CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
EMERGENCY MEETING
March 31, 2025

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Mel Battle, Vice Chair Joel Lillard, Vennie Beggarly, Lisa Johnson-Knight, Nicole McGhee, Nicole Smith, and Trudy Blackwell. Others present include Board Attorney Ron Bradsher. Connie Kimrey and Attorney Ron Bradsher recorded the minutes.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mel Battle.

II. CLOSED SESSION

Nicole McGhee 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.

III. OPEN SESSION

Vennie Beggarly made a motion to return to open session. Lisa Johnson-Knight seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to sever the contract with JoAnna Gwynn effective March 31, 2025.

Trudy Blackwell shared she felt this was not done fairly. Nicole McGhee shared that Ms. Gwynn should be given the opportunity to make corrections on things the board has issues with. Lisa Johnson-Knight shared she has been on the board three months and Ms. Gwynn has been in the position for nine-months and wasn't sure of the hurdles she has but she felt she should be given the opportunity to improve upon issues that were of concern. Trudy Blackwell agreed with both comments and felt this was not done fairly and Ms. Gwynn was doing a great job.

Upon no further discussion, the motion carried 4-3 with Blackwell, McGhee and Johnson-Knight voted "No."

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the three percent state raise and give credit for the advanced degree for Ms. Gwynn which totals $3,178.14. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. 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. Nicole Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. OPEN SESSION

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

VI. ADJOURN

Vennie Beggarly moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m., Nicole Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on April 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

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Mel O. Battle
Chairman

Alyson Beavers
Acting Superintendent