CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WORK SESSION
September 28, 2026

The Caswell County Board of Education met in a work session on Monday, September 28, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Mel Battle, Vice Chair Joel Lillard, Vennie Beggarly, Nicole Smith, Nicole McGhee, and Lisa Johnson-Knight. Trudy Blackwell was absent. Others present include Superintendent Lance Stokes. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mel Battle.

II. SUPERINTENDENT GOALS

Discussion took place on goals for the Superintendent and in comparison with Key 2030 Student and System Goals as listed below:

- Graduation Rate
- ACT Scores
- Advanced Placement
- Career & Technical Education
- Public School Enrollment
- National Standings

Mr. Stokes shared input and will focus on the following:

- Academic Excellence
- Culture and Climate
- Community Engagement

Mr. Stokes shared goals which include:

- Exceeding growth in literacy and math in 2028
- Graduation rate at or above the current rate of 90% in 2028
- ACT scores increase by composite score 20

Continued discussion took place in regards to the goals. Mr. Stokes will revise his list and include an updated list to the board at the October 12th meeting.

III. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

Mel Battle shared his thoughts on the observation portion of the board meeting. It was shared that this is a time to share observations the board has made and not necessarily a time to just share where they had visited, etc. If concerns were found or something was brought to a board members attention this would be the appropriate time to bring attention. If something is asked

to be brought back or questions, it should be included in the minutes so that