**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**
**April 28, 2025**
**Budget Work Session**

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 28, 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, and Trudy Blackwell. Nicole Smith was absent. Others present include Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes, Board Attorney Ron Bradsher, and Brook Underwood. Kent Williamson was also in attendance. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. (*Note: Others may have been present but did not sign the roster or names were not legible*).

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mel Battle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## BUDGET

Finance Director Brook Underwood reviewed the current and capital budget and noted $7000 was added to the current budget to cover the painting of the vehicles as discussed at the last board meeting.

It was questioned if there is funding from the surplus sales to cover any of this. Brook Underwood shared it goes into the general fund and would need to see how much is there.

Options were shared which included supplements and options to present for consideration. It was shared the former county manager suggested to submit teacher supplements separately in hopes that it would be approved.

Upon discussion it was shared that if the budget that is being submitted to the county is approved, there is enough funding to cover giving classified employees a $500 bonus. Principals are already receiving a supplement through small school funds.

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the current and capital budgets as presented along with Option A to submit to the county commissioners. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Mel Battle acknowledge Kent Williamson who was in attendance and shared that this was a budget work session meeting. He shared he has tried to send emails to the board; however, the board has not received anything. He was advised to talk with the IT Director, David Useche, for assistance. Also, Chair Battle reminded Mr. Williamson that our board attorney was looking into the general statutes as the school board is governed by G.S. 115-C.

## XEROX COPIERS

Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes shared information regarding Xerox copiers and the contract which is up at the end of the month. He was informed of this within the last week and

unfortunately the contract expires April 30, 2025. This proposal that was shared falls under State contract which is a cost savings compared to the current contract. The contract is still with Xerox but falls under State contract and should bring faster customer service along with a slight cost decrease.

The board agreed to proceed with the Xerox contract and this will be on the agenda for the next board meeting for approval.

It was requested that a list be shared on how many copiers are at each location.

Trudy Blackwell requested that we post information on the website on how the board minutes are posted regarding the timeframe.

## CLOSED SESSION

Vennie Beggarly 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. Joel Lillard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## OPEN SESSION

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

Chair Mel Battle read a card of thanks to the Board from Dr. Medina Jones.

## ADJOURN

Joel Lillard moved to adjourn the meeting, Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on May 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

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| Mel O. Battle | Lance Stokes |
| Chairman | Interim Superintendent |