

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Special Called Meeting

May 1, 2018

The Caswell County Board of Education met in a special called meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room located at the Administrative Offices of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Gladys Garland, Vice Chairman Sylvia Johnson, Donna Hudson, Mel Battle, Gordon Satterfield, Ross Gwynn, and Tracy Stanley. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Assistant Superintendent Andrew Tyrrell, and Brian Bradner with Dewberry & Davis. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gladys Garland.

Superintendent Dr. Carter shared that Brian Bradner with Dewberry and Davis has agreed to donate pictures of the proposed new renovations to display at each school location. Mr. Bradner spoke to the board and suggested ideas on how to share the information. Those include:

- Campus wide informational meeting (before school is out).
- Plan events in August - September at Bartlett Yancey High School (particularly sporting events) - Have a station to answer questions & pass out flyers, possibly make announcements during halftime.
- Informational campaign at the elementary schools and the middle school (rotation)
- Structured events at North & South Elementary or at local fire departments (6:30-8:30 and on the half-hour show a PowerPoint presentation). Based on size of crowd open a Question and Answer Session with stations to provide individual responses.
- Social media = Suggest creating a separate Facebook page. Designate someone to monitor responses and gauge the activity.
- Understand how the ballot will be spelled out, as wording can be confusing.
- Organize tours and provide sign-up sheets. Have pre-planned and structured routes.
- Selective community meetings.
- Strategically place materials at popular community sites (local stores, etc.).

Dr. Carter suggested working on the upcoming calendar of events within the school and creating an in-house PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Battle questioned what is planned for Thursday referencing the joint meeting with the County Commissioners. Dr. Carter shared that a list of questions were sent from the commissioners and Bryan Miller is meeting with Brian Bradner to discuss different scenarios. Other concerns included providing additional safety to all schools and determining the length of time and interest rate. The next meeting of the commissioners is Monday, May 7th at 9:00 a.m. and they will vote on the bond referendum.

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Gordon Satterfield shared that May 7th is the deadline for the bond council. Mr. Satterfield shared that he felt the commissioners will vote for the bond for the general public to make the decision.

Some concerns are being shared with the numbers that are agreed upon and the numbers that are being used.

Donna Hudson shared she is being asked "what is Plan B" if we do not move forward. She shared that we do not have enough local funds. Mrs. Hudson also shared if a staff meeting at the high school is planned she would like it open to all staff and make arrangements to release teachers a few minutes ahead of the buses for those interested in attending.

Sylvia Johnson suggested board members attend future upcoming events and provide handouts to distribute. Gordon Satterfield felt it would be better to have all the information (noting safety concerns) on the handout.

Donna Hudson shared concerns with closing Stoney Creek mentioning the possibility of a charter school or students may choose to go to schools out of the district.

Discussion took place regarding Stoney Creek. Dr. Carter shared information provided from Maintenance Director Jerry Hatchett on recent capital improvements made within the last few years. Dr. Carter shared that currently the enrollment at Stoney Creek cannot be absorbed and would create additional transportation costs. Information that will be shared with the commissioners on Thursday was shared with board members.

It was shared that County Manager Bryan Miller is working with Davenport on financial aspects.

Tracy Stanley suggested sharing information on the lottery money.

Dr. Carter requested board members to email her on upcoming events they would like to attend.

Discussion continued on questions that are being asked from the community. Those include:

- Renovation versus new construction (safety aspects not being communicated).
- Why do we need a new high school. We can't even get teachers and some students have had substitutes all year. (Tracey Stanley noted that Principal Steve Evans has shared positive answers to that question on Facebook.)
- Why did you redo the Central Office when you had a perfectly good office? Where did the funding come from? (This plan was in the works for some time. Funds were used from capital outlay).

Dr. Carter requested board members send questions to her as they continue to receive them.

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Tracy Stanley suggested sharing information at the end of year banquet. Donna Hudson shared concern with promoting information at that event.

Mel Battle felt we need to share information regarding where students will go while school is being built.

Dr. Carter shared the concern with the misconception of closing Stoney Creek and noted that is not the case. Dr. Carter suggested waiting until Thursday before including this with the question and answer section.

Tracy Stanley questioned what happens with athletics during renovating? It was shared that we may lose money that year due to more away games. Renovations will try and be scheduled to work around the high school schedule.

Gordon Satterfield questioned why are we flipping the athletics? Sylvia Johnson shared concerns regarding limited room on the visitor side, foul balls go into the road, long walk to restroom areas, etc. Flipping would create one entrance. This idea has been discussed for a while.

II. ADJOURN

Ross Gwynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m., Sylvia Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 14, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Central Office Administrative Building of Caswell County Schools.

Gladys Garland
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent