

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Mel Battle, Vice Chair Vennie Beggarly, Gladys Garland, Tracy Stanley, Joel Lillard, Nicole Smith, and Trudy Blackwell. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Jennifer O'Briant, Carol Boaz, Carla Murray, Brook Underwood, Nelson Showalter, and Medina Jones. Board Attorney Ron Bradsher was present. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. *(Note: Others may have been present but did not sign the roster or names were not legible).*

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mel Battle. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Trudy Blackwell, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Carter recommended approval of agenda with addition of New Business, # 4 - Fundraising Request. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the agenda with changes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Carter shared that January is School Board of Education month recognition. She thanked the board members for the work they do and that much of their work goes unseen.

Recognition was given to board members who have received certificates. Those include:

Certificate of Achievement = Vennie Beggarly

Silver Award = Gladys Garland

Diploma of Honor = Mel Battle

The entire board was also recognized with the Silver Bell Award for cumulative hours.

Recognition was extended to Carshina Ingram, special education teacher at Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School, who received the Exceptional Children Educator of Excellence Award for 2022 on November 3rd at the 71st Annual Exceptional Children Conference.

Academic Growth Awards were shared for Stoney Creek Elementary for exceeded growth and North Elementary, Oakwood Elementary, South Elementary and NL Dillard Middle for academic growth. Certificates will be given out at faculty meetings.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

NL Dillard is celebrating 20 years and a list of events for the week was shared with the board.

Exams begin at the high school today and will go through the 18th of January.

A reminder that schools are closed in observance of Martin Luther King holiday on January 16th.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggary, to remove policies as listed below from the table. The motion carried unanimously.

- ❖ Policy # 4330, Theft, Trespass, and Damage to Property
- ❖ Policy # 4331, Assaults and Threats
- ❖ Policy # 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety
- ❖ Policy # 4334/5035/7345, Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)
- ❖ Policy # 4335, Criminal Behavior
- ❖ Policy # 4340, School-Level Investigations
- ❖ Policy # 4341, Parental Involvement in Student Behavior Issues
- ❖ Policy # 4342, Student Searches
- ❖ Policy # 4345, Student Discipline Records
- ❖ Policy # 4351, Short-Term Suspension
- ❖ Policy # 4352, Removal of Student During the Day
- ❖ Policy # 4353, Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion
- ❖ Policy # 4362, Requests for Readmission of Students Suspended for 365 Days or Expelled
- ❖ Policy # 4370, Student Discipline Hearing Procedures

Dr. Carter reviewed policies for second reading.

Policy # 4333 had questions with the word employee and if this needed to be included.

Policy # 4335 had questions if information needs to be included regarding employees.

Policy # 4342 was pulled for clarity and will be brought back to the next meeting.

Policy # 4352 was pulled for clarity and will be brought back to the next meeting.

Upon review, Dr. Carter recommended approval of second reading for policies as presented except for the two that were pulled. Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Vennie Beggary, to approve policies for second reading as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter recommended rescinding current policies as listed below. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve rescinding policies as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 9, 2023

Rescind

- Policy # 450, Discipline
- Policy # 465, Student Suspension & Expulsions
- Policy # 478, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Clear Threats to Safety
- Policy # 2420, Adoption of Policies
- Policy # 2440, Policy Review & Evaluation
- Policy # 2450, Suspension of Board Policies

III. REPORTS

None at this time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the consent agenda. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda:

- Increase for Cafeteria Managers
- Policy Amendment # 2430, Dissemination & Preservation of Policies
- Policy Amendment # 3620, Extracurricular Activities & Student Organizations
- Policy Amendment # 4318, Use of Cell Phones & Other Electronic Devices

2. Resolutions

Chair Mel Battle, Trudy Blackwell, and Vice Chair Vennie Beggarly read aloud resolutions for former employees who have recently passed away. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Joel Lillard, to approve resolutions as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Carl "Louis" McGee*

WHEREAS, Carl Louis McGee, was born on March 31, 1939, and resided in Kings Creek, NC, at the time of his death on December 13, 2022, and

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

WHEREAS, Louis McGee, was a faithful and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many and his family’s welfare was his major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Louis McGee was a graduate of Kings Creek High School and went on to obtain his Bachelors in Education from NC State University, and his Masters of School Administration from Western Carolina University. After college he began his teaching career in Kings Creek of Lenoir, NC and retired in June of 1997 with 28 years of service after holding the position of Principal and later as Superintendent of Caswell County Schools. He spent his career making sure children had a safe and disciplined learning environment. His philosophy included “first, you must gain control in the classroom and then, if you have time, you teach”; and

WHEREAS, Louis McGee was passionate about his work in his community and was involved with the Masonic Lodge, Shriners, and the Boy Scouts of America. He was a longtime member of Caswell Brotherhood # 11 Masonic Lodge and an Assistant Scout Master of Boy Scouts Troop # 372; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Louis McGee and expresses its sympathy to his family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

This the 9th day of January 2023.

Mel Battle, Chairman

Vennie Beggarly, Vice Chair

Trudy Blackwell

Gladys Garland

Joel Lillard

Nicole Smith

Tracy P. Stanley

Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Vanessa Wilson Chriscoe*

WHEREAS, Vanessa Wilson Chriscoe, was born on February 14, 1957, and resided in Milton, NC, at the time of her death on December 27, 2022, and

WHEREAS, Vanessa Chriscoe, was a faithful and loving daughter, wife, mother, sister, and friend and her family’s welfare was her major and constant concern; and

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 9, 2023

WHEREAS, Vanessa Chriscoe graduated from Bartlett Yancey Senior High School in 1975 and continued her education at Winston-Salem State University, where she received her degree in Education; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa Chriscoe was a former member of New Zion Baptist Church in Milton, NC, and later became a member of East New Hope Baptist Church in Danville, VA, where she served as an Usher and on the Hospitality Committee; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa Chriscoe was employed by the Caswell County Public School System as a teacher until her retirement. She will be remembered for her commitment to education; and being known for her benevolence and servant’s heart to children; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Vanessa Chriscoe and expresses its sympathy to her family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

This the 9th day of January 2023.

Mel Battle, Chairman

Vennie Beggarly, Vice Chair

Trudy Blackwell

Gladys Garland

Joel Lillard

Nicole Smith

Tracy P. Stanley

Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Katherine Caroscio Myers*



WHEREAS, Katherine Caroscio Myers, was born on October 31, 1950, and resided at 6486 NC Hwy 62 North, Blanch, NC, 27212, at the time of her death on December 5, 2022, and

WHEREAS, Katherine Myers, was a faithful and loving daughter, wife, mother, sister, and friend and her family’s welfare was her major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Katherine Myers was an undergraduate of Cornell University and a graduate of University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a degree in Child Development; and

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 9, 2023

WHEREAS, Katherine Myers was employed by the Caswell County Public School System as a teacher until her retirement. She will be remembered for her commitment to education; and being known for her benevolence and servant’s heart to children; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Katherine Myers and expresses its sympathy to her family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

This the 9th day of January 2023.

Mel Battle, Chairman

Vennie Beggarly, Vice Chair

Trudy Blackwell

Gladys Garland

Joel Lillard

Nicole Smith

Tracy P. Stanley

Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

3. North Carolina School Board Association Policy Transition

- ❖ Policy # 5000, Schools and the Community
- ❖ Policy # 5008, Automated Phone & Text Messaging
- ❖ Policy # 5010, Parent Organizations & Other School Support Groups
- ❖ Policy # 5013/9033, Volunteer Capital Projects
- ❖ Policy # 5015, School Volunteers
- ❖ Policy # 5020, Visitors to the Schools
- ❖ Policy # 5024/6127/7266, Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injector Devices
- ❖ Policy # 5025, Prohibition of Drugs and Alcohol
- ❖ Policy # 7240, Drug-Free & Alcohol-Free Workplace
- ❖ Policy # 7241, Drug & Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

Dr. Carter reviewed the policies for first reading.

Policy # 5010 – It was shared that booster clubs thought they were limited to the number of events they could have. Dr. Carter shared she has met with the booster clubs and this will be cleared up.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

Other questions included if the PTO would like to make a donation to pay in full the cost of a field trip for a classroom if the transportation portion could not be included as well and an example was shared in which it was not and the students had to pay a set price for the bus and driver.

It was shared that this could be included but would need to be clarified for the financial portion and to make sure criteria requirements are met regarding drivers.

Policy # 7241 – if an accident occurs we are required for drug testing with CDL license; however, if an employee is driving a county vehicle they are not required to be drug tested. Board Attorney shared that in most instances law enforcement is called for an accident and they will determine requirements that are needed.

Upon no further questions, Dr. Carter recommended approval of first reading of policies as presented. Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Joel Lillard, to approve first reading and for policies to lay on the table for second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Exceptional Children Fundraiser

Dr. Carter reviewed a fundraising request from EC Dept. at the high school. It was suggested that this is part of their curriculum and may not need board approval; however, they are selling items for profit. At this time the request will be suggested for approval and will discuss further at the upcoming work session.

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the EC fundraising request. Tracy Stanly moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the EC fundraising request as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EC/Adaptive Jan. 15th – Feb. 15th Valentine Crafts

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Carter shared that prior to Covid we had received a grant in the amount of \$25,000 to hire an Art’s Consultant to help with writing a larger grant and securing the necessary data. The contract and recommendation will be shared in closed session.

Congratulations to Marcy Piotrowski and Carol Boaz on accommodations received from NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) regarding the AIG 3-year plan. Dr. Carter shared that it is very rare to receive this much credit from NCDPI as they shared it was incredibly well written and comprehensive. Dr. Carter thanked Ms. Piotrowski & Mrs. Boaz for their hard work.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

Dr. Carter shared she will be attending a Superintendent meeting this week and accountability models will be discussed and the need for change as well as the need for school calendar law flexibility. She shared that some districts are choosing to not follow the required guidelines; however, the state pays approximately 80% of school funding, the majority of payroll, and she is not comfortable with risking losing those funds.

