

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Special Called Meeting

February 21, 2022

The Caswell County Board of Education met in a special called meeting on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Wayne Owen, Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Mel Battle, Vennie Beggarly, Tracy Stanley, Trudy Blackwell, and Donna Hudson. Others present included Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Andrew Tyrrell, Nicole McGhee, Carol Boaz, Kimberly Shelton, Brook Underwood, Joel Lillard, Jamie Coal, Josh Benfield, Elizabeth Strader, and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. Meeting was livestreamed via Zoom. (*others may have been in attendance, but did not sign in.*)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Owen. A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. FACE MASKING

Dr. Carter read information received from Health Department Director Jennifer Eastwood in regards to the safety guidelines we have followed during the pandemic and noted CDC (Center for Disease Control) information. Vaccines and boosters have been made readily available along with treatment for Covid and at this time it appears trends are decreasing. Jennifer Eastwood recommended as soon as Caswell County Schools felt comfortable that masking should be optional. On February 17th, Governor Cooper urged for optional face masks.

Dr. Carter shared based on the recommendations from the Health Department Director and Governor Cooper she recommends that masking be optional beginning Wednesday, February 23, 2022 and continue to follow the NC Strong Schools Toolkit which includes masks to be worn on school buses.

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve the recommendation of optional masking and to continue to follow the NC Strong Toolkit. The motion carried 6-1 with Blackwell voting "No."

III. REPORTS / BUDGET INFORMATION

Dr. Carter welcomed our former finance director, Jeremy Teetor, to the meeting. Mr. Teetor is helping us on a contracted basis due to the vacancy within the finance department. We continue to search for candidates as it is imperative to fill the position with the right person. At this time the meeting was turned over to Mr. Teetor.

Mr. Teetor shared a short presentation on the State budget updates and what has occurred. Those included:

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Special Called Meeting

February 21, 2022

Salaries

- Certified Staff and Assistant Principals = Step increase + 1.3%
 - Average of 2.5%
 - Ranges from 1.3% to 5.4% or \$650 to \$2,680
- Psychologists, Speech Pathologists, and Audiologists receive additional \$350 supplement per month
- School Counselors receive an additional \$100 supplement per month
- Principals = 2.5% increase
- Classified = 13 minimum wage or 2.5% -- whichever is greater (\$15 minimum wage next year)
- Effective January 1, 2022

State Supported Teacher Supplement

- State providing funds to 95 counties earmarked for additional supplementary pay for teachers
- Caswell allotment estimate = \$771,838
- Will develop policy for local board

State Bonuses

Bonus Area	Amount	Conditions
All Employees	\$1,000	Employed December 1, 2021
Employees earning less than \$75,000	\$500	Employed December 1, 2021
All Teachers/Certified Instructional Support	\$1,000	Employed January 1, 2022
All Teachers	\$300	Employed January 1, 2022
All Principals	\$1,800	Employed January 1, 2022
AP, IB and CTE Teachers Test Results	Up to \$3,500	Up to \$50 per passing score or credential

Benefit Costs

Benefit	2020-2021 Rate	2021-2022 Rate	2022-2023 Rate
Retirement	21.68%	22.89%	24.19%
Health Insurance	\$6,326	\$7,019	\$7,397

Mr. Teetor continued to review the following budgets and answered questions from the board.

- State Fund
- Federal Fund
- Local Fund
- Capital Outlay Fund
- Child Nutrition Fund
- Before and After School Fund
- Quarterly Reports (2nd Quarter)
- Budget Resolution 2021-2022

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Special Called Meeting

February 21, 2022

There were some questions and concerns that were brought to Mr. Teetor's attention. He shared this was the first draft for review and updates will be made and brought back to the board prior to approval of the budget resolution.

Questions reviewed during the meeting for follow up include:

- A list of the repairs made for maintenance and what is still needed in reference to indirect costs for Child Nutrition.
- A list of charter schools and how many are enrolled from Caswell (Local).
- Student Parking – is there a fee for parking pass and was this implemented.

Mr. Teetor shared that overall the budget looks good and he felt good about it for Caswell County Schools. He shared the fund balance is very respectable and in a good position in the event of emergencies. He would not recommend any changes to the investments (which are required by state law to invest idle cash) noting that interest rates are very low everywhere.

Dr. Carter along with board members thanked Mr. Teetor for assisting Caswell County Schools during the absence of a finance officer and appreciates his willingness to help us. Dr. Carter shared that with the assistance of Assistant Superintendent Andrew Tyrrell and the finance department we are in good shape.

IV. ADJOURN

Vennie Beggarly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m., Gladys Garland seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on February 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Wayne Owen
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent