

**Towns County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**February 7, 2022**  
**6:45 PM**

The Towns County Board of Education met in a regular board meeting on Monday February 7, 2022 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were Caroleen Woods, Stephanie McConnell, Stan Chastain, Sara Rogers and Brandon Grimsley. Chairperson, Brandon Grimsley called the meeting to order. Dr. Darren Berrong gave the invocation, and Brandon Grimsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the agenda**. The motion carried.

Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, to **approve the consent agenda with the removal of Fundraiser (i.) PTSO ES & MS Valentine Grams**. The motion carried.

➤ Fundraisers:

**i. Stricken from agenda**

- ii. ES & MS PTSO / March Madness Calendar Sheet / January 24-March 31, 2022
- iii. MS Baseball / Home Run Derby /February 19, 2022
- iv. MS Baseball / Prize Raffle / March 11, 2022

➤ Field Trips:

- i. HS Tech Students / Tri-County Comm. College-Murphy / January 27, 2022
- ii. HS Journalism & Yearbook Staff / UGA Tate Student Center, Athens / February 10, 2022
- iii. HS Girls Basketball / UGA Basketball Game Athens / February 27, 2022
- iv. MS & HS Band / Dawson County HS / March 17, 2022

➤ Work Session Minutes / January 3, 2022

➤ Regular Board Meeting Minutes / January 3, 2022

Kelly Crawford and Allan Glidewell with Blue Ridge Mountain EMC presented a check to the Teacher of the Year, Rachel Surlis.

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the December 2021 Financial Statements for all funds including school activity accounts**. Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, to **approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong recommended the board **approve the surplus of the FFA 2011 Ford F-350 truck VIN# 1FT8X3C62BEB66610 and livestock trailer**. Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Caroleen Woods, to **approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve Educational Leave for an employee during student teaching.** Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the resignation of a Custodial Employee.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the resignation of an Assistant Head Start Teacher.** Caorleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the resignation of a Special Education Paraprofessional.** Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the resignation of an Elementary Special Education Teacher.** Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the retirement of an Elementary School Music Teacher.** Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve a Facilities Manager Position.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of the listed Substitute Teachers, upon completion of the RESA substitute teacher course, fingerprint & background check.** Stan Chastain made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Custodian, upon completion of fingerprint & background check.** Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Ninth District Opportunity Head Start Assistant Teacher, retroactive to February 7, 2022 upon completion of fingerprint & background check.** Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a Substitute Bus Driver upon completion of MVR, a drug test, fingerprint & background check.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the recommendation of a part-time School Nutrition Assistant upon completion of fingerprint & background check.** Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Stephanie McConnell, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Elementary School Principal, Shannon Moss, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 442 students, 2 online
- Dental bus trips to conclude February 11<sup>th</sup>
- PBIS Walkthrough February 15<sup>th</sup>
- PBIS Tier II training
- 4H DPA projects and welcome to the new 4-H agent Kerri Bradshaw
- Taekwondo Bullying Presentation February 17<sup>th</sup>
- Student Council Arbor Day on the square February 18<sup>th</sup>
- February is Black History Month
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) 2<sup>nd</sup> Step-teacher selected lessons
- Character Education Explorers of the Month for February – “Kindness”
- Read Across America – Week of March 4<sup>th</sup> – Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss
- Spring Break – April 4-8
- Cathy Seis will be truly missed and we wish her all the best for her retirement

Middle School Principal, Dr. Connie Hobbs, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 218 students, 8 online
- MAP testing
- PTSO March Madness Calendar fundraiser
- Progress Reports this week
- Severe Weather Drill February 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am
- FBLA trip to Scaly Mountain
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation for pathways
- Spring Sports update
- Both Boys and Girls Basketball Tri State Conference Champs

High School Principal, Roy Perren, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 299 with several online
- MAP Assessment
- Eli Phillips will go on to the FFA competition in Extemporaneous Speaking
- PASS Survey
- 8 Students with Perfect Attendance
- PBIS Walkthrough
- Rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation
- Basketball update
- Spring Sports update

- Conner Davis makes State in Wrestling

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, reported to the board on the following:

- COVID update
- Property deals are closed
- Maintenance Building update

No Closed Session.

Stephanie McConnell made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to adjourn the meeting.**  
The motion carried.

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Brandon Grimsley, Chairperson

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Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent