



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Education Committee

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Tuesday, April 5, 2022

12:30 PM

Townsend Elementary School  
140 Tiger Dr., Townsend, TN 37882

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#### ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Education Committee met at Townsend Elementary School in Townsend, Tennessee on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. Blount County Education Committee Vice Chair Nick Bright called the meeting to order. There were 6 members present and 5 absent. The Vice Chair declared that a quorum did exist. In addition to the Education Committee members, others present were: Assistant Director Jake Jones; Fiscal Administrator Troy Logan; Assistant CFO Deena Finley; Supervisor of Facilities, Maintenance and Capital Projects James Duke; Townsend Elementary School Principal Connie Roberts; and Board of Education members Diane Bain and Robbie Kirkland. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present** 6 - Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Vice Chair Nick Bright, Commissioner Joe McCulley, Commissioner Steve Mikels, and School Representative Fred Goins
- Absent** 5 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Dodd Crowe, Commissioner Staci Lawhorn, Chairperson Dawn Reagan, and School Representative Debbie Sudhoff

#### A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the agenda be set. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye and none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion to have passed.

#### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Education Committee Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2022.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes 2022-Mar-1](#)

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

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

There was none.

#### D. REPORTS.

**1. Maintenance/Construction Report.**

Blount County Schools Supervisor of Facilities, Maintenance and Capital Projects James Duke gave the maintenance/construction report that included completed projects, such as: Walland Elementary outdoor classroom; William Blount High (WBHS) main auxiliary gym floor screen and recoated. Ongoing projects included: Lanier Elementary sewage plant is 40% complete; Eagleton College and Career Academy (ECCA) updates of track and field, field houses, press box, CTE and parking lot; Heritage High (HHS) CTE building renovation and HVAC phases 1b and 2; ECCA painting the tenth grade hall and classrooms; Montvale Elementary gym wall painting; HHS and WBHS commons areas and ECCA tenth grade ceiling and lighting; ECCA lower gym floor refinishing; and a multi-year contract for gym floor screening and recoating. Future projects included: multi-year concrete floor polishing contract. Maintenance projects included: HVAC installed at Carpenters Elementary, William Blount 9th Grade Academy and Eagleton Elementary; removed seven trees at Friendsville Elementary; replaced broken playground equipment at various elementary schools; tested for lead at all schools. There were 215 work orders closed.

There was no action taken.

**2. Financial Report.**

Blount County Schools Fiscal Administrator Troy Logan gave the financial report, a summary of proposed budget requests for FY22-23 that included transportation, food service and capital outlay projects.

There was no action taken.

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.****F. NEW BUSINESS.****1. Report from the Townsend Elementary School Principal.**

Townsend Elementary School Principal Connie Roberts welcomed the meeting attendees, and spoke about the things going on in their school, such as, building relationships and after-school tutoring. Principal Roberts thanked the commission and school board for their work and interest in the schools.

There was no action taken.

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

Assistant Director of Schools Jake Jones thanked TES Principal Roberts. He spoke of an after school tutoring grant for all K-8 students (over 500 students enrolled); a summer school program grant for grades K-5 and 6-8 that will include a morning snack and bus transportation; State (TCAP) testing for grades 3-11; advanced placement testing for high schoolers; and job recruiting fairs.

There was no action taken.

**3. Blount County School Board.**

School Board member Fred Goins welcomed feedback for the new school director hire, with interviews beginning the week of April 11, 2022.

Commissioner Mikels requested an update on the Eagleton College and Career Academy project to which Mr. Logan gave a financial update on the project, and Mr. Duke spoke about the ECCA facility remodel project.

There was no action taken.

**4. Other.****5. Next Meeting - May 2, 2022 - location to be announced.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the next Education Committee meeting for May 2, 2022, would be held at Rockford Elementary School. A voice vote was taken with all voting aye, none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion to have passed.

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

Mr. Forrest Erickson (District 6) talked of the "planetarium director, not planetarium prisoner".

**H. ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion was made to adjourn. The Vice Chair declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Education Committee meeting adjourned on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 1:49 p.m.