

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

April 22, 2024

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Mel Battle, Vice Chair Joel Lillard, Vennie Beggarly, Gladys Garland, Nicole Smith, Tracy Stanley and Trudy Blackwell. Others present include Interim Superintendent Dr. Douglas Barker, JoAnna Gwynn, and Brook Underwood. Board Attorney Ron Bradsher was absent. 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

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Barker recommended approval of agenda as presented with change to delete New Business Item #2 (Cell Phone Policy) and to add Item # 6, Fence at North Elementary. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Joel Lillard, to approve the amended agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

II. REPORTS

Quarterly Reports were reviewed by Finance Director Brook Underwood.

Dr. Barker shared that there will be several budget amendments forthcoming and may look at having them at the called meeting on June 7, 2024 to finish out year-end items.

- Athletic Expenditures

A listing was shared on items of how the \$25,000 was used at the high school.

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- Uniform Schedule

A listing of the uniform rotation was shared with the board. Dr. Barker shared this is the current schedule that is being used; however, that does not prevent fundraisers to take place to assist with needs.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policy # 2130

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to remove from the table Policy # 2130, Board Member Compensation and Expenses. The motion carried unanimously.

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the changes to Policy # 2130, Board Member Compensation and Expenses as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Surplus Property

Discussion took place on the surplus property and Dr. Barker reviewed options the board can take. Upon conversation it was agreed to just leave the property as is at this time. There was no motion to change otherwise.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Requests for Transfer
- b. Budget Amendments
- c. Surplus Items

Dr Barker recommended approval of the consent agenda as presented. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Requests for Transfer

Cobb, Annabelle	Caswell	to	Orange	(8 th)
Cobb, Luke	Caswell	to	Orange	(5 th)
Hill, Rollins D.	Caswell	to	ABSS	(K)
Neal, Olivia	Caswell	to	Rockingham	(3 rd)
Poole, Allyson Grace	Caswell	to	Person	(6 th)
Poole, Emily Hope	Caswell	to	Person	(3 rd)
Thompson, Avery	Rockingham	to	Caswell	3 rd (** / North)
Vernon, Sarah Michelle	Caswell	to	ABSS	10 th
Yarbrough, Kayden	Caswell	to	Person	(5 th)

(** = Parent is employed at Oakwood / tuition is waived)

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CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS										BUDGET AMENDMENT # 2	
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	4	9017	001	326	000	000	00	HVAC Contracted Repairs	266,000.00		
2	4	6550	120	551	000	001	00	Activity Bus	141,403.18		
	4	4910	000	000	000	000	00	Fund Balance Appropriated		407,403.18	
									407,403.18	407,403.18	
Justification(s):											
1	Appropriate Fund Balance for two boilers needed for North and South										
2	Appropriate Fund Balance for New Activity Bus										
Funding Source: CapOut											
									Total appropriation in current budget:	\$555,237	
									Amount of increase/(decrease) of amendment:	\$407,403	
									Total appropriation in amended budget:	\$962,640	

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS										BUDGET AMENDMENT # 3	
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	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund	22,341.00		
	1	5110	001	121	000	000	00	Teacher Allotment		47,186.00	
	1	5110	015	312	000	000	00	Technology Workshop	9,527.00		
	1	5110	015	411	000	000	00	Technology Supplies	20,000.00		
	1	5110	027	142	000	000	00	Teacher Assistants Alloment		17,036.00	
	1	5110	027	211	000	000	00	Teacher Assistants Alloment		1,224.00	
	1	5110	027	221	000	000	00	Teacher Assistants Alloment		4,080.00	
	1	5110	130	412	000	000	00	Textbook Allotment	24,841.00		
	1	5120	014	315	000	000	00	CTE Allotment		159.00	
	1	5240	032	132	000	000	00	EC Allotment		9,670.00	
	1	6550	056	171	000	000	00	Transporation Allotment/Bus Drivers	11,631.00		
	1	6611	003	151	000	000	00	Finance Staff		8,985.00	
2	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		3,767.75	
	1	5110	046	180	000	000	00	Literacy Bonus	3,500.00		
	1	5110	046	211	000	000	00	Literacy Bonus FICA	267.75		
3	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund-Technology		27,881.36	
	1	5110	048	180	000	000	00	Testing Bonus	24,900.00		
	1	5110	048	211	000	000	00	Testing Bonus FICA	1,904.86		
	1	5410	048	180	000	000	00	Principal Growth (Garrett)	1,000.00		
	1	5410	048	211	000	000	00	Principal Growth (Garrett)	76.50		
4	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		83,136.00	
	1	5110	061	411	000	000	01	Elementary Curr. Supplies	41,568.00		
	1	5110	061	411	000	000	02	Secondary Curr. Supplies	41,568.00		
5	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		10,036.00	
	1	6400	073	343	000	000	00	School Connectivity Allocations	10,036.00		
6	1	6550	056	344	000	000	00	Budget Transfer Transporation		35,000.00	
	1	6550	056	321	000	000	00			5,500.00	
	1	6550	056	411	000	000	00		38,000.00		
	1	6550	056	312	000	000	00		2,500.00		
Justification(s):											
1	Allotment Revision #1-26 - After budget was past and second month ADM.										
2	Allotment Revision #27 Literacy Bonus Given by state.										
3	Allotment Revision #27- Test Score Bonus/Principal Growth Bonus										
4	Allotment 061 drop for Elementary and Secondary										
5	Allotment Revision #33 - School Connectivity allocations.										
6	Budget Transfer from Transporation moving to Supplies and Workshop to cover expenses										
Funding Source: State											
									Total appropriation in current budget:	\$21,579,224	
									Amount of increase/decrease of amendment:	\$253,661	
									Total appropriation in amended budget:	\$21,832,885	

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Surplus Items

Tricycle & wagon
Slide
Lot of 4 playgrounds
Lot of 2 basketball goals
Lot of 2 vending machines (7Up and Toms)
Sand Blaster
Lot of 4 dumpsters
Dixie Chopper Lawn Mower (1)
Huskee Lawn Mower
Blazer 360Z Lawn Mower
John Deere AMT 622
Dixie Chopper Lawn Mower (2)
Cub Cadet Lawn Mower
Brinly Leaf Catcher
Green Chevy Truck
White Chevy Malibu
School Bus Ramp
Lot of desks & chairs
Central machinery band saw
Rockwell shaper
Vacuum pump
Lobster tennis ball thrower
Rockwell table saw
Lot of wooden desks & chairs
Lot of 10 square tables & 5 round tables
Intek 190 pump
Cell phones

2. Resolution for changing Board of Education Election Date

Dr. Barker recommended approval of the resolution as discussed earlier in the work session. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the resolution as presented to change the voting date for the Board of Education. The motion carried unanimously.

Caswell County Schools Board of Education Resolution

Current Law Provides that the Election for Caswell County Board of Public Education Occur at the time of the Primary Election



WHEREAS, North Carolina’s 115 school districts elect their local school board members; and

WHEREAS, 95 of those districts hold elections for local school board members in November, 20 hold their school board elections in March (and May if a runoff is needed); and

WHEREAS, newly elected local school board members take office a month after the election in more than 82% of NC school districts, and within four months in more than 96% of school districts; and

WHEREAS, the Caswell County Board of Public Education members are elected in March (and potentially May) on a nonpartisan basis, and are seated in December; and

WHEREAS, Caswell County is one of only four NC school districts where newly elected school board members can wait up to nine months before taking office; and

WHEREAS, nine months is a comparably long time to wait to take office; and

WHEREAS, the Caswell County Board of Public Education voted unanimously to change school board elections in Caswell County from March to November; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Caswell County Board of Public Education requests that the North Carolina General Assembly approve changing the date of school board elections in Caswell County from March to November, beginning in 2026 and thereafter.

Adopted by the Caswell County Board of Public Education of Caswell County Schools this 22nd day of April, 2024.

Board Chair

Superintendent/Secretary to the Board

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3. Resolutions

Gladys Garland, Trudy Blackwell and Nicole Smith read aloud the resolutions for former employees who recently passed away. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the resolutions as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Joann Hughes Williamson*

WHEREAS, Joann Hughes Williamson, was born on July 27, 1941, and resided in Milton, NC, at the time of her death on March 25, 2024, and

WHEREAS, Joann Williamson, was a faithful wife and loving mother, grandmother, sister, and friend and her family's welfare was her major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Joann Williamson was a graduate of North Carolina Central University in 1963. She was a substitute teacher in Fairfax, VA and upon returning to North Carolina, she worked as a teacher assistant at Oakwood Elementary School. Due to health complications, she was forced to retire from the teaching profession she loved; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Joann Williamson and expresses its sympathy to her family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

This the 22nd day of April 2024.

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Nancy Jean Page Dunn*

WHEREAS, Nancy Jean Page Dunn, was born in 1942, and resided in Indiana most of her adult life; however, her heart always held a close connection to Caswell County, until the time of her death on November 29, 2023, and

WHEREAS, Nancy Dunn, was a faithful wife and loving mother, grandmother, sister, and friend and her family's welfare was her major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Dunn was a graduate of Greensboro College and serves as president of Women's Student Government. She later taught English literature and composition to scores of high school students in both Indiana and North Carolina at Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School, her alma mater. She was an active member and leader of the League of Women Voters in Clark County, Indiana; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Nancy Dunn and expresses its sympathy to her family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

This the 22nd day of April 2024.

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*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Lorine Elizabeth Fitch Totten*

WHEREAS, Lorine Fitch Totten, was born on January 21, 1938, and resided in Caswell County most of her life until moving to the Home Place in Burlington, NC, at the time of her death on April 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Lorine Totten, was a faithful wife and loving mother, grandmother, sister, and friend and her family's welfare was her major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Lorine Totten, graduated from Anderson High School in 1956 and upon working at Burlington Industries she realized this was not her calling. She later enrolled and graduated from Elon College with a BA in Elementary Education and began her career with Caswell County Schools. She later received a Master's Degree in Education from UNC Greensboro and a second Master's Degree in School Administration from NC A&T State University; and

WHEREAS, Lorine Totten, worked in education with Caswell County Schools for 32 years serving as a teacher for 20 years and as principal/administrator for 12 years. During her career, Lorine was honored to be chosen as the Caswell County Teacher of the Year in 1976-1977 and again in 1985-86. She retired from her dream job in May 2000 primarily due to the effects of Parkinson's Disease which she fought valiantly with great strength and grace for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Lorine Totten was a lifelong member of Bethel Christian Church where she served on the Board of Christian Education and as a Program Chairman of the Bethel Women's Fellowship. Always a teacher, she taught Sunday School for more than 45 years and also served as Superintendent of the Sunday School Program. Lorine loved God, her family and friends and loved being a teacher; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Lorine Totten and expresses its sympathy to her family by causing a copy of this Resolution to be spread upon the official minutes of the Board of Education and a copy forwarded to the family.

4. Budget - Capital Outlay / Current Expense

Dr. Barker recommended approval of the budget for capital outlay and current expense that was reviewed during the work session. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Nicole Smith to approve the budget recommendations as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barker will reach out to the Finance Director for the County and inquire if the board needs to meet with them to explain the budget requests.

5. Fence at North Elementary

Vennie Beggarly asked for this to be added to the agenda. Information was submitted but was not included for board to review. Dr. Barker shared that he did receive the

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information; however, he had not had time to physically look at the space and had concerns with the fence not being high enough and wanted to determine the proper height needed before bringing it to the board. He shared that at one time there was a line item for matching funds to assist with needs for the schools and the PTSO. Dr. Barker shared this can be brought back to the next meeting before the end of the school year so that funding can be used since it was mentioned this was earmarked for the PTSO to spend.

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Barker shared updates on the following:

- Facility Study by Dewberry and Davis was shared with the board for what is needed for the gymnasiums at the high school (old and Page Gym). The information is broken down in phases as the total amount for everything is close to \$4 Million Dollars. It is apparent that all items cannot be done at one time and the board needs to look at this information and review it to prioritize. Dr. Barker shared that one priority for the Page Gym is to replace the gutters. Lottery Funds can be used for these improvements and these numbers will need to be reviewed as the board looks at prioritizing the items. Dr. Barker shared he hoped that the legislature will pursue grant funding in the future to assist with these needs. Dr. Barker shared at this time the board and the Maintenance Director are the only people that have a copy and he did not want to share until the board had a chance to review and prioritize.
- Grant for Vaping Detectors - The vaping detectors have been installed and the high school and middle school and will be completed at the elementary levels once it is not a disruption to instruction. Information was also shared for the board to review on suggestions to make to the vaping policy; however, Dr. Barker reminded the board that when doing so they need to keep in mind the policy and guidelines for smoking and vaping are very comparable and the suggestions shared are only for vaping.
- Testing updates were shared with the board.
- Meredith Gravely School of Dance - Dr. Barker shared that a request has been submitted from the Meredith Gravely School of Dance for a person they have worked with to be allowed to run the lights at the Civic Center as they have rented the facility for a dance event. In the past, only approved personnel have been allowed to do this as there was an issue with the equipment not being securely shut down and damaged the equipment. The person who is on the approved list has been very difficult to get in touch with and this has left this dance group at a disadvantage. Dr. Barker requested that the board approve Ryne Gammon to be allowed to run the lights and sound for this event with the condition that the dance company signs a waiver that if something were to happen to him while on site the school system is not liable as well as sign off that if any equipment is damaged they would be responsible for paying for the repairs. Although we rent the Civic

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Center out, the school system is not responsible for providing someone to run the lighting/sound and the person who normally has done this is not available. Going forward, this may be something the board needs to look at if they continue to rent the facility out and the person (Gee) that normally has worked with us is no longer interested. One possibility is inquiring with Ryne Gammon if he is interested in assisting for other events.

Dr. Barker recommended approval of Ryne Gammon to use the lights and sounds at the Civic Center for the Meredith Gravely School of Dance event with the condition that a waiver is signed for liability issues as well as a document signed stating that any equipment damaged will be paid for by the dance company. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

- Trudy Blackwell shared she visited schools and shared a concern with the swing set at Stoney Creek Elementary and the mulch. Dr. Barker shared that the swing set at this school is higher than what is standard at most schools and due to the fall distance and drainage issues this has been a concern in the past. Trudy Blackwell also shared she was impressed with the guidance area at the high school and noted they have names listed on who has been accepted at colleges and was very impressed with this. She also shared the custodians are doing a fabulous job at South as the floors were very shiny and shared the morale was great. She enjoys being a part of the Teacher of the Year committee and shared this year there are a lot of wonderful candidates.
- Joel Lillard shared he attended the awards event at NL Dillard Middle School and was very impressed and notably so with the amount of sixth graders who received A & B Honor Roll as well as perfect attendance. He was impressed with the google calendar that Mrs. Castle sent them and asked if this is something all principals can share with the board.
- Mel Battle shared he attended the softball game at Graham and there were more fans from the visiting team than the home team and felt this spoke well for our community.
- Nicole Smith shared she also attended several sporting events and shared similar sentiments on the number of fans from the visiting team and appreciate our community and parents for doing this.
- Gladys Garland shared she visited Stoney Creek and that particular day they were doing a dental project which was nice. She attended the dance recital and was nice to see outside groups renting the facility. She also attended the Chamber of Commerce Banquet and that was a nice event as well and nice to hear what is going on within the county.
- Vennie Beggarly shared she attended the awards event at NL Dillard and emphasized again how impressed she was with the number of students receiving

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awards. She also shared the volleyball recognition was nice and the high school softball team game that acknowledged the veterans and first responders was a nice event. She shared she wished that the community could be made more aware of these special nights when they are honored. Vennie Beggarly shared that the girl scouts have planted flowers at North Elementary in two locations and looks very nice and was excited to see that the circus is coming back to town.

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. Tracy Stanley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. OPEN SESSION

Joel Lillard made a motion to return to open session. Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. PERSONNEL LISTING

Dr. Barker recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented with removal of Item II. B and E. Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the personnel listing as presented with exceptions as noted. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barker recommended approval of personnel listing Item II, B (Austin Morris). Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve recommendation of personnel listing Item II, B. The motion carried 6-1 with Beggarly voting "No."

Dr. Barker recommended approval of personnel listing Item II, E (Karen Cook). There was no motion so the recommendation failed.

Resignation	
NL Dillard Middle School	Meghan Blair, Teacher = Eff. 8/1/24
Retirement	
NL Dillard Middle School	Ruth Miller, EC Teacher = Eff. 6/12/24
Employment	
Central Office	Shannon Apple, Director of Testing & Accountability & Secondary Curriculum = Eff. 7/1/24

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	Austin Morris, Director of Human Resources = Eff. 6/10/24
	Jackie Lipscomb, Elem. Curr./Federal Programs & Secondary Curr. Office Assistant = Eff. 7/1/24
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Brittany Moore, Science Teacher = Eff. 7/1/24
South Elementary	Teresa Parker, Principal = Eff. 7/1/24
	Jerome Stanfield, Custodian/Bus Driver = Eff. TBD
NL Dillard Middle School	Silvana Maria Mazo, Media Specialist = Eff. 4/29/24
	Lachelle Allen = School Counselor = Eff. 5/1/24
Transfers	
NL Dillard Middle School	Leslie Crowe, Teacher = South Elementary to NL Dillard
	Janet Long, Math Teacher = BYSHS to NL Dillard
Stoney Creek Elementary	Nicole Cole, K-6 Teacher = Oakwood to Stoney Creek

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve the contract extension with Dr. Douglas Barker, Interim Superintendent as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mel Battle thanked Dr. Barker for his service and what he has done for the school system in assisting us to get back on track.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

None at this time.

X. ADJOURN

Gladys Garland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m., Joel Lillard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on May 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle
 Chairman

Dr. Douglas Barker
 Interim Superintendent