CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
August 25, 2025

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 25, 2025, at 5:30 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 Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes, Brook Underwood, Michael Graves, Casper Graves, Geneva Bigelow, Linda Faulkner, Mildred Hughes, Cathy Graves, Kent Pennix, Janet Lea Daniel, Ciera Slade, and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes remotely until closed session and Vice Chair Joel Lillard also assisted during the meeting. (*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 Chair 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 August 11, 2025, regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes recommended approval of agenda as presented. Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Trudy Blackwell, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes shared that the county cars have recently been painted and look very nice.
- Information regarding Caswell County Schools was included on News Channel WXII and will share more later on Fox 8 in the upcoming week
- Talking Points will be used at all schools in the district
- Senior Class of 2025 participated in Senior Sunrise on Sunday and thanks to all the staff who participated. Seniors will also participate in Senior Sunset at the end of the school year.

I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time; however, special recognition was given to Michael Graves who presented a check to Caswell County Schools in the amount of $2,500 for needed school supplies.

II. REPORTS

None at this time.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

   Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes recommended approval of consent agenda as presented.

   There were questions regarding transfers and it was suggested to move this item to closed session.

   Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Nicole McGhee, to approve the consent agenda as presented with removal of request for transfers. The motion carried unanimously.

   - Automated Logic Contracting Services
   - Committee for Second Step (renewal)
   - NC Teacher Support Program (MOU)

   Automated Logic Contracting Services
   4948 Dominion Blvd., Glen Allen, VA 23060
   307-A Pomona Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407
   336-856-8814

   Cost = $4,095.00 (pricing for 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026)
   Funding = Maintenance Budget

   Committee for Second Step (renewal)
   Curriculum for K-8, and 9-12
   Funding = Title IV
   Cost = $14,140.32

   NC Teacher Support Program
   No cost to district
   Assist with beginning teachers

2. Resolution

   Chair Mel Battle read aloud the resolution for Hazel Carter. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Nicole Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Hazel Lean (Ireland) Carter

WHEREAS, Hazel Lean (Ireland) Carter, was born on October 8, 1945, and resided in Elon, North Carolina, until the time of her death on July 17, 2025, and

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

WHEREAS, Hazel Carter, graduated from Central High School in Graham, NC in 1963 and a 1967 graduate of Winston-Salem State University; and

WHEREAS, Hazel Carter worked for Caswell County Schools as a teacher for 30 years until her retirement; and

WHEREAS, Hazel Carter was an active member of Elon First Baptist Church where she was a member of the gospel chorus, started the children's nursery served on the scholarship committee; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Hazel Carter 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 25th day of August 2025.

3. Schneider Electric

Interim Superintendent Lance Stokes shared information on the quote from Schneider Electric and noted that this is needed due to upgrades with the computer system. This controls the data base for the heating and air at NL Dillard. Schneider Electric is the only vendor that can work on the system for upgrades.

Questions were asked regarding if this is an immediate need and Chief Operations Officer, David Useche, shared that Windows 10 is no longer supported and the system will continue to work; however, if an issue occurred, he is unsure of what may happen. It will expire in October 2025 and the system will not protect us with firewalls and will not be protected 24/7 without the upgrades. Finance Officer Brook Underwood shared that if we move forward we should receive reimbursement from the county for this. Mr. Lance Stokes shared he spoke with the County Manager and explained the situation and was concerned if we wait that something may happen. Vennie Beggarly questioned the timeframe for switching everything over. Maintenance Director Alan Poteat shared that

this was looked into last year but no action was taken and now the price has increased. Alan Poteat shared he would need to inquire with Schneider Electric for an exact timeframe. Joel Lillard shared this was discussed during the walk thru at the school and asked if we could hold until the next meeting to allow us time to confirm with the commissioners before using the money from fund balance. Alan Poteat shared he discussed with Mr. Stokes and questioned how he wanted to proceed. Trudy Blackwell questioned if the timeframe from now to October would be an issue. David Useche shared that it is not 100% reliable and we are working with the old system currently but when issues occur it is not easy. Alan Poteat controls this from his office on the computer and currently it requires him to be in the office a lot. With the updates, this should correct many of the issues we are having. Joel Lillard asked if we knew this was needed why it wasn't included in the budget and mentioned the urgency noting we just approved the budget at the last meeting noting it was concerning to be just finding this out now.

Mr. Stokes shared that he was aware; however, funding was switched in the budget amounts prior to the budget being approved. Vennie Beggarly questioned if we could hold this until a work session and include this in a plan for our schools on what is needed. Mr. Stokes shared he is looking at a five-year plan with our buildings but we do not have a priority listing. Upon further discussion, Joel Lillard shared he was not comfortable taking it out of our capital outlay fund balance until we know what the commissioners are going to do and suggested waiting until the next meeting and in the interim reach out to the county manager again. Trudy Blackwell questioned what Mr. Stokes recommends. Mr. Stokes shared he felt that we should move forward using capital outlay fund balance at this time.

Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve Schneider Electric, at a cost of $43,662.00 from capital outlay fund balance for upgrades as presented. The motion carried 5-2 with Lillard and Beggarly voting "No."

Schneider Electric – NL Dillard Middle School = Modernization
235 Burgess Road, Greensboro, NC 27409
336-382-1060
Cost = $43,662.00
Funding = Capital Outlay Fund Balance (anticipating reimbursement from Board of County Commissioners)

4. RFQ for Design-Build Services

Maintenance Director Alan Poteat shared information on the RFQ for Design-Build Services which will look at our buildings and assist with preparing a three to five-year plan. He is requesting to advertise. At this time there is no cost to the district.

Mr. Lance Stokes shared this will give us a timeline on where our buildings are. He also shared that the county has used this to assist with their buildings and noted there are

grants we can apply for; however, they require a facility plan. The last facility plan that was presented to the board expired in 2020.

Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Lisa Johnson-Knight, to approve the RFQ for Design-Build Services as presented. The motion carried unanimously. No cost to the district.

5. Budget Amendment # 1

Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Lisa Johnson-Knight, to approve Budget Amendment #1 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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 August 11,2025

#	Account Code							Description	Debit	Credit
1	4	8500	001	000	000	000	00	Contingency	10,000.00	
	4	9013	001	422	000	000	00	Emergency Items		10,000.00

1 Move from Emergency Items to Contingency

Funding Source: State

Total appropriation in current budget:	**$556,800**
Amount of increase/decrease of amendment:	**$0**
Total appropriation in amended budget:	**$556,800**

Passed by majority vote of the Caswell County Board of Education
on the 11th day of August 2025

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

- Mr. Stokes shared information on upcoming conference he would like to attend which is associated with the NCSAA Superintendent's Cohort. He will not need lodging. The cost is $499.00 and is for October 2025 through January 2026. This will be added to agenda for approval at the next meeting.
- Updates from Campbell Shatley, PLLC were shared as information only and discussion was had regarding the book cataloging and it was shared this included library and classroom.

VI. ATTORNEYS REPORT

None.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members shared information on events they attended noting the Back to School Blast, renovated NL Dillard Apartments Ribbon Cutting (DEEDS) and school open house. It was also shared a few calls were received regarding sports and noted that the

Board receives names and votes on them based on recommendations that are brought to the board. Also, thanks were shared to the Outreach Committee (Mr. & Mrs. Paul Robinson) on the work they do and for the Back to School Blast.

VIII. 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.

IX. OPEN SESSION

Joel Lillard made a motion to return to open session. Nicole Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Requests for Transfer

Nicole Smith moved, seconded by Lisa Johnson-Knight, to approve the requests for transfer as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Barker, Annie Jolene	Oakwood	to	South (K)
Brandon, George	Oakwood	to	North (K)
Crews, Nola Blaire	Oakwood	to	North (K)
Kent, Josie-Lynn	North	to	Oakwood (K)
Pinnix, Knowledge	North	to	Oakwood (K)
Diggs, Campbell	Stoney Creek	to	Oakwood (4th)
Jones, Ethan	North	to	Oakwood (3rd)
Pagan, Moshe	Danville	to	Caswell (11th)
Pagan, Sofia	Danville	to	Caswell (7th)
Rivera-Medrano, Litzy	North	to	Oakwood (4th)
Rivera-Medrano, Lexy	North	to	Oakwood (5th)
Rivera-Medrano, Emmy	North	to	Oakwood (2nd)
Rivera-Medrano, Nathaniel	North	to	Oakwood (2nd)
Rudd, Sofia	Caswell	to	Orange (10th)

X. PERSONNEL LISTING

Mr. Stokes recommended approval of personnel listing as presented with addition of paid assistant coach for varsity volleyball. Joel Lillard moved, seconded by Nicole Smith, to approve personnel listing as presented with addition of paid assistant for varsity volleyball. The motion carried unanimously.

Employment	
NL Dillard Middle	Sheronda Kernodle, Math Teacher = Eff. 8/26/25
	Robin Daniel, EC Teacher Asst. = Eff. 8/26/25 (Scale 56 – Step 0)
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Ta'Niya Stephens, Dance Teacher – Eff 8/26/25
South Elementary	Deana Murphy, Part Time Custodian = Eff. 8/26/25 (Scale 54 – Step 0)
	Hayley Maynor, Teacher Asst. = Eff. 8/26/25 (Scale 56 – Step 0)
Oakwood Elementary	Savannah Long, Teacher Asst. = Eff. 8/26/25 (Scale 56 – Step 0)
Stoney Creek Elementary	Samantha DeBlois, Part Time Nurse = Eff. 8/26/25 (20 hours per week)
Substitutes	
	Jonathan Barnes = Eff. 8/26/25 (Bus)
	Sarah Mae Wright = Eff. 8/26/25 (Bus Aide)
	Janet Griffin = Eff. 8/26/25 (Teacher)

Coaching Positions

NL Dillard Middle School	
Head Football Coach	Rickey Blackstock
Asst. Football Coach	Tony Durden
Tennis – Girls	Taylor Bradsher
Soccer – Girls	Josh Helm
Athletic Director	Jeff Joyce

Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	
Tennis – Women	Alfreda Corbett
Soccer – Men	Brian Stevens
Varsity Volleyball – Asst. Coach	(position added back)

XI. ADJOURN

Vennie Beggarly moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m., Lisa Johnson-Knight seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on September 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle	Lance Stokes
Chairman	Interim Superintendent