The upcoming 2012-2013 school year brings new personnel serving in different roles across the county. Due to the recent retirement of Teresa Stansberry, Director of Exceptional Children and Pre-K, from Ashe County Schools, Mrs. Terry Richardson, former assistant principal at Westwood Elementary, has been assigned this directorship effective July 1, 2012. Beginning in 1996, Mrs. Richardson has served Ashe County Schools as Pre-K and exceptional children's teacher until 2010 when she became assistant principal at Westwood Elementary School. Along with her strong leadership skills, Mrs. Richardson brings district level experience in the exceptional children's division from Sullivan County Schools in Tennessee. Mrs. Richardson believes that all schools should be a child-centered environment that will allow children to be prepared for the 21st century and teachers, parents and stakeholders play a very important role in the success of all students.

Westwood Elementary is pleased to announce Mr. Dustin Farmer as assistant principal beginning July 1, 2012. Mr. Farmer began his teaching career at Ashe Middle where he has been employed since 2003. He completed his Master of School Administration degree from Appalachian State University in 2010. "I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Assistant Principal at Westwood Elementary School. Westwood has great leadership, has been highly successful academically and has a strong faculty who want what is best for children. I am excited to work collaboratively with Mrs. Robinson and her staff to ensure that Westwood continues to move in the right direction. I am eager to see students of all ages engaged in the learning process and continue to see their growth from year to year. " The interview team stated that Mr. Farmer had a nurturing personality and would be a positive role model for elementary students. Westwood believes that Mr. Farmer will be a perfect fit for their school's culture.

Amanda Hipp will begin her new position as assistant principal at Ashe County High on July 1, 2012. Mrs. Hipp has been employed with Ashe County Schools since 2001 as an exceptional children's teacher. She completed her Master of School Administration degree from Appalachian State University in 2007. "I am excited about my new position as Assistant Principal at Ashe County High School. I welcome the opportunity to work with and be of service to the students, staff, and parents. I am looking forward to a great year!" Mrs. Hipp brings experience and knowledge of day to day operations of the school environment. She performed many duties that related to transportation, discipline, scheduling, and student success while at Blue Ridge Elementary. Mr. Jason Krider states, "Amanda will be a great addition to our team at ACHS. She is dedicated to helping students be successful in all aspects of the educational process. She will be a seamless fit with our dedicated staff. We welcome Amanda to the Ashe County High School administrative team."