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Chapter VI - Education/Schools

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

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Chapter VI - Education/Schools

Board of Education

Private Acts of 1967-68 Chapter 5

SECTION 1. That there is hereby created and established in Pickett County, Tennessee, a County Board of Education to be composed of members to be elected by the qualified voters of said County in the manner hereinafter provided. Provided further, however, that nothing in this Act shall affect any of the present members of the County Board of Education or prevent said members from completing their present term of office to which they have been previously elected.

SECTION 2. That from and after the effective date of this Act, the Quarterly County Court of Pickett County shall have the power to make interim appointments to fill any vacancies occurring on the County Board of Education prior to the regular general election which is to be held in August, 1968. Such power of said Quarterly County Court shall be exercised in the manner heretofore provided for the election of a County Board of Education by members of the Quarterly County Court, but persons so selected or chosen shall hold membership on the County Board of Education only until their successors shall be elected at the next general election and qualified.

SECTION 3. That in the event a vacancy occurs on the County Board of Education of Pickett County after the regular general election of 1968, such vacancy being on account of the death, resignation, removal of residence of a member of said Board from the school district from which said member was elected or any other cause or reason, the Quarterly County Court of Pickett County in regular or called session, a quorum being present, shall elect someone to fill said vacancy, and the person so elected or appointed shall serve until a successor is duly elected at the next regular general election by the qualified voters of said County.

SECTION 4. That the qualified voters of Pickett County shall elect a County Board of Education to be composed of five (5) members (not counting or including any member holding over in a term to which they have been elected by the Quarterly County Court), and the five (5) members herein provided for shall be elected for a term of six (6) years. The members of said Board of Education shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age, a citizen of the United States, the State of Tennessee, and must reside in the district in Pickett County they represent. Four (4) of the members elected by the qualified voters of Pickett County shall represent the four (4) designated school districts. One (1) member elected by the qualified voters of Pickett County shall represent Pickett County at large and must reside in Pickett County.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 18

SECTION 5. That Pickett County is by this Act divided into four (4) school districts as follows:

DISTRICT I

Beginning at the point where the Pickett County-Fentress County line crosses the East Fork of Obey River section of Dale Hollow Reservoir; thence down the center of East Fork of Obey River and Dale Hollow Reservoir with the various meanders thereof to the L. B. Hassler Bridge on Highway 42; thence northwardly and eastwardly with the center of Highway 42 to the center of North Main Street in the City of Byrdstown; thence southwardly and eastwardly with the center of Main Street to the northwest corner of the Courthouse square; thence eastwardly with the center of the street along the north side of the Courthouse square; thence southwardly with the center of the street along the east side of Courthouse square to the center of the intersection of Moodyville Road; thence eastwardly with the center of Moodyville Road to the center of an intersection of said road at a point between the Bethel Huddleston residence and the Flemon Brown residence; thence northwardly with the meanders of the County road which intersects said Moodyville Road as aforesaid to the center of Wolf River; thence southeastwardly with the center of Wolf River to the Pickett County and Fentress County line; thence with the Pickett County-Fentress County line to the point of beginning.

DISTRICT II

Beginning at a point in the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir where same is crossed by Highway 42 at the L. B. Hassler Bridge; thence westwardly with the center of the main body of the Dale Hollow Reservoir to the mouth of Cove Creek; thence northeastwardly with the center of Cove Creek to a point in the north line of the Dale Hollow Reservoir boundary; thence in a northwardly direction a straight line to the southwest corner of the tract of land upon which Woodrow Amonett now lives; thence northwardly with the west line of said Woodrow Amonett tract to the center of the road which leads from Highway 42 to Star Point Dock; thence northeastwardly with the center of said road to the first intersection of the road which leads

northwardly to Jones Chapel; thence northwardly with the center of said road to the intersection near the Howard Tidrow residence; thence northeastwardly with the center of the road which leads past the J. M. Jolley residence to the intersection at the Frank Sells farm; thence northwardly with the center of the road which passes the Stone Means residence to the Lovelady- Jones Chapel Road near the residence of Tom Jones; thence westwardly with the center of the Lovelady-Jones Chapel road to the point where it crosses Meetinghouse Branch near the old John Reagan homeplace; thence northwestwardly with the center of Meetinghouse Branch to the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir; thence up Dale Hollow Reservoir with the center thereof to the Kentucky State line; thence eastwardly with the Kentucky State line crossing the peninsula north of the H. T. Groce residence to the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir; thence southeastwardly with the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir and Wolf River to the point where the county road which leads northwardly from Etter Community to the Edd Nicholas place crosses said Wolf River; thence southwardly with the center of said road to the center of the Moodyville Road; thence westwardly with the center of Moodyville Road to the southeast corner of the Courthouse square in Byrdstown; thence northwardly with the center of the street along the east side of Courthouse square; thence westwardly with the center of the street along the north side of Courthouse square to the center of Main Street at northwest corner of square; thence westwardly and northwardly with the center of Main Street to the center of Highway 42; thence with the center of Highway 42 westwardly and southwardly to the beginning.

DISTRICT III

Beginning at the northeast corner of Pickett County at a point in the Kentucky State line; thence westwardly with the Kentucky State line to the center of the Wolf River section of Dale Hollow Reservoir at a point east of the H. T. Groce residence; thence southeastwardly with the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir and Wolf River to the Fentress County line; thence northwardly and eastwardly with the Fentress County line to the Scott County line; thence northwestwardly with the Scott County line to the beginning.

DISTRICT IV

Beginning at a point in the Pickett County-Fentress County line in the center of the East Fork of Obey River section of Dale Hollow Reservoir; thence down and with the center of Obey River and Dale Hollow Reservoir to the mouth of Cove Creek; thence northeastwardly with the center of Cove Creek to a point in the north line of the Dale Hollow Reservoir boundary; thence in a northwardly direction a straight line to the southwest corner of the tract of land upon which Woodrow Amonett now lives; thence northwardly with the west line of said Woodrow Amonett tract to the center of the road which leads from Highway 42 to Star Point Dock; thence northeastwardly with the center of said road to the first intersection of the road which leads northwardly to Jones Chapel; thence northwardly with the center of said road to the intersection near the Howard Tidrow residence; thence northeastwardly with the center of the road which leads past the J. M. Jolley residence to the intersection at the Frank Sells farm; thence northwardly with the center of the road which passes the Stone Means residence to the Lovelady- Jones Chapel Road near the residence of Tom Jones; thence westwardly with the center of the Lovelady-Jones Chapel road to the point where it crosses Meetinghouse Branch near the old John Reagan homeplace; thence northwestwardly with the center of Meetinghouse Branch to the center of Dale Hollow Reservoir; thence up Dale Hollow Reservoir with the center thereof to the Kentucky State line; thence westwardly with the Kentucky State line to the northeast corner of Clay County; thence southwardly with the Clay County line to the Overton County line; thence southeastwardly with the Overton County line to the Fentress County line; thence eastwardly and northwardly with the Fentress County line to the beginning.

SECTION 6. That the membership of the County Board of Education shall be elected by the qualified voters of said county in the following manner:

At the next general election to be held in August, 1968, one (1) person shall be elected to the County Board of Education by the qualified voters of School District Number four (4). The term of office shall be for six (6) years beginning September 1, 1968. At the general election in August, 1970, one (1) person shall be elected to the County Board of Education by the qualified voters for School District Number three (3). The term of office shall be for six (6) years beginning September 1, 1970.

At the general election in August, 1972, two (2) persons shall be elected to the County Board of Education, one (1) by the qualified voters for School District Number one (1) and one (1) by the qualified voters for School District Number two (2). The term of office shall be for six (6) years beginning September 1, 1972.

The county commissioners of Pickett County shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy of the position of fifth member of the Pickett County School Board. When the next Pickett County general election is held, the fifth member shall be selected at large from Pickett County by the qualified voters of Pickett County. The term of office shall be for six (6) years beginning September 1, 1986.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 18

SECTION 7. That the powers, duties, qualifications and mode of procedure of the County Board of Education of Pickett County shall be the same as now provided for a County Board of Education under the general statutes and laws of the State of Tennessee, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 8. That the members of the County Board of Education of Pickett County shall be compensated at the rate of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day's attendance upon meetings of the County Board of Education, and they shall also receive Ten Cents (10¢) per mile one way, as traveling expenses between their homes and the county seat of said county. Such compensation and mileage expenses shall be paid out of the school fund of said county.

