



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Education Committee

*Commissioner Mike Akard*  
*Commissioner Robbie Bennett*  
*Commissioner Brad Bowers*  
*Commissioner Misty Davis*  
*Commissioner John Giles*  
*Commissioner Jessica Hannah*  
*Commissioner Earl McMahan*  
*Commissioner Steve Mikels*  
*Commissioner Dawn Reagan*

*Ex Officio School Members: John Lowe and Randi Howard*

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Tuesday, December 2, 2025

12:30 PM

Rockford Elementary School  
3728 Williams Mill Rd., Rockford 37853

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~NO QUORUM~

### ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Education Committee met at Rockford Elementary School in Rockford, Tennessee, on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. Blount County Education Committee Chair Dawn Reagan called the meeting to order. There were 5 members present, with the late arrival of Commissioner Jessica Hannah, and 6 were absent. The Chair declared that a quorum was not present. In addition to the Education Committee members, others present were: Director of Schools Justin Ridge; Rockford Elementary School Principal Chad Tipton, Assistant Principal Steve Stoutt, Librarian Jennifer Walker; BCS Math Coach Jama Anderson; Chief of Elementary Instruction April Herron; Chief Finance Officer Brittany Spence; Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor Clay Davis; School Board member Chris Pass; and The Daily Times Correspondent Shanon Adame. There was no action taken.

**Present** 5 - Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Jessica Hannah, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, and School Representative John Lowe

**Absent** 6 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Misty Davis, Commissioner John Giles, Commissioner Steve Mikels, and School Representative Randi Howard

### A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

No action could be taken due to the lack of a quorum.

### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Education Committee Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [2102 M Education Committee 25-11-04 Meeting Minutes](#)

No action could be taken due to the lack of a quorum.

**C. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS.**

There was none.

**D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

There was none.

**E. NEW BUSINESS.****1. Report from Principal.**

The Chair recognized Rockford Elementary School Principal Chad Tipton. He welcomed the attendees and mentioned the school's culture and climate. Assistant Principal Steve Stoutt was introduced to expound on the school's culture. BCS Instructional Coach Jama Anderson was introduced to talk about her experience as a math instructional coach. Ms. Whitehead was introduced to talk about her experience as a fifth grade math teacher at Rockford, and the positive impact an instructional coach has made on the teachers and students. Fifth Grader Carter Bailey was introduced to speak about his personal experience at Rockford Elementary School. Justin Ridge commended the school for their accomplishments and achievements in their academic growth.

**2. School District Reports.**

The Chair recognized Director of Schools Justin Ridge and Chief Financial Officer Brittany Spence to address agenda items that, if passed by the board of education, would go before the county commission. Those items being budget increase requests in Capital Fund 177 to include: a roof replacement for the Union Grove Middle School concession stand and the Porter Elementary Friends portable for \$31,240; the purchase and installation of HVAC units at Heritage Middle School \$131,550; and the purchase and installation of field lights for the Heritage High School softball and baseball fields for \$559,000.

**3. Blount County School Board.**

The Chair recognized School Board member John Lowe who introduced an agenda item involving a Bible Release Time program. The program, sponsored by the Elgin Children's Foundation, would allow students, with parental consent, to be released from school for up to one hour a week to attend Bible study. He told the group that the board already has a memorandum of understanding with the organization to provide free dental care for underprivileged students in the school district.

**4. Next Meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. at William Blount CTE.**

Director of Schools Justin Ridge will follow-up with the Chair if the location needs to be changed.

**F. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

There was none.

## **G. ADJOURNMENT.**

The Education Committee adjourned on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 1:44 p.m.  
for committee members to participate in a tour (walkabout) of the school.

## **WALKABOUT**