

'Community Meetings' Plan Put Forward by Watauga BOE

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At the conclusion of their monthly meeting the Watauga Board of Education put in place plans to accomplish a goal stated early in the year to hold community meetings in all the county's schools. Originally their intent for these meetings was to provide information, and interact with the local communities, about the school systems policies and practices such as the snow day schedules. They also wanted to provide broader opportunities for community members to provide input to the Board. Now, with the additional responsibility of hiring a new superintendent the Board also wants to use these visits to explain the process they will use in determining who that person will be and seek community input on qualities the new leader should possess. Board of Education Chairperson, Debra Miller, reflected these objectives during an interview following Monday night's meeting. "We're interested in getting out to the community schools because they are—even though they are a part of the Watauga County Schools—they have that 'community flavor.' And what we want to do is meet them on that turf." The Board established meeting dates for several of the elementary schools before the close of the meeting and plans to schedule the remainder in the near future. They encouraged community members to attend the meetings in the schools serving the community in which they live and hope for good turnout and participation.