

# March 2025 Pre-Board Agenda and Meeting

**Towns County Board of Education**  
**Work Session**  
**February 3, 2025**  
**6:00 PM**

**AGENDA**

1. Public Forum
2. Call to Order
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Discuss Consent Agenda
  - Fundraisers:
    - i. HS FFA / Valentine's Day Candy Grams / February 4-13, 2025
  - Field Trips:
    - i. HS CTSO Officers / State Capital / February 5, 2025
    - ii. HS SPED / Lumpkin County High School / February 13, 2025
    - iii. HS Science Classes / Aquarium and Zoo Chattanooga, TN / March 28, 2025
    - iv. ES 4<sup>th</sup> grade / Smokey Mountain Center Performing Arts / April 2, 2025
    - v. ES 3<sup>rd</sup> grade / Gold Mine – Dahlonega / May 13, 2025
    - vi. HS Animal Science & FFA / Auction Houses, Local Farms etc. / Dates TBD
  - Work Session Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025
  - Regular Board Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025
5. Discuss Ransomware Liability
6. Discuss the Request of a Leave of Absence for Student Teaching
7. Discuss 4 employee Resignations
8. Discuss the Retirement of the Middle School Counselor
9. Discuss the Retirement of an Elementary School Teacher
10. Discuss the Retirement of the Speech Pathologist
11. Discuss the Retirement of a High School Special Education Teacher
12. Discuss the Retirement of System Bookkeeper

13. Discuss the Retirement of the Personnel/Curriculum Director
14. Discuss the Recommendation of the FY26 School Calendar
15. Discuss Board Training
16. Financial Director, Myra Underwood to update the Board on the December 2024 Financial Statement
17. Closed Session
18. Adjourn

Other items may be added as necessary.

Original posted January 31, 2025

**Towns County Board of Education  
Pre-board Work Session  
February 3, 2025  
6:00 PM**

The Towns County Board of Education met in a called meeting on Monday February 3, 2025 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were, David Phillips, Roy Perren, Brandon Grimsley and Sara Rogers. Caroleen Woods was absent. Chair, David Phillips called the meeting to order.

Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to approve the agenda.** The motion carried.

Discuss the Consent Agenda:

- Fundraisers:
  - i. HS FFA / Valentine's Day Candy Grams / February 4-13, 2025
- Field Trips:
  - i. HS CTSO Officers / State Capital / February 5, 2025
  - ii. HS SPED / Lumpkin County High School / February 13, 2025
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Financial Director, Myra Underwood spoke to the board regarding the December 2024 Financial Statements and the FY26 Budget Process.

Board Members discussed the Local Board Governance Training for FY25. The members settled on the following training:

- Planning for Boards of Education
- Current System Wide Technology Initiatives / Planning for the Future
- Legal Issues and Ethics for Boards of Education

Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsley **to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel.** The motion carried.

Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers **to come out of Closed Session.** The motion carried.

Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to adjourn the meeting.** The motion carried.

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David Phillips, Chairperson

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Darren Berrong, Superintendent

# March 2025 Regular Agenda and Meeting

**Towns County Board of Education**  
**Board Meeting**  
**February 3, 2025**  
**6:45 PM**

**AGENDA**

1. Public Forum
2. Call to Order
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of Consent Agenda
  - Fundraisers:
    - i. HS FFA / Valentine's Day Candy Grams / February 4-13, 2025
  - Field Trips:
    - i. HS CTSO Officers / State Capital / February 5, 2025
    - ii. HS SPED / Lumpkin County High School / February 13, 2025
    - iii. HS Science Classes / Aquarium and Zoo Chattanooga, TN / March 28, 2025
    - iv. ES 4<sup>th</sup> grade / Smokey Mountain Center Performing Arts / April 2, 2025
    - v. ES 3<sup>rd</sup> grade / Gold Mine – Dahlonega / May 13, 2025
    - vi. HS Animal Science & FFA / Auction Houses, Local Farms etc. / Dates TBD
  - Work Session Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025
  - Regular Board Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025
7. Discuss and Approve the December 2024 Financial Statement
8. Discuss and Approve the request of a leave of absence for Student Teaching
9. Discuss and Approve 4 employee Resignations
10. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of the Middle School Counselor
11. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of an Elementary School Teacher
12. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of the Speech Pathologist
13. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of a High School Special Education Teacher

14. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of System Bookkeeper
15. Discuss and Approve the Retirement of the Personnel/Curriculum Director
16. Discuss and Approve the Recommendation of the FY26 School Calendar
17. Elementary School Principal Report – Dr. Crystal Beach
18. Middle School Principal Report – Rollie Thomas
19. High School Principal Report – Bryan Thomason
20. Superintendent Report – Dr. Darren Berrong
  - AG Facility Update
21. Closed Session
22. Adjourn

Other items may be added as necessary.

Original posted January 31, 2025

**Towns County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**February 3, 2025**  
**6:45 PM**

The Towns County Board of Education met in a called meeting on Monday February 3, 2025 at the Towns County Middle/High School Media Center. Members present were, David Phillips, Roy Perren, Brandon Grimsley and Sara Rogers. Caroleen Woods was absent. Chair, David Phillips called the meeting to order. High School Principal, Bryan Thomason gave the invocation and Chairperson, David Phillips led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers to **approve the consent agenda**.

➤ Fundraisers:

- i. HS FFA / Valentine's Day Candy Grams / February 4-13, 2025

➤ Field Trips:

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➤ Work Session Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025

➤ Regular Board Meeting Minutes / January 6, 2025

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the December 2024 Financial Statements for all funds including school activity accounts**. Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation**. The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the request of a leave of absence for Brandy Roquemore to begin Student Teaching**. Roy Perren 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 to **approve 4 Employee Resignations, effective end of the 2024-25 School Year**.

- **Shannon Gober**
- **Jessica Walls**
- **Tammy Lott**
- **Holly Garrett**

Brandon Grimsley 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 the Middle School Counselor, Lana Parker, effective end of 2024-25 School Year.** Roy Perren made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsley, **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 Teacher, Melissa Moss, effective end of 2024-25 School Year.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the Retirement of the Speech Pathologist, Peter Byrne, effective end of 2024-25 School Year.** Roy Perren made a motion, seconded by Brandon Grimsley, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the Retirement of a High School Special Education Teacher, Rachael Pietz, effective end of 2024-25 School Year.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the Retirement of the System Bookkeeper, Diane Adams, effective June 30, 2025.** Brandon Grimsley 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 the Personnel/Curriculum Director, Dr. Connie Hobbs, effective May 31, 2025.** Sara Rogers made a motion, seconded by Roy Perren, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Superintendent, Dr. Darren Berrong, recommended the board **approve the Recommendation for the FY26 School Calendar.** Brandon Grimsley made a motion, seconded by Sara Rogers, **to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.** The motion carried. (see attached)

Elementary School Principal, Dr. Crystal Beach gave an update to the Board on the Elementary School Activities.

- Enrollment is 446

Middle School Principal, Rollie Thomas gave an update to the Board on the Middle School Activities.

- Enrollment is 202

High School Principal, Brian Thomason gave an update to the Board on the High School Activities.

- Enrollment is 279

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

- AG building update

No Closed Session

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

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David Phillips, Chairperson

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Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent