

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

July 15, 2024

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, July 15, 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, Tracy Stanley and Trudy Blackwell. Others present include Superintendent JoAnna Gwynn, Austin Morris, Brook Underwood, Tony Kirby, Elizabeth Bradley, Alyson Beavers, Emily Reagan, Cherita Williams, 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

Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2024, regular meeting and June 24, 2024 work session meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

JoAnna Gwynn recommended approval of agenda as presented with addition of Item # 4, Needed Repairs. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve the agenda as presented with addition of Item # 4. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. JoAnna Gwynn recognized several new employees to the district. Dr. Austin Morris, Personnel Director, made the introductions as follows:

- Alyson Beavers, Director of Elementary Education and Federal Programs
- Emily Reagan, Administrative Support to Elementary Principals
- Cherita Williams, Principal at NL Dillard Middle School
- Elizabeth Bradley, Assistant Principal at NL Dillard Middle School

Ms. Gwynn shared other new employees will be introduced to the board once they are on staff.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

II. REPORTS

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Ms. Gwynn shared that the statement of assurances for federal funding were included in the packet for the board to have. This is in order to continue with federal funding and adhere to the qualifications.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policy # 4318, Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Discussion took place on the cell phone policy and direction is needed so that wording can be included in student handbooks. Discussion took place on what was added the last time the policy was reviewed. Upon discussion, Ms. Gwynn recommended allowing high school students to use their cell phones during class change and at lunch but middle school would only be allowed to use them during lunch and not class changes.

Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, that students could not use their cell phones during class change at the high school and middle school. The motion failed due to a tie (3-3, Smith was absent at this time).

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, that students at the high school be allowed to use cell phones during class change and at lunch and for middle to be allowed to use them at lunch only. The motion failed due to a tie (3-3, Smith was absent at this time).

Mr. Battle suggested to table this item until Nicole Smith arrived. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to table this item until later in the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda
 - a) Piedmont Triad Regional Consortium - Invoice
 - b) NCSBA Policy Payments Invoice
 - c) Request for Transfer
 - d) Insurance Renewals (Surry Insurance)
 - e) Student Accident Coverage (Young Group)
 - f) Fundraising Requests (BYSHS)

Ms. Gwynn shared that information was shared with principals and directors at the administrative meeting that PTEC would be used specifically for targeting professional development and felt this will be very beneficial to our district.

Vennie Beggarly questioned the student accident insurance with Young Group. There were some concerns if this was covering all sports or only football. Other concerns shared included parents not being made aware. It was shared that once approved, principals

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and athletic directors will be asked to share this information with all parents prior to any sports practices.

JoAnna Gwynn recommended approval of the consent agenda as presented. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Piedmont Triad Education Consortium

Annual PTEC Membership Dues = \$16,200.00 (2024-2025)

Budget Code: 3.5110.103.361

North Carolina School Board Association

(NCSBA) Policy Payments Invoice \$10,550.00

Budget Code: 2.6941.801.361.

Requests for Transfer (2024/25)

Briggs, Lucas	Caswell	to	Person (3 rd)
Dodson, Gavin	Caswell	to	Person (11 th)

Insurance Renewals (Surry Insurance)

Surry Ins. Coverage	2023-2024 Cost	2024-2025 Cost	Increase/Decrease
Auto & Garage	\$28,758.23	\$30,955.73	\$2,197.50
Inland Marine	\$250	\$250	
Workers Comp	\$46,580	\$44,041	(\$2,539)
Boilers & Machinery	\$7,835	\$7,835	
Crime	\$1,398	\$1,528	\$130
Cyber Liability	\$9,590	\$9,305	(\$285)
Volunteer Accident	\$340	\$340	
Total Covg. recommended	\$94,751.23	\$94,254.73	(\$496.50)

Budget Code:

2.6613.802.232	\$44,041
2.6613.802.372	\$30,955.73
2.6613.802.373	\$8,085
2.6613.802.579	\$1,528
2.6613.802.379	\$9,645

Student Accident Insurance Coverage (Young Group) \$9,487.50

Budget Code: 2.6613.802.378

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Fundraising Requests for BYSHS

(Additional fundraisers will be presented to the Board at a later time)

Cheerleading	August	Color My Bow
	August	Kickball Game
	August	Baby Bucs Cheerleading Camp
	October	5K Color Me Run
	January	Baby Bucs Cheerleading Camp
Football	August	Buc Card Sales
Girls Basketball	Aug-Nov.	Concession Worker at Colleges
Boys Basketball	TBD	Blue & White Game
	TBD	Alumni Game
Men/Women Soccer	July-June	Booster Membership
	July-June	BBQ, HD Ham, Concessions, Team apparel
	July-June	Team Charity Night (TBD = date)
Senior Splash	September	Powder Puff Football Game Admittance

2. Policy # 5031, Use of School Facilities – Civic Center

Ms. Gwynn shared this was discussed at the last work session and changes have been made for approval. Ms. Gwynn recommended approval of first reading of Policy # 5031 as presented. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve changes to Policy # 5031 as presented and to lay on the table for second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gwynn also shared suggested procedures of the renting the Large PD Room at the Central Office due to unforeseen situations that occurred at the last rental. This will assist in setting up the room. It was shared that we try to accommodate all rentals if we have availability to work the event.

3. Policy # 4320, Tobacco Products - Students

JoAnna Gwynn recommended approval of the changes to Policy # 4320 which include the word vapes to make sure this adds clarity on vaping concerns. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the changes as presented to

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Policy # 4320 for first reading and to lay on table for second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Needed Repairs (Lottery Funds)

JoAnna Gwynn reviewed information on needed repairs and suggested maintenance needs. One of which includes a service contract for the chillers.

Lottery funding will be needed to begin repairs at the gyms at the high school with priority being replacing the gutters and roof at the old gym and Page gym. Other needs included glass replacement, doors and front entrance at the old gym.

A listing was shared with estimated costs. Once the board has given permission to proceed we will need to gather three quotes and proceed with submitting the application form for the lottery funds. Brook Underwood, Finance Director, will look into the deadlines for submitting paperwork and information will be brought back to the board and what exact lottery request is needed.

(Note: Nicole Smith arrived to the meeting at 10:00 a.m.)

Alan Poteat will gather information and bring a prioritized list to Ms. Gwynn to share with the board at the next meeting if available.

Ms. Gwynn recommended approving the servicing contract with Brady to service the chillers at NL Dillard Middle, North, South and Oakwood using capital outlay funding. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the servicing contract with Brady for chillers to be serviced. The motion carried unanimously.

Amount: \$9,556.56 (Total / NL Dillard Middle, North, South, Oakwood)

Budget: Capital Outlay

Vennie Beggarly inquired on the fence at North and asked Maintenance Director Alan Poteat if he had any updates. Alan was not aware of the situation but will reach out to Mr. Sartin regarding the fence.

Ms. Gwynn shared that she will work with Brook Underwood, Finance Director, to determine the timeline for lottery requests.

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

JoAnna Gwynn shared the following:

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- SRO Update – Ms. Gwynn met with Sheriff Durden and Melissa Poole to discuss concerns. Arrival time for SRO's are 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. SRO's are not called away during the day for anything. Traffic concerns were discussed with needs at the middle, Oakwood and the high school. Sheriff Durden expressed now that all the buses are headed out in the same direction at the high school traffic assistance is not being directed. Ms. Gwynn requested assistance at NL Dillard Middle and also shared there are more students crossing the street at the high school. It was shared that other deputies cover when an SRO is out. Other concerns included the \$55,000 grant and that the SRO is not actually making this amount but this includes benefits. She shared that Sheriff Durden is willing to speak with the board if needed.
- Grape Juice – Ms. Gwynn followed up on information regarding grape juice that was mentioned at the last meeting. She has asked Jolandria Graves and Connie Kimrey to reach out and it was shared that the juice is in a 10-ounce jar. This is only allowed to be used on the a la carte line at the high school. Sysco, who is our juice vendor, is unable to purchase it at this time. Ms. Graves will continue to look into purchasing options when available.

Fundraising requests was discussed and it was asked of Ms. Gwynn to meet with the Principal and Athletic Directors to make sure of the uniform rotation and what items are needed to assist if we can.

Cell Phone Policy # 4318

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to remove the Cell Phone Policy from the table from earlier in the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Nicole Smith was given the information on the two suggestions made for the cell phone policy with class changes. Upon review, Ms. Gwynn made the recommendation for students at the high school to be allowed to use cell phones during class change and at lunch and for middle to be allowed to use them at lunch only. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve recommendation of the superintendent. The motion carried 4-3 with (Blackwell, Beggarly, and Stanley voting "No.")

VI. ATTORNEYS REPORT

Attorney Ron Bradsher shared an update on the bond issue that was shared at the last meeting. Upon discussion, it was his suggestion not to pursue it at this time. The board asked him to inquire on a title search if it was not too expensive.

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve attorney to pursue the title search if not too expensive. The motion carried unanimously.

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VII. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

- Mel Battle expressed thanks for his birthday recognition and was most thankful to be celebrating another year!
- Vennie Beggarly inquired on the mats and uniforms for wrestling and asked if Ms. Gwynn could check on this. Vennie Beggarly also shared that there is some confusion in the community with the FFA. Also, she inquired on how individuals are chosen to work during summer school.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

Tracy Stanley 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.

IX. OPEN SESSION

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

X. PERSONNEL LISTING

JoAnna Gwynn recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented with change to date of interim contract for Jolandria Graves to end on August 1, 2024. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Trudy Blackwell, to approve the personnel listing as presented with change to date of interim contract for Jolandria Graves to end on August 1, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Resignations	
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Cole Montgomery - Teacher = Eff. 7/28/24
NL Dillard Middle School	Anthony Poindexter = Assistant Principal = Eff. 8/26/24
Employment	
South Elementary	Heather Norris, Teacher = Eff. 8/19/24
	Cierra Watkins, Teacher = Eff. 8/19/24
	Donyetta Mims, Data Manager = Eff. 8/1/24
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Paul Diggs, Jr. = PE Teacher = Eff. 8/19/24
	Dr. Megan Ray, Assistant Principal = Eff. 8/1/24

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	Jeffery Stauber, Data Manager = Eff. 8/1/24
	Jessica Kenny, EC Teacher Asst. = Eff. 8/19/24
NL Dillard Middle School	Julie Williams, EC Teacher = Eff. 8/19/24
	Timothy Saddler, Assistant Principal = Eff. 8/1/24
Transfers	
Oakwood Elementary	Jenny Benson - Teacher to EC Teacher at Oakwood = Eff. 8/19/24
	Julie Sladky - EC Teacher from BYSHS to EC Teacher at Oakwood = Eff. 8/19/24
NL Dillard Middle School	Sarah Chandler - CTE Teacher at BYSHS to CTE Teacher at NLD
Substitutes	
NL Dillard Middle School	Jan Grogan - Child Nutrition = Eff. 8/26/24 (30 hours per week)
Certified Temporary Contract	
Child Nutrition Director	Jolandria Graves = July 1, 2024 - August 1, 2024

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

- Summer School Data
- Public Comments Form with updated wording will be used going forward

XII. ADJOURN

Gladys Garland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 p.m., Joel Lillard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on July 29, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle
Chairman

JoAnna Gwynn
Superintendent