

**Jackson County Board of Education  
Minutes of Special Called Meeting  
Sylva, North Carolina  
Central Office**

398 Hospital Drive

June 11, 2020

6:00 p.m.

The Jackson County Board of Education met in a Special Called Work Session and Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2020, in the board room of the Central Office, 398 Hospital Road, Sylva, NC. The following members were present via telephone and/or online platform:

Ali Laird-Large, Board Chairperson  
Elizabeth Cooper, Vice-Chair  
Margaret McRae  
Wes Jamison  
Abigail Clayton

Also present were Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent; Jacob Buchanan, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Kevin Bailey, Executive Director of Human Resources; Chris Campbell, Board Attorney; Jeremiah Jackson, Chief Technology Officer; and Cora Fields, Board Assistant.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Alison Laird-Large, Chairperson, called the work session to order.

Mrs. Laird-Large led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Upon a motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.*

**INFORMATION AGENDA**

1. **Agenda Item:** Superintendent's Report  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent

Dr. Elliott announced her retirement effective September 1, 2020. She thanked the Board Chair and Vice Chair for their support and stated that the previous seven years were the best of her career. Dr. Elliott shared that she is proud of the JCPS accomplishments during her tenure in the areas of school safety, increased student support services, professional development, strategic planning, curriculum design, and improvements in teaching and learning. Additionally, improvements in business and financial processes, repair of facilities, aligned HR processes, improved employee benefits programs, efficiencies and cost savings, increased partnerships and grant acquisition, increased engagement in the work of equity, as well as the hiring of dynamic principals and directors to lead the district to the next greatest heights. Dr. Elliott is committed to seeing a safe and successful school start on August 17,

2020. Dr. Elliott pledged her support for the selection process of her successor in any manner needed and will work to make the transition to a new superintendent as smooth as possible.

### **WORK SESSION**

Dr. Kevin Bailey, District Athletic Director led a discussion about the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) guidelines that have been issued in response to COVID-19. Adam Phillips, Smoky Mountain High School (SMHS) Athletic Director, and Tim Mayse, Blue Ridge Early College (BREC) Athletic Director, provided plans to begin athlete condition training on June 15, 2020, that exceed the NCHSAA requirements.

The board reached consensus for student athletes to begin condition training with the following additions to these plans:

1. Provide additional hand sanitizer stations outside restrooms in critical areas, as appropriate.
2. Provide signage that the athletic facilities are closed to spectators for student practices.
3. Provide the Informed Consent Athletic and Extracurricular Activities/COVID-19 form for parents with the students Athletic Forms they receive through Family ID.
4. Provide training course for employees with these new requirements, prior to the start of condition training for students.
5. Ensure that staff and students are using face coverings, when in transitions and in pods, except during physical exertion. Provide face coverings if needed.
6. Ensure that no more than 10 people, including coaches, are together at one time.
7. June 15 and June 16 will be required staff and student training. Student condition training will begin June 17, 2020.
8. Coaches will complete the acknowledgment document that there will be two days of COVID-19 education: one day for coaches and one day for students.

Dr. Bailey will present the final 2020 Summer Workout Plans for SMHS and BREC for board approval at the June 23, 2020 board meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

*The board unanimously approved a motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper and seconded by Mr. Wes Jamison, 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. Elizabeth Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Abigail Clayton, the board voted unanimously to return to open session.*

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **PERSONNEL**

**Action:** *The board unanimously approved the retirement of Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Superintendent, with their thanks and appreciation for her service to JCSP, effective September 1, 2020. The board will begin a search for Interim Superintendent and the selection process for a new Superintendent.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objection, Chairperson Alison Laird-Large adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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Mrs. Alison Laird-Large, Chairperson

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Dr. Kimberly Elliott, Secretary