

**Towns County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**May 9, 2022**  
**6:45 PM**

The Towns County Board of Education met in a called meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were Caroleen Woods, Stan Chastain, Stephanie McConnell, Sara Rogers and Brandon Grimsley. Chairperson, Brandon Grimsley called the meeting to order. Elementary School Principal, Shannon Moss gave the invocation, and Brandon Grimsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Stan Chastain, **to approve the consent agenda**. The motion carried.

➤ Fundraisers:

- i. HS Allied Health / Blood Drives for SY23 / August 23, November 10, 2022 January 24, & March 28, 2023
- ii. HS Boys Basketball / TC Indian Summer Camp / June 6-7, 2022

➤ Field Trips:

- i. HS Girls Basketball / Murphy, NC & UNGA / June 6<sup>th</sup> & June 16, 2022
- ii. HS Football / Padded Camp / June 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022
- iii. HS Girls Basketball / Murphy Downtown Pizza & Harrah's Bowling / June 30, 2022
- iv. HS Boys Basketball / Camp for JV & Varsity - Banks County / June 14, 2022
- v. HS Boys Basketball / Camp for JV & Varsity – Banks County / June 15, 2022

- Work Session Minutes / April 11, 2022  
 ➤ Regular Board Meeting Minutes / April 11, 2022

Elementary School Principal, Mr. Shannon Moss introduced the **Young Georgia Authors State Winner for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Naomi Molina**. Mr. Moss commended Naomi on her wonderful story, The Vengeful Plum. This is a story with a lesson that two wrongs do not make a right. She is a beautifully descriptive author that has made not only her family proud but also her teachers at Towns County Elementary School. Personnel Director, Stephanie Moss presented Naomi with a gift basket and plaque a of her achievement from Pioneer RESA. Mrs. Moss also framed her story to commemorate her state win!

Heath Lee, Director of the Mountain Regional Library and Branch Manager, Marlene Cannon spoke to the board about the new card system for local school students called PLAY (Pines Library Access for Youth) The Superintendent and board members liked the program very much and will be looking forward to utilizing it for the Towns County students. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the March 2022 Financial Statements for all funds including school activity accounts**. 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 to advertise the FY23 Towns County Board Education Tentative Budget.** Sara Rogers 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 to the School Nutrition Meal Increases.** Stephanie McConnell 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 to the revisions to the Towns County School District Capital Asset Policy.** Caroleen Woods 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 to the revisions to the Board Policy DJED: Bids and Quotations.** 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 resignation of a Bus Driver.** 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 a Special Education Paraprofessional.** 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 resignation of a Preschool Special Education Teacher.** 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 High School Math Teacher.** Sara Rogers 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 the recommendation of a Preschool & Kindergarten Special Education Teacher, upon completion of fingerprint and 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 an Elementary Special Education Teacher, upon completion of fingerprint and background check.** Sara Rogers 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 the recommendation of a High Math Teacher, upon completion of fingerprint and background check.** Caroleen Woods made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

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

- Enrollment 446 students, 2 online
- Art show was a HUGE SUCCESS – the art was really phenomenal!
- Character Education Explorer of the month of May is Honesty
- Teacher Appreciation was a full week of great culinary surprises – Thank you to all the PTSO for everything to make the teachers feel appreciated
- TOTY has been chosen and will be announced soon
- BeanStack Challenge meant pies in the face for Principal, Shannon moss and Asst. Principal LaTisha Usher
- Milestones are happening this week
- Honors Day for 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be May 18<sup>th</sup> & Kindergarten graduation is May 19<sup>th</sup>
- Chorus 2<sup>nd</sup> grade May 10<sup>th</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade DRUM May 12<sup>th</sup> - sadly this will be Ms. Seis' last performance
- Milestones grades 3-5 May 5-10th
- PBIS celebration
- Special Olympics is back @ Union County May 12th
- Yearbooks are in and the cover is by the 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Careers on Wheels May 17<sup>th</sup>

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

- Enrollment 211 students, 7 online
- Amazon Future Engineer Grant - STEM
- Fine Arts Show & Band concert was wonderful
- Thank you very much to PTSO for a wonderful week celebrating our teachers
- Lunch Hero Day celebrates our lunchroom staff – who celebrates the students they feed everyday
- Testing this week started out with some problems but with everyone working together got the glitches worked out
- Special Olympics
- Dollywood Trip
- TOTY goes to a well-deserved Sheena Kendall

High School Assistant Principal, Jim Melton, reported to the board on the following:

- Enrollment 295
- FFA competition 11 attended State Conference - Konner Davis and Casey Galloway received their State FFA Degree
- Rotary Student will be announced tomorrow
- As well as the Baseball team making it to State, All-Region 1<sup>st</sup> team is Catcher- Connor Chastain, Pitchers-Kade McConnell & Zane Floyd & Outfielder-Tanner Cunningham.

All-Region 2<sup>nd</sup> Team are Infielders- Collin Crowder & Seth Gillis & Utility-Stone  
Chauncey

- Girls soccer team makes the Final Four 2 years in a row
- Testing this week
- Teacher Appreciation week was wonderful PTSO out did themselves with all the treats for the teachers
- Senior Honors Day
- 67 students walking for graduation
- Baccalaureate Ceremony May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Powder Puff football game
- Undergrad Honors Day
- Senior Parade and Cookout
- Graduation May 2st 10am
- TOTY – Congratulations to Sabrina Garrett

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

- School Lunch Hero Day
- Testing
- Teacher Appreciation

No Closed Session.

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

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Brandon Grimsley, Chairperson

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Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent