



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes

### Education Committee

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Tuesday, November 2, 2021

12:30 PM

Middlesettlements Elementary School  
3105 Miser Station Road, Louisville, TN 37777

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#### ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Education Committee met at Middlesettlements Elementary School in Maryville, Tennessee on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. Blount County Education Committee Chair Dawn Reagan called the meeting to order. There were 8 members present and 3 absent with the late arrival of Commissioner Staci Lawhorn. The Chair declared that a quorum did exist. In addition to the Education Committee members, others present were: Director of Schools Rob Britt; Supervisor of Facilities, Maintenance and Capital Projects James Duke; Fiscal Administrator Troy Logan; Middlesettlements Elementary School Principal Susan Graves; and School Board Member Diane Bain. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present** 8 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Vice Chair Nick Bright, Commissioner Dodd Crowe, Commissioner Staci Lawhorn, Commissioner Joe McCulley, Chairperson Dawn Reagan, and School Representative Fred Goins
- Absent** 3 - Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Steve Mikels, and School Representative Debbie Sudhoff

#### A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair Bright, to set the agenda. A voice was taken with all voting aye, and none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried and the agenda set.

#### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Education Committee Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2021.](#)

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes29-Oct-2021-12-01-11](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Vice Chair Bright, that the minutes be approved. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, and none opposed. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

#### C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Harry Grothjahn requested that the Chair provide a current BEP funding formulas report.

#### D. REPORTS.

**1. Maintenance/Construction Report.**

Supervisor of Facilities, Maintenance and Capital Projects James Duke gave the maintenance/construction report that included completed projects, such as: programmable HVAC thermostats at Townsend Elementary and cost savings comparisons at similar schools; replaced light bulbs with LED's at Middlesettlements; science labs at William Blount; phase 1 of Heritage High HVAC; Porter Elementary vestibule security; new flooring at Middlesettlements and Friendsville Elementary; and replaced the siding on a portable and redid the walkway at Middlesettlements Elementary.

Ongoing projects include: the Heritage High HVAC phase 1b; bleachers for the two high schools; district-wide bleacher repairs; flooring at Carpenters Elementary and Middle; the Lanier Elementary sewage project; plan of action for condition assessment for all schools; district-wide HVAC inventory and maintenance contract; and the Heritage High CTE renovation.

Future projects include: the track and field, press box bid and field house design for Eagleton College & Career Academy (ECCA); cafeteria furniture, new flooring, paint and lighting at the two high schools; Heritage High HVAC phase 2 (pending ESSR funding); Carpenters Middle dropoff/pickup awning; redesign William Blount CTE; coordinating with Blackberry Farms at Walland Elementary for an outdoor classroom; excavation and removal of a portable, old concrete bleachers and concession stand at Lanier Elementary; removal of 6 water heaters at Walland Elementary; replace drain line and grease trap at William Blount High; and replacement of HVAC systems that are over 15 years old.

Commission Crowe inquired if the road crew would continue to re-pave school parking lots. Mr. Duke said he and the County Highway Department are coordinating that.

There was no action taken.

**2. Financial Report.**

Fiscal Administrator Troy Logan gave the financial report that included sales tax revenue 25% up from last year; property tax - 28% up from last year; ESSR 3.0 grant status (replacement Chromebooks and HVAC); and no budget items for November.

There was no action taken.

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

There was none.

**F. NEW BUSINESS.****1. Report from the Middlesettlements Elementary School Principal.**

Principal Susan Graves welcomed the attendees, and spoke of Middlesettlements 40th birthday highlights; current student enrollment of 325 preK - 5th; and highest achievements scores in TCAP.

**2. Report from the Director of Schools.**

Blount County Schools Director Rob Britt commended Principal Graves on her achievements. Mr. Britt briefed the committee on the testing results for academic year 20-21.

There was no action taken.

**3. Blount County School Board.**

There was no action taken.

**4. Other.**

Commissioner Crowe introduced a resolution proposing to raise the education funding to the State of Tennessee's average to include preventative opioid addiction training.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, that the resolution be forwarded to full commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCulley, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the resolution be postponed until the next Education Committee meeting. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, none opposed. The Chair declared the motion to postpone to have passed.

**5. Next Meeting - November 30, 2021 - location to be announced.**

Commissioner Akard made a recommendation that the November 30, 2021 meeting be conducted at the Blount County Courthouse, Commission Meeting Room 430.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Crowe, that the meeting time for the Education Committee meetings going forward be changed to 12:30 p.m. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, none opposed. The Chair declared the motion to have passed.

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

Mr. Forest Erickson spoke about the Heritage Planetarium and an upcoming partial eclipse.

Mr. Harry Grothjahn also spoke about the planetarium, and changes to curricula.

**H. ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, that the meeting be adjourned. The Chair declared the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting of the Education Committee adjourned on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 1:09 p.m.