SECTION 9. That it is hereby declared to be the intent of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee to provide a County Board of Education for Pickett County to be elected by the qualified voters and said Board to be composed of five (5) members and to serve staggered terms of six (6) years each, but the County Board of Education membership may, during the period of transition from the former system of electing members to said Board, exceed for a period of time more than five (5) members.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 18

SECTION 10. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall be approved by a majority of the voters voting in an election to be held for such purpose. Within 30 days after the approval of this Act by the Governor, or after its otherwise effective date, it shall be the duty of the County Board of Election Commissioners of Pickett County to call an election for the county to be held not less than 20 nor more than 40 days from the date of such call for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the provisions of this Act. The ballots used in such election shall have printed thereon the title, caption or general substance of this Act and voters shall vote for or against its adoption. The votes cast at such election shall be canvassed by the County Board of Election Commissioners upon the first Monday occurring five or more days next after the date of such election and the results shall be proclaimed by such board and certified to the Secretary of State. The qualification of voters shall be that provided by law for participation in general elections and all laws applicable to general elections shall apply to an election held hereunder. The cost of said election shall be paid by the county to which this Act applies.

SECTION 11. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 6, 1967.

Education/Schools - Historical Notes

Superintendent or Director of Schools

The act referenced below once affected the office of superintendent of education in Pickett County, but is no longer operative.

1. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 4, created and established in Pickett County, Tennessee, the office of County Superintendent of Schools, which position was filled by election by the qualified voters of said county. In the event of vacancy in the office of County Superintendent of Schools in said county after the regular August, 1968, the Quarterly County Court would elect someone to fill said vacancy until a successor was elected at the next general election.

General Reference

The following acts constitute part of the administrative and political heritage of the educational structure of Pickett County but are no longer operative since they have either been superseded, repealed, or failed to receive local approval. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1901, Chapter 472, established a special school district to be known as School District No. 11. [All special school districts which were not taxing districts were abolished by the general education act of 1925.]
2. Acts of 1907, Chapter 281, created an independent school district out of parts of Pickett County and Overton County, to be known as the Bethsaida District.
3. Acts of 1909, Chapter 494, was a compulsory education act requiring the parents or guardians of any child between the ages of eight and fourteen to send their children to school for at least four months or eighty consecutive days each year.
4. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 555, was a general education law for Overton and Pickett Counties governing the operating procedures of the elementary and high schools in the county systems and in the special school districts. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 195, removed Pickett County from this Act's provisions.

5. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 670, re-established the Bethsaida School District out of parts of Pickett and Overton Counties. This act was more elaborate than the original 1907 act, setting out the exact boundaries, method of selecting the trustees and their duties and requiring an annual scholastic population. This act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 573.
6. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 707, was House Bill No. 1177 and was identical to Chapter 670 of the Private Acts of 1917, which was its companion Senate Bill.
7. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 10, provided for the election by popular vote of a County Superintendent of Public Schools, but this act was repealed in the next legislative session by Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 322.
8. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 256, authorized the Pickett County Board of Education to pay Otto Groce the sum of \$311.32 out of the elementary school funds for the purpose of refunding to him the amount which he had personally advanced for the erection of the Jones Chapel School House in 1922.
9. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 396, created a five member County Board of Public School Directors for Pickett County to be elected from the county as a whole for five year terms. The County Board of Education was abolished.
10. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 439, provided that the county superintendent of education would be elected biennially by the Quarterly County Court at its January term. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 648, and Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 738, were both amendatory to the original act, adjusting the annual salary of that position.
11. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 318, established a five member County Board of Public School Directors, one member to be elected from each of Pickett County's civil districts by the voters in that district. This was amended by the Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 721, to provide that the school board would be elected by the Quarterly County Court.
12. Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 210, attempted to amend the Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 5, by providing for the election of a fifth member of the school board from the county at large, and by requiring that all members of the school board be at least eighteen years old.

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