

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 9, 2024

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Mel Battle, Vice Chair Joel Lillard, Vennie Beggarly, Gladys Garland (arrived at 9:15 a.m.), Nicole Smith, Tracy Stanley and Trudy Blackwell. Others present include Interim Superintendent Dr. Douglas Barker, JoAnna Gwynn, Brook Underwood, and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher. 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

Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Barker recommended approval of agenda as presented with addition to Consent Agenda, Item "F" Resolution. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition as noted. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Barker shared that due to inclement weather today, school will be dismissing at 11:30 a.m.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

II. REPORTS

None at this time.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Coaching Supplemented Positions

This item was asked to brought back for review.

Discussion took place regarding the coaches and assistant coaches as well as those that are volunteers. The approved listing was last approved in 2013/2014. Information was shared and

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Dr. Barker noted that coaching positions must be board approved before they can get paid. Discussion took place on what has been occurring over the past few years in which a volunteer for the volleyball team was getting paid and there is technically not a position on the coaching supplemented position listing for this position. It was also shared that beginning in January all volunteers will be completing paperwork and background checks and be informed that as a volunteer, they will not get paid. Other concerns shared included the decision at the school level to use a paid position in which a sport was not used and pay the volunteers which is not their decision to make and unfortunately it appears this has occurred. Going forward only the positions listed on the approved supplemented coaching position listing will be paid.

It was requested that the board would like to see a list of names for volunteers once they are approved. It can be shared on the personnel listing as an "FYI" or given at the beginning of each sporting season.

Chair Mel Battle shared that if new positions are needed he felt that this should come from the school level and brought to the board for approval. Dr. Barker reminded the board that payment for coaches comes from local funds and the board needs to remember the sequence before making changes noting that the budgeting should come first before anyone is hired. If you do not do this it is very difficult to work within a budget. The board needs to look at funding and what slots are needed for coaching. Funding for coaching positions that are not used should not be used. If there is an individual that worked and was expecting to get paid we will need to find the funding but be aware of the status next year if things on the list remain the same. The Finance Director has been informed to only pay the positions are on the approved sheet and a coach or principal cannot just "move" someone as they feel necessary.

Vennie Beggarly shared she would like to see an assistant volleyball coach added to the list noting that all other sports have an assistant.

Nicole Smith shared she would like to see track and wrestling added to the middle school.

Dr. Barker reminded the board that when adding a sport, even though it may be well deserved, to look at the whole process. If a sport is added such as wrestling, a mat will be needed and noted we currently need a new mat at the high school now which is approximately \$10,000-\$12,000, and then uniforms will be needed as well as adding the coaching supplement for additional positions. He shared that the board needs to look at the entire process and what the cost of the program will be and know what you are agreeing to before acting on it.

Joel Lillard questioned if the middle school students could go to the high school to practice. Dr. Barker shared that would have to be looked into and if approved, this would need to be included in next years budget for planning of the sport and cost of coach.

Dr. Barker also shared that when adding sports this is an area in which you do not want to start and stop and find the funding to make a commitment.

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Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve an assistant for volleyball at the high school. The motion carried 6-1 with Lillard voting "No."

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve payment for the individual who assisted volleyball for their services. The motion carried unanimously.

Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve adding wrestling and track at the middle school level. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barker shared that the board needs to remember to add these in the coaching supplement scale and include additional funding to cover these three positions.

Trudy Blackwell questioned the assistant cheerleading positions shared on the listing provided by the high school and if they were paid. Dr. Barker shared that an "assistant" as listed on the list the high school sent over is not a paid position and should not have been worded as such. There is only one cheerleader and one JV cheerleader position on the listing to be paid.

Dr. Barker shared that coaches never get paid what they deserve and they do it for our kids. When adding additional sports, you need to look at how many students you can effectively work with as well and do what is comfortable.

Joel Lillard shared we need to look at sports and traveling alone when there is only 1 or 2 coaches and how does that work. He agreed with Mr. Battle in which the recommendations should come from the school/coach and brought to the board for approval but should not be the board's responsibility to suggest the additions noting why he voted no earlier.

Dr. Barker shared that each situation will need to be looked at sharing that if a female is on a team that you will need a female to accompany the team and this needs to be looked at with all sports.

Dr. Barker shared going forward that the form and coaching level need to match up otherwise they will not get paid. If there are additional needs the school should be submitting them to the board prior to budget time so they can be reviewed.

Nicole Smith questioned if additional fundraising opportunities would be available. Dr. Barker shared a new form has been shared with principals and they can be submitted at each sporting season. The board needs to remember that they will now receive additional fundraising requests throughout the year and not at one specific time.

Caswell County Schools Supplemented Positions as of January 10, 2024 will include:

- Assistant Volleyball (L5) (BYSHS)
- Track (L3) (NL Dillard)
- Wrestling (L3) (NL Dillard)

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IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

Mel Battle questioned the contract for Camera Corner regarding the quotes that listed “not included.” Dr. Barker shared he felt that those companies did not give a price for installation and therefore were not considered for the bid. Dr. Barker shared the director followed the process as set forth in board policy and recommended low bid with Camera Corner and shared that funding would be used with ESSER funds which will be reverted if not used.

Board Attorney shared information on the resolution which was added to the consent agenda and was a requirement for the Department of Education for the Interim Superintendent.

Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Joel Lillard, to approve the consent agenda with addition of Item “F” Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Early Graduates (BYSHS)

- Brandie Brandon
- Katrina Brendle
- Mykala Clayton
- Saniyah Crutchfield
- Dana Delores
- Hannah Faircloth
- Alicia Gwynn
- Imere Harper
- Michael King
- Jaylain Lipscomb
- Christopher McFarling
- Chelsie Miller
- Paul Muckelvaney
- Joshua Newton
- Aidan Peoples
- Alayna Rigney
- Tyloer Royer
- Sydney Screace
- Brianna Scovell
- Jenna Spicer
- Juhtayah Stephens
- Devonte Streater
- Mariah Walls

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Abigail Watlington
 Cyleria Whitley
 Zamarion Williams
 Ross Peoples
 James Fowler, II
 Jenyah Kidd
 Christian Tucker
 Braxton Hundely

Budget Amendment # 1

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS								BUDGET AMENDMENT # 1				
Caswell County Board of Education made the following resolution:												
Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024												
#	Account Code							Description	Debit	Credit		
1	2	6910	801	312	000	000	00	BOE Workshop	4,200.00			
2	2	7100	704	311	000	000	00	Civic Center Contracted Services	72,862.00			
3	2	5501	801	411	000	000	00	Athletic Supplies	10,000.00			
	2	4910	000	000	000	000	00	Fund Balance Appropriated		87,062.00		
									87,062.00	87,062.00		
Justification(s):												
1	Appropriate Fund Balance for increase of \$600 per board member for workshops.											
2	Appropriate Fund Balance for Civic Center curtain replacement.											
3	Appropriate Fund Balance for Athletic Supplies, \$5,000 each for middle and high school.											
Funding Source: Local												
									Total appropriation in current budget:	\$3,293,299		
									Amount of increase/(decrease) of amendment:	\$87,062		
									Total appropriation in amended budget:	\$3,380,361		
Passed by majority vote of the Caswell County Board of Education on the 9th day of January 2024.												

Contract - Barbee Fabrics
 (146 Arnett Blvd., Danville, VA 24540)
 Stage Drapery Replacement for Caswell County Civic Center
 Main Front Drapery and Valance in Color 1118 Navy 22 oz.
 All other stage drapery in Color Black 16 oz
 Back Drop in Muslim
 Fabric I.F.R. Velour Charisma and Crescent
 Passes NFPA Large Scale of Flame Resistance (certificate will be shared for files)

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All Drapery will be same fullness as existing Drapery
Install all stage drapery as well as re-cable the main drapery, reattach the floor pulley on the mid stage traveler and install a sandbag on the rear traveler floor pulley
Prices includes tax, fabric & installation
Terms - Net 15 days after completion of job
Total: \$72,861.34
Funding: 2.4910.000.000.000.00 = Fund Balance

Contract - Camera Corner

Interactive Flat Panel Displays (Elementary 3, 4 & 5 grade)
Funding = ESSER

Contract - Interim Superintendent Dr. Douglas Barker

January 9, 2024 through April 30, 2024

Resolution - Interim Superintendent Dr. Douglas Barker

2. Dewberry & Davis - Facility Study

Dr. Barker reviewed information on the facility study included for board to review. When the high school was built it did not include any improvements to the gymnasiums and noted that there are several areas in which replacements are needed which include windows, plumbing, gutters, etc. The Maintenance Director reviewed what needs to be done to update both gymnasiums and asked Dewberry and Davis, who have assisted us before, to look into areas to see what is needed to assist us as we look into funding from the State which now requires an architect to make any improvements of this nature.

Dewberry & Davis will come out and assist in creating the list of what is needed in order for us to bid out the project(s) which is required before we can expend any funds received. This is needed for the architect to submit pricing. We need to put this in place as there are lottery funds available which could be used and would require approval from the Board of Commissioners.

Tracy Stanley shared she wanted the public to be aware that when the renovations were made to the high school the board was told that athletics could not be included in the funds that were used and wanted that to be shared.

Dr. Barker shared that the floors in the gym need repair but that will fall under our maintenance department and the director is already looking into this and they are scheduled for next year.

A budget amendment will be brought back to cover the facility study and he will look at where funding can be used.

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Dr. Barker recommended approval of the facility study with Dewberry & Davis at a cost of \$24,000. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Joel Lillard, to approve the facility study with Dewberry and Davis as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

3. NCSBA Policy Transition Section 9000 (Part 1 of 1)

Dr. Barker reviewed the policies and recommended approval for first reading. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve first reading of policies listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

9000, Planning to Address Facility Needs

9010, Site Selection

9020, Facility Design

9030, Facility Construction

9110, Use & Selection of Architects, Engin., Surveyors, & Construction Mgrs. at Risk

9115, Prequalification of Bidders for Construction Projects

9120, Bidding for Construction Work

9125, Participation by Minority Businesses

9130, Supervision of Construction Contracts

9200, Care & Maintenance of Facilities

9205, Pest Management

9210, Care & Maintenance of Grounds and Outdoor Equipment

9220, Security of Facilities

9300, Naming Facilities

9400, Sale, Disposal, and Lease of Board-Owned Real Property

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Barker shared the following:

- The paperwork for the grant for \$8 Million Dollars was submitted and there is a good chance that we will receive it. We will be obligated to take \$375,000 from fund balance over a two to three-year period; however, the investment for the amount of money is a positive incentive and we hope to hear within ninety days the outcome. This will assist with the HVAC and lighting at Oakwood Elementary.
- Congratulations to Sarah Chandler on recently receiving her National Boards. We are very lucky to have Sarah and proud of her for taking the initiative to complete this process.
- Congratulations to Hannah (Watlington) Creed on being a state finalist for the NCCAT Empowering Teacher of the Year award. We are fortunate to have Hannah in our school system and wish her the best.

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VI. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

- Trudy Blackwell visited four schools recently and the students were well behaved and she observed good teaching skills taking place. She shared she learned something while observing regarding Martin Luther King Day and shared that someone roller skated in which it took eleven days to get there. She shared she went to the homecoming event at the middle school which was well attended and students were also well behaved.
- Tracy Stanley wished the students good luck on the exams. She also shared she felt the call for the early dismissal could have been made the night before.
- Joel Lillard shared he has visited schools also and things seem to be going well. He also participated in lunch at North for the holidays and teachers seemed excited. He questioned if the new staff will be attending a board meeting for introductions and noted this has not taken place in a while.
- Nicole Smith had none at this time.
- Gladys Garland shared she attended the Dance and Band Recitals for the high school and observed student enthusiasm and community support. She also acknowledged the early graduate listing and noted it was nice to see this many on there.
- Vennie Beggarly questioned if the January 23rd open house at the high school will be a conflict since it is an optional workday. Dr. Barker shared he will be meeting with principals tomorrow and also shared if we miss any inclement weather this may be needed as a makeup day. She also shared concerns with students who are not required to take exams and still required to attend school unlike previous years when they could stay at home. Dr. Barker shared that by law, you cannot shorten a student's school year and you cannot tell them not to come to school. That is the discretion of the parent and to do what is best for their child.

Dr. Barker acknowledged the call for early dismissal today and shared that unless the board wants something done differently this is how he operates noting that he tries to make the best judgment call on what we can actually see and not what people think and try to be consistent. He will always err on the side of caution and do what is best for the system.

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.

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VII. OPEN SESSION

Joel Lillard made a motion to return to open session. Gladys Garland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. PERSONNEL LISTING

Dr. Barker recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the personnel listing as presented.

Resignations	
NL Dillard Middle School	Kimberly Loye, Media Specialist = Eff. 3/1/24
Employment	
EC Dept.	Rebecca Day, School Psychologist - Previous employee returning full time (37.5-40 hours/week) = Eff. 1/2/24
Bus Drivers	
BYSHS/NLD/Stoney Creek	Raquel Christie = Eff. 1/10/24
North Elementary	Bushia Moore = Eff. 1/16/24
	Jacquelyn Mims, Bus Aid/Monitor (Step 1) = Eff. 1/10/24

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to postpone the joint meeting with the Board of Commissioners until the next County Manager and Superintendent are both in place and there are items to discuss. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- Work session is scheduled for January 22, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURN

Gladys Garland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 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 22, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle
 Chairman

Dr. Douglas Barker
 Interim Superintendent