stebbeds – Language Arts teacher at EYMS (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007, pending licensure requirements)*
- *Cynthia Diane Tipton – Social Studies & math teacher at EYMS (Verbally approved on July 27, 2007)*
- *Lori Garofalo McCourry – Elementary ESL teacher – Itinerant*
- *Ramona Noemi Mendez – Middle School ESL teacher - Itinerant*
- *Barbara Robinson – Part-time NC Quest Project 2020 Instructional Coach*
- *Brendan Harrington – One year Interim Social Studies teacher at MHHS*
- *Tammy Sellers – EC Assistant at MHHS*
- *Karen Mizell – EC Assistant at MHHS*
- *Dennis Burlison - Maintenance*
- *John Robinson – Custodian at Bee Log*
- *Susan Martin – Spanish teacher at MHHS*
- *Jennifer England – Guidance Counselor at Micaville and South Toe*
- *April Baker Buchanan – Physical Education teacher at EYMS*
- *Brittany Renfro – Interim Teacher Assistant at Clearmont*
- *Jennifer Peterson – 10-week Interim Teacher Assistant at Bald Creek*
- *Sandra Wilkinson – Half-time EC Assistant & Half-time one-on-one Assistant*

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*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the employment recommendations as presented. Mr. Banks made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### *Employment Recommendation Continued:*

*Dr. Little recommended:*

- *Leslie Laws as Teacher Assistant at Clearmont Elementary.*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the employment recommendation as presented. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **L. Return to Closed Session:**

*Ms. Thomas moved to go back into Closed Session for the purpose of student issues under FERPA regulations [N.C. Gen. Stat§ 115C-319 through 321.2]. Mr. Chandler made the motion. Ms. Boone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **M. Return to Open Session:**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to come out of Closed Session and into Open Session for the purpose of voting on personnel matters. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

*Dr. Little recommended the following substitute:*

#### **1. Substitute**

- *Jeralyne Ray – Substitute for Donna Huskins at MHHS*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the substitute recommendation. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

*Dr. Little recommended the following Child Nutrition personnel list:*

#### **2. Child Nutrition Substitutes**

- *Shelley McMahan – Any School*
- *Melisa Miller – Any School*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the Child Nutrition personnel list. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

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### **N. Other Topics:**

#### ***1. Teacher Position Cut***

*Dr. Little recommended to cut a teacher position at Clearmont.*

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the recommendation as presented. Ms. Banks made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

#### ***2. 2007-2008 Budget Cuts List***

*Dr. Little recommended to cut the following list of items as presented on the 2007-08 Budget Cuts & Savings list.*

<i>Cut two positions at Central Office</i>	<i>\$90,456.00</i>
<i>Pay one locally funded teacher with 019 money</i>	<i>\$40,000.00</i>
<i>Reduce Central Office Secretary request by .6 position</i>	<i>\$15,865.00</i>
<i>Cut two delivery positions</i>	<i>\$17,263.00</i>
<i>Pay two ESL teachers from 109 funds</i>	<i>\$80,156.00</i>
<i>Cut \$6,000.00 in staff development 5930 &amp; 6930</i>	<i>\$ 6,000.00</i>
<i>Cut technology repair parts by \$2,000.00</i>	<i>\$ 2,000.00</i>
<i>Cut travel for system's Social Worker</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>Cut local support to Habitat Program by 15,000.00</i>	<i>\$15,000.00</i>
<i>Cut \$500.00 from Community Service supplies &amp; materials</i>	<i>\$ 500.00</i>
<i>Cut Volunteer Program recognition</i>	<i>\$ 750.00</i>
<i>Reduce Board travel to \$5,000.00</i>	<i>\$ 3,000.00</i>
<i>Cut General Operations 6320 supplies and materials by</i>	<i>\$ 3,000.00</i>
<i>Cut printing and binding 6330 by 1,500.00</i>	<i>\$ 1,500.00</i>
<i>Reduce General Operations 6410</i>	<i>\$ 3,000.00</i>
<i>Cut SRO vehicle cost</i>	<i>\$ 2,500.00</i>
<i>Cut Misc. Plant Operations by \$1,133.00</i>	<i>\$ 1,133.00</i>
<i>Cut Cultural Arts requests from staff by 4,000.00</i>	<i>\$ 4,000.00</i>

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<i>Inst. Competition Funds to schools</i>	\$ 3,000.00
<i>Reduce testing cost at MHHS by \$500.00</i>	\$ 500.00
<i>Cut Testing Assistant salary increase</i>	\$ 2,000.00
<i>General Operations 6520 Contracted Service (Finance)</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>Cut the Traffic Controller at MHHS</i>	\$ 5,500.00
<i>Cut the Traffic Controller at Burnsville</i>	\$ 4,000.00
<i>.5 teacher at Bee Log (currently have 1.5 teacher in one class</i>	\$17,240.00
<i>.5 remedial teacher at Micaville</i>	\$18,705.00
<b>Total Reductions</b>	<b>\$348,068.00</b>

*Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve the recommended budget cuts as presented. Ms. Boone made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

### **Adjournment:**

*Ms. Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Buckner made the motion. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.*

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Van Thomas, Chairperson

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Elaine Boone, Vice Chairperson

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Dr. Iva Nell Buckner

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Jeremy Chandler

ATTEST:

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Dr. Tom Little,  
Superintendent

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Randy Banks