

OFFICIAL  
MINUTES OF THE BLOUNT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Blount County Board of Education met in Special Called Session on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the John P. Davis, Jr. Boardroom at the Central Office

Roll Call of the Board is as follows:

- Mr. Chris Cantrell Present
- Mr. Jim Compton Present
- Mr. Charles Finley Present
- Mr. Trevis Gardner Present
- Dr. Don McNelly Present
- Mr. Mike Treadway Present
- Mr. Rob Webb Present

The clerk declared a quorum and Chairman Treadway called the meeting to order. The only item on the agenda was: discussion and possible action regarding the 2013-2014 budget.

Mr. Britt gave a brief overview of the budget. He stated this budget journey started back in September 2012. The original budget request was submitted on February 13, 2013 for \$86,868,000 and reflects what the school system needs to provide a high quality education to all students. On March 25, 2013 the Board asked for, received, and reviewed a budget of \$79,900,000 based on revenue and maintenance of effort being met. He stated our BEP came in higher than expected and the Commission met their minimum standard for funding maintenance of effort. As a result, the system has revenue to support a budget of \$81,000,000. On July 8, 2013, as a result of the Board action and request, a budget request of \$81,314,000 was submitted to the Commission Budget Committee. This request was denied. Mr. Britt stated therefore we have revenue to support a budget of \$81,000,000. He stated this budget is no doubt a step backward for our school system and is 2% less than last year's budget.

Mr. Britt stated this budget proposal eliminates 84 total positions. These positions had someone working in them this past year and they will now not be available to the children of our school system. Of the 84 eliminated positions, 24 are full time certified positions (mainly teachers) and 60 non-certified positions. Through attrition the number of layoffs has been reduced to around 28 part-time teaching assistants. He stated they would continue to offer the rest of them other employment opportunities as they become available. Mr. Britt stated it was a tough budget that required many difficult decisions.

Mr. Logan presented changes from the previous budget. Originally projected was an elimination of seven high school teacher positions. He stated two of those had been added back in to the budget. One is a full-time CTE position assigned at Heritage High School and one part-time CTE position assigned to William Blount High School. There are still 48 part-time TA positions being eliminated. "Prior we had listed that close to 42 estimated layoffs, but we have reduced that number to 28 and that is reflected on your summary page. That is based on recent attrition where folks have resigned or quit and those positions were still in the budget so we will do everything we can to try and place those persons that were at the bottom of that seniority list in those open positions".

Mr. Logan stated for classified personnel there would be no salary increase of any kind. They are frozen at the same salary as FY 12-13. He stated for certified personnel they were recommending no step increase, freezing their salaries as the same as FY 12-13, and taking the additional revenue generated through the BEP funding formula that the state has identified at \$350,000. As these new revenues have to be used for compensation for certified personnel, the finance committee is recommending taking that money and paying a one-time state supplement wage to all certified employees. All certified employees would get a same fixed amount based on the available funds received from the state. He stated in addition, after the State Board of Education revised and approved the final new state salary schedule at the end of June, there is a small adjustment regarding certain years of service on a Bachelors' or Masters' Degree. At years 0, 1, 2, 6, 11, and 12 the new state salary schedule has a higher state amount than the previous years. Mr. Logan stated we would be required to put that amount into those teachers who fall into those years and add to their salary. The estimated cost is about \$60,000. He stated all of the compensation for certified employees is pending collaborative conferencing. Mr. Logan stated we would have to collaborate with the BCEA team and bring an agreement of that back to the full Board for approval. No compensation will be executed for certified until that final approval by the Board of Education.

General School Fund 141 Budget for FY2013-2014

Wheel Tax Falls and Commission Meets \$1.6M MOE				\$81,000,000
# Cut				
SUBMITTED - Total FY 2013-2014 Budget Approp Request				Positions
Layoff #	\$86,868,000			
Personnel & Benefits				
Eliminate 7 Elementary (K-5) Teacher Positions	7.0	0		
			\$(432,194)	
Eliminate 7 Middle (6-8) Teacher Positions	7.0	0		\$(432,194)
Eliminate 5 High (9-12) Teacher Positions	5.0	0		\$(308,710)
Eliminate 1 ELOC-Alternative School Teacher Positions	1.0	0		

					\$(84,224)
Eliminate 1 Elem (K-5) PE Position	1.0	0			\$(46,500)
Eliminate 1 Guidance Counselor Position		1.0	0		\$(58,171)
Eliminate 1 Psychologist Position	1.0	1			\$(23,306)
Eliminate 1 Elementary Assistant Principal Position			1.0	0	\$(87,969)
Eliminate Summer Contract Days for Guidance Counselors					\$(27,000)
Eliminate 48 PT RE TA Positions	48.0	28			\$(360,285)
Cut all TA's from 190 Day Contract to 177 Day Contract					\$(200,012)
Eliminate 2 FT and 4 PT RE TA Positions		6.0	0		\$(109,694)
Eliminate 2 FT Custodian Positions	2.0	0			\$(72,267)
Eliminate 3 FT Maintenance Positions	3.0	0			\$(166,744)
Eliminate 1 Central Office Position	1.0	0			\$(31,800)
Cut Compensation (Classified and Est \$ Above State Reqmt)					(1,207,964)
Freeze All Salaries for Supervisors & School Administrators					\$(85,569)
Other Compensation and Benefits Adjustments					\$(204,000)
Cut Board of Education Member Fees					\$(4,200)
Eliminate Increases in Athletic Supplements					\$(240,000)
Eliminate All Elementary Athletic & Yearbook Supplements					\$(31,219)
Cut Supplements for 2 HS Head Football Coaches					\$(2,153)
Cut 5% of All Other Athletic Supplements in MS & HS					\$(22,987)
Operating Costs					
Eliminate 5 Days RE Bus Transportation					\$(85,000)
Textbooks - New					\$(898,000)
Library Books - New					\$(100,000)
Technology - New					\$(350,000)
Regular Ed Support Travel & Other Contracted Services					\$(20,300)
Vocational Education Support Supplies					\$(1,000)
Postage					\$(1,000)
Utilities					\$(204,039)
Facilities Operations (72610)					\$(6,000)
Maintenance Operations (72620)					\$(36,500)
Capital Outlay - Comm Eq & HVAC Eq (76100)					\$(86,000)
Add: AED's Annual Parts Replacements					\$3,500
Add: Internet Access and Band-Width					\$9,000
Add: Unemployment Benefits for Layoffs					\$120,000
Add: Reimburse Food Service Annual Charges					\$6,000
Add: Other					\$43,700

Less: Other \$(23,200)

AMENDED - TOTAL FY 2013-2014 FUND 141 APPROP BUDGET 84.0  
29 \$81,000,000

Total FY 2013-2014 State Revenues for Technology Investments  
\$590,000

Total FY 2013-2014 Increase Local Revenues - MOE Requirement  
\$1,600,000

Total FY 2013-2014 Increase Local Revenues - Wheel Tax  
\$ -

Total FY 2013-2014 All Other Revenues \$78,810,000

TOTAL FY 2013-2014 FUND 141 REVENUE BUDGET  
\$81,000,000

\$ (0.00)

To open the floor for discussion, Mr. Treadway made a motion to approve the \$81,000,000 balanced budget as submitted by the Budget Committee to the Board. Mr. Gardner seconded the motion.

Mr. Compton made an amendment to move \$70,000 from account #72310-Board of Education Services into the TA line to pay teaching assistants until Christmas so no one would be laid off. Dr. McNelly seconded the amendment.

Roll Call vote is as follows:

- Mr. Compton Yes
- Mr. Finley Yes
- Mr. Gardner No
- Dr. McNelly Yes
- Mr. Treadway No
- Mr. Webb No
- Mr. Cantrell No

Motion failed 4/2.

Mr. Compton then made an amendment to move \$54,206 from Account #72610-Operation of Plant and divide the monies into \$31,219 for elementary basketball program and \$22,987 to cover the 5% cut from athletic supplements. Dr.

McNelly seconded the amendment.

Mr. Britt stated he had spoken with elementary school principals and they were willing to raise funds to pay basketball coaches and increase ticket prices \$1.00 to cover supplement costs at their respective schools. A uniform pay scale will then be in place. Mr. Compton withdrew his amendment.

Vote on the main motion (to approve budget as presented by the Budget Committee of \$81,000,000) is as follows:

- Mr. Finley      Yes
- Mr. Gardner      Yes
- Dr. McNelly      Yes
- Mr. Treadway      Yes
- Mr. Webb      Yes
- Mr. Cantrell      Yes
- Mr. Compton      No

Motion carried 6/1 with Mr. Compton voting no.

No other business could be discussed. Mr. Cantrell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Finley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Mr. Mike Treadway, Chairman

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Mr. Rob Britt, Secretary