

# CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

September 12, 2022

## Work Session Minutes

The Caswell County Board of Education met in a work session on Monday, September 12, 2022, beginning at 2:25 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Donna Hudson, Trudy Blackwell, Mel Battle, Tracy Stanley, and Vennie Beggarly. Wayne Owen was absent. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. *(Meeting was livestreamed via Zoom.)*

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:25 p.m.

#### Hiring Process

Dr. Carla Murray reviewed the hiring process.

#### Caswell County Civic Center Rentals

Mel Battle requested this for the agenda. Discussion took place regarding the pricing and felt that the in-county rate should be changed. Although the Civic Center creates a loss for the system, we are still responsible for keeping it going and paying the electric bills, etc. Mr. Battle shared he does not look at it as a loss as it belongs to the school system and a void was created due to the loss of Mr. Lee Fowlkes (former Civic Center director). With the decrease in pricing it may be more attractive to the community who would like to rent it.

A revised price schedule was shared with changes to the “in-county” rates. There were no issues with changing the pricing.

Discussion took place with the requirements for in and out of county based upon rental. The guidelines that are in place will remain. Discussion took place regarding living in the county but renting the facility for a business that may be out of the county. Restrictions will still apply for usage during the school day, which includes the business or organization address being the correct address which is used for rental.

It was agreed to pro-rate any pre-existing contracts with the new rates. The change to the rates will be effective September 12, 2022.

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Donna Hudson, to approve the revised price schedule to the Caswell County Civic Center rental as presented. The motion carried 5-1 with Beggarly voting “No.” (Owen was absent)

#### School Calendar

Mel Battle requested this item for the agenda. Discussion was had regarding starting school earlier. Although the State has not approved this, an article was shared of a school system that

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started earlier and felt this may be a position in which Caswell may like to pursue. If the change was made it would allow the first semester to end prior to the winter break and exams would be completed also. Upon discussion, it was agreed that a resolution be brought back to the board to go on record on our position to be sent to the general assembly. Dr. Carter was also asked to share information with surrounding superintendents to see if they, too, would be interested in doing a resolution so that this can possibly be changed. Dr. Carter agreed and also noted that this is usually one of the top ten topics discussed in the superintendent meetings.

#### High School Athletics/Home School

Dr. Carter discussed home school students participating in sports and shared information from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA). Our current policy will move forward and follow the NCHSAA guidelines. It was shared that all staff who are involved in athletics need to be aware of these guidelines.

Upon discussion it was questioned if PCC students show up in PowerSchool. It was shared that some students attend PCC and never go to the high school. Dr. Carter was asked to clarify if PCC students are enrolled and are assigned a home room and if they do not check in during home room are they counted in attendance.

#### Information for New Board Members

Vennie Beggarly requested this item for the agenda. Mrs. Beggarly shared that it would be nice and helpful to offer assistance to newly elected board members and share how things occur with meetings, budget, training, etc. Dr. Carter shared that an orientation for board members will be held in January and include various items of interest to include: roles of various departments, p-card training, protocol for meetings, board notebooks updated, budget, PRC codes, training offered through NCSBA, lunch schedule, dates of meetings and times, etc. Other areas to include how funding works (State, Federal, Local) and information on superintendent evaluation process. A copy of the current budget needs to be included also.

#### Superintendent Evaluation Timeline

Gladys Garland suggested that due to the absence of Mr. Owen, Board Chair, that Donna Hudson work through the evaluation process with her this year noting she has been involved in the past. Dr. Carter's evaluation book will be ready for review the week of September 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### Teacher Working Condition Survey

Trudy Blackwell requested this item on the agenda. Dr. Carter shared a copy by schools to all board members. Discussion took place noting that the information included in the reports is valuable and would be helpful if the principal's take these surveys seriously and review with their staff on how to improve issues that are listed.

#### Other

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Discussion was had regarding class size. It was questioned if ESSER funding could be used to fund a teacher assistant for the two fifth grade classes knowing that our students are behind. Dr. Carter shared that both teachers requested the larger class as opposed to a split class. Dr. Carter shared that ESSER funds have been earmarked; however, if the board desires, we can look into this. Dr. Carter noted that tutoring is available once the budget is approved. It was shared that it may be worthwhile to offer this assistance on the front end as opposed to summer school and noted that this is a one-time opportunity with the ESSER funding. This may also eliminate some of the summer school numbers and help teachers now.

Dr. Carter will look into ESSER funding for Teacher Assistants.

Jeremy Teetor shared a handout with county appropriations and expenditures noting that the majority of the funding goes for operational support. Mr. Teetor was requested to provide the information with a broken down detailed sheet as well as list how many charter schools we currently have. It was agreed this would be good information to share with the commissioners at the next joint meeting.

**ADJOURN**

Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Trudy Blackwell to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Wayne Owen  
Chairman

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Dr. Sandra Carter  
Superintendent