



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes

Education Committee

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

12:00 PM

Eagleton Middle School
2610 Cinema Drive, Maryville, TN 37804

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a meeting of the Blount County Education Committee was held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at 12:06 p.m. at Eagleton Middle School in Maryville, Tennessee. Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty called the meeting to order. The roll call was taken by the Clerk. There were 10 present and 1 absent. The Clerk declared that a quorum did exist. In addition to the Education Committee members, others present were: David Murrell - Assistant Director of Operations for Blount County Schools, Troy Logan - Blount County Schools Fiscal Administrator, Terry Baldwin - Blount County Schools Maintenance Foreman, and Amy Beth Miller of The Daily Times. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present** 10 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Vice Chair Brad Bowers, Commissioner Nick Bright, Chairperson Dodd Crowe, Commissioner Joe McCulley, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, School Representative Fred Goins, and School Representative Debbie Sudhoff
- Absent** 1 - Commissioner Staci Lawhorn

ELECTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations of the Education Committee Chairperson.

Commissioner Bennett nominated Dodd Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Bright. The Clerk asked if there were any other nominations.

A motion to cease nominations was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Akard. A voice vote was taken. The Clerk declared the motion to have passed, and nominations ceased.

A voice vote was taken to elect Commissioner Crowe as the Education Committee Chairman. The Clerk declared Dodd Crowe as Chairman of the Education Committee.

ELECTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRPERSON

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations of the Education Committee Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Crowe nominated Brad Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The Clerk asked if there were any other nominations.

A motion to cease nominations was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Mikels. A voice vote was taken. The Clerk declared the motion to have passed, and nominations ceased.

A voice vote was taken to elect Commissioner Bowers as the Education Committee Vice Chairman. The Clerk declared Brad Bowers as Vice Chairman of the Education Committee.

The Clerk turned the meeting over to Chairman Crowe.

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

With no objection, the Chairman revised the agenda to allow a presentation by the Principal of Eagleton Middle School.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Bright, to set the agenda as revised. A voice vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Education Committee Meeting Minutes for September 3, 2019.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes 2019-Sep-3](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, that the minutes be approved. A voice vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

Presentation by the Eagleton Middle School Principal.

Mr. David Murrell introduced Principal Mark Dowlan. The Principal spoke of his background, and the school's history. He stated that as of that morning, student enrollment at Eagleton Middle was 377 (Hispanic 14.6%; African American 4.8%, Asian 0.5%, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 0.2% and White 79.9%). He reported this was the second year that the entire school qualified for free/reduced lunches. He talked about the Crown Academy Program that began last year as an extended school program for struggling students that offers help with homework, mentoring and a meal; there are 90 students enrolled in the program. The school is working to partner with the Boys & Girls Club to expand the program. He also talked about the I-Ready Program, a tool used by the teachers that adapts classroom instruction to accommodate the individual student's needs. He highlighted some ongoing projects at the school, such as, Trout in the Classroom for 6th graders - the first batch of trout is scheduled to be released on December 6th at the KOA in Townsend; two science teachers collaborating with the University of Tennessee on mosquito research; a wetlands project with Soil Conservation and Keep Blount Beautiful; creating a walking path around the school campus; and a choral program to perform The Little Mermaid in the spring.

There was no action taken.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON AGENDA.

There was none.

D. REPORTS.

1. Maintenance/Construction Report.

Mr. Terry Baldwin gave a Maintenance and Construction report on various projects at the schools including: 277 work orders closed and 190 in-progress; installation of HVAC units at Friendsville and Fairview Elementary Schools; a serving line unit at Heritage Middle; and flooring at Montvale, Porter and Rockford Elementary Schools.

There was no action taken.

2. Financial Report.

Mr. Troy Logan did not have a financial report to give.

Commissioner Akard asked for an update of the Fund 177 projects. Mr. Logan reported that several HVAC units were being installed; and the \$4 million High Schools Renovation Project - an architect is designing the science labs at Heritage, and the School Board will be considering a recommendation for Trane to conduct a no cost, energy efficiency study at William Blount. It was mentioned that Knox County Government and Schools utilized Trane to successfully conduct energy efficiency studies at their facilities.

There was no action taken.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**F. NEW BUSINESS.****1. Report from the Director of Schools.**

Mr. Murrell gave a brief report on behalf of the Director of Schools, he mentioned the community high schools, such as Friendsville, turning 100 years old this year.

There was no action taken.

2. Blount County School Board.

School Board member, Debbie Sudhoff, informed the committee of a matching grant that the City of Friendsville received for sewer lines, and the Board intentions to pursue the option of Friendsville Elementary tapping into those sewer lines. Friendsville Elementary has a small, on-site sewer plant that requires periodic maintenance, etc., and utilizing the city's sewer lines would be very beneficial to the county by eliminating those maintenance costs.

There was no action taken.

3. Other.

There was none.

4. Discussion and Possible Action to Change the Education Committee Meeting Location and Time.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Vice Chair Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, that the item be postponed to next month's Education Committee meeting. A voice vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed.

5. Next Meeting - November 5, 2019 - location to be announced.

After some discussion, the Chairman declared that the next Education Committee meeting on November 5th would be held at Mary Blount Elementary. Mr. Murrell to confirm this with the school.

G. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

There was none.

H. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Bowers, seconded unanimously, that the meeting be adjourned. The Education Committee meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2019.