Dr. Carter also shared that a neighboring district is looking at a 4 day work week and she would like to discuss this at the upcoming work session.

Information was shared regarding jersey retirements at the high school and this will be discussed further at the upcoming work session.

Chair Mel Battle suggested that board member submit any input they have regarding this topic prior to the work session.

VI. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

Trudy Blackwell shared she visited Stoney Creek and enjoyed her visit and was pleased with what she saw. She noted the principal was busy working with students and academics and the school was very clean. She also visited NL Dillard Middle School and noted the positive wall which was on kindness. She thought that was very positive. She stopped by Oakwood also and the principal was busy with observations so she was unable to talk with her.

Tracy Stanley shared concerns with a parent checking a student out for the day and it only being unexcused for the class time they were checked out in and noted others after that were being coded unexcused. Absences need to be updated. Dr. Carter will follow up.

Vennie Beggarly did not have anything.

Mel Battle requested that all work session items be turned in by the end of the day today. Mel Battle also questioned when quarterly reports would be ready. Jeremy Teetor shared they would be ready for the January 23rd meeting.

Nicole Smith shared she attended the winter dance concert at the high school and shared it was excellent noting that the teacher and assistant did an outstanding job and all involved seem to enjoy it.

Nicole Smith shared that on Thursday she saw a bus at 7:00 p.m. and inquired if we are still needing bus drivers noting the vacancy only listed one driver needed at the last meeting. Dr. Carter shared this bus was most likely used for tutoring due to the timing.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

Gladys Garland thanked everyone for their support during the loss of her sister recently.

Gladys Garland shared she continues to hear great things are going on within the schools and in light of what occurred recently in Virginia with the six year old bringing a gun to school she wants to make sure we are keeping safety first in all of our schools.

On that note, Mel Battle shared he had heard from a substitute teacher who noted that the security at the high school was most impressive.

Joel Lillard shared he has visited schools and was impressed. He noted that NL Dillard was gearing up for their homecoming activities. One concern he had involved students not being allowed to carry book-bags with them and he had concerns with the amount of books and chromebooks. Dr. Carter shared that the concern at one time was due to class size and space and noted that students were tripping over them. Joel Lillard shared that NL Dillard is the only school that this is occurring and asked if the students could not have extra time to go back to their lockers as he was told they are not allowed to go between every class.

Joel Lillard also requested if the six-foot stickers in Central Office can be removed.

Joel Lillard shared that one concern he is hearing is that teachers have to call their own substitutes and asked if there is a better process upon sharing examples of how teachers are frustrated. He felt that a better system needs to be looked into.

It was requested to have procedures from each school on how they handle this.

Trudy Blackwell also questioned if an update on academics was going to be shared today. Dr. Carter shared she has prepared a folder with that information along with other requested items that will be handed out at the end of the meeting.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

Joel Lillard made a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board (NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6); and for the purpose of discussing information that is privileged, confidential or not a public record (NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1) and to confer with legal counsel. Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. OPEN SESSION

Gladys Garland made a motion to return to open session. Tracy Stanley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2023

VIII. PERSONNEL LISTING

Dr. Carter recommended approval of Lance Stokes (principal at Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School) to be held harmless for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Gladys Garland. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter recommended extending contract with Dr. Rodney Shotwell, 1798 Consulting, until the end of school year based upon last contract.

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve extending contract with Dr. Rodney Shotwell, 1789 Consulting, until end of school year. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter recommended approval of contract with Marilyn Foley to serve as Interim Principal at Stoney Creek Elementary to start as soon as possible. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, the motion carried 4-2 with Lillard and Beggarly voting "No." (Trudy Blackwell left meeting during closed session)

Dr. Carter recommended approval of contract with Amanda Hodges for temporary Data Analysis/Art Consultant paid for with grant received. Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve Amanda Hodges contract for temporary Art Consultant Data Analysis. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley to approve the personnel listing as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Resignation	
Stoney Creek Elementary	Terri Gullick, Principal = Eff. 2/14/23
NL Dillard Middle School	Richard Todd, Bus Driver = Eff. 1/3/23
Retirement	
North Elementary	Mary Lou Holloway, Bus Driver = Eff. 12/31/22
Transportation	Richard Smith, Mechanic = Eff. 2/3/23
Employment	
Oakwood Elementary	Shondra Coleman, Custodian = Eff. 1/10/23
Bus Driver	Clarence Abel = Eff. 1/11/23

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 9, 2023

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- NL Dillard Homecoming Week Schedule of Events
- Work Session = January 23rd @ 3:30 p.m.
- February 27, 2023 = pictures will be taken of the board for picture frames in schools
- Joint meeting date with Board of County Commissioners was discussed. It was agreed to meet on February 20, 2023 at 5:00 for dinner and meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Meeting will take place at the Caswell County Library.

X. ADJOURN

Gladys Garland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m., Joel Lillard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent