

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

October 10, 2022

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 10, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Mel Battle, Vennie Beggarly, Donna Hudson, Trudy Blackwell, and Tracy Stanley. Chair Wayne Owen was absent. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Carol Boaz, Carla Murray, Joel Lillard, Jennifer O'Briant, and Medina Jones. 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 Vice Chair Gladys Garland. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2022 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Carter recommended approval of agenda. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Carter shared the ribbon cutting, held on Sunday, October 9, 2022, was well attended and she appreciated all that were there. It was a beautiful day to celebrate the accomplishments and see the project come to completion.

Dr. Carter shared that flu shots will be available soon for staff and a schedule will be shared. We are working with Compassion Health to provide the shots this year. It was questioned if the flu shots and Covid booster shots could be given at the same time and if this could be an option. Dr. Carter will look into this.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Carter recommended removing the policies listed below from the table. Donna Hudson, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to remove the policies listed below from the table. The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy # 4318 – Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

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- Policy # 4101 - Early Admission to Kindergarten
- Policy # 3228/7323 - Use of Personal Technology To Conduct School Business
- Policy # 4260 - Student Sex Offenders
- Policy # 4270 - Concussion and Head Injury

Information was shared from Board Attorney Ron Bradsher regarding the cell phone policy and clarification for notifying parents if phones are confiscated. Board Attorney shared that administrators have to exercise common sense.

Cell phone policy will be updated on page 2 to add the word "administrator" rather than official in regards to search of wireless communication devices.

Upon no further discussion, Dr. Carter recommended approval of second reading of the policies as listed below. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve second reading of the policies as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy # 4318 - Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices
- Policy # 4101 - Early Admission to Kindergarten
- Policy # 3228/7323 - Use of Personal Technology To Conduct School Business
- Policy # 4260 - Student Sex Offenders
- Policy # 4270 - Concussion and Head Injury

Dr. Carter recommended rescinding Policy # 456, Cell Phone/Electronic Usage. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to rescind Policy # 456. The motion carried unanimously.

Rescind Policies:

- # 456, Cell Phone/Electronic Usage

III. REPORTS

None at this time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

None at this time.

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VI. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

Gladys Garland shared the open house went very well and also shared an article which was featured in a Danville publication with the board. The article featured Art Teacher Jared Terrell from the high school. Congratulations were extended to Mr. Terrell.

Tracy Stanley shared that the flashing lights at NL Dillard are not working properly in the school zone. Jennifer O'Briant has inquired on this and will follow-up again to see if this can be corrected.

Vennie Beggarly asked for clarification on LETRS training for our teachers and explanation on how are teachers are receiving this as well as if work is required to take place at home. Dr. Carter shared that this is something being pushed down from the state and all districts are feeling the stress level of the requirements. Dr. Carter shared that some counties are offering something to their staff and we are looking into the best options for our staff.

Carol Boaz shared an update with the board. She stated that Caswell falls into Cohort 3 and some Cohorts (1 & 2) have started earlier. There is required face-to-face time from DPI (Department of Public Instruction) of three hours and generally this takes place from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; however, we understand this is difficult for all to do. We've listen4d to our staff and looked at the school calendar and tried to push workdays for the face-to-face portion as well as allowing principals to give a half-day substitute to allow everyone a chance to catch up. Another day for substitute assistance is being looked at for February or March. Carol Boaz shared that if you get off pace it is very difficult to get back on track.

When looking at offering our staff some type of incentive it was shared that other districts have used ESSER funds but it was noted that the supplement for teachers (which has previously been given) has been a positive for our teachers. The State indicated that they may offer some type of incentive but the funding has not been released at this time. Three options have been discussed but until we are aware of the formula from the state it is difficult to put anything into place at this time. Principals encouraged staff to use the day of the recent workday (for the hurricane) as a time of catching up.

It was shared that although this is a state requirement; the way the information is transmitted to our staff is important and if there is anything we can do to assist those that are involved would be a nice gesture. Mrs. Boaz shared she had heard from Cohort 1 and 2 in which they offered a bonus but the work still had to be done outside of the normal day and felt that this is a very delicate balancing act to see what works best for our staff.

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Clarification was asked on Fly Leaf. Carol Boaz shared this is decodable information and we are working very hard to marry the two. Lessons are already written out. In order for kids to read they need to decode phonics. Some lessons can be used as an intervention piece and others help to assist those in another grade. In January/February, tools that offer a plan to help students will be used.

It was questioned if the curriculum coaches are being trained in this as well. Carol Boaz replied that they are. All four coaches and Margaret, who specializes in training, are involved and are available daily to offer support to our teachers. It was the hope that the curriculum coaches are modeling for the teachers. The goal is to have Fly Leaf implemented by December.

Question was asked how the combination classes are working with all of this noting it looks like it would be very confusing. Carol Boaz shared that it can be and that is why we have tried to work with those teachers and built in time for planning and encourage them to share what additional support is needed.

Question was asked if after-school tutoring is available and if parents have been surveyed to see if they are interested in this service. Dr. Carter shared that she was unsure about a survey and noted that every principal has come up with their own plan on tutoring. She noted that after school children are tired and this also puts them home late. Tutoring has better attendance if it occurs during the school day.

It was requested that the board receive information on what each school is doing regarding their tutoring plans.

It was also requested that a report on Dibels be shared with the board as well as a listing of all the names serving on the teacher advisory committee.

Question was asked if Rodney Shotwell has begun working with the administrative teams. Dr. Carter shared at this time he has not as there were some issues with his LLC. She noted that she needs to change the contract dates and will follow-up with him.

Dr. Carter shared in summary that we are very aware that LETRS is more work on the staff; however, she is excited about what is coming down from the state as this will help our early learners and have a huge impact on literacy. She looks forward to see the outcome.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

Vennie Beggarly 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

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privileged, confidential or not a public record (NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1) and to confer with legal counsel. Mel Battle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(Note: A recess was taken during Closed Session for board members to attend a planned joint meeting with the Board of Commissioners which began at 12:00 p.m.)

VIII. OPEN SESSION

Mel Battle made a motion to return to open session. Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. PERSONNEL LISTING

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented with removal of Section 2 (1) B. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Donna Hudson, to approve the personnel listing as presented with removal of Section 2 (1) B. The motion carried unanimously.

Resignation	
South Elementary	Debra Brandon - Before & After School Care @ South & Office Sub. For Child Nutrition = Eff. 10/10/22
NL Dillard Middle	James Nicks - 8 th Grade Social Studies Teacher = Eff. 10/31/22
Retirement	
North Elementary	Cynthia Lawrence - 4 th Grade Teacher = Eff. 11/1/22
Employment	
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Terri Hairston, School Counselor = Eff. 10/12/22
District	Danasha Streater = Bus Driver = Eff. 10/11/22
District	Thomas Long = Bus Driver = Eff. 10/11/22

Revoke Employment

Dr. Carter recommended withdrawing employment with Brianna Mann. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to revoke employment with Brianna Mann. The motion carried unanimously.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- Annual NCSBA Conference is in November.

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XI. ADJOURN

Vennie Beggarly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m., Trudy Blackwell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on October 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Wayne Owen
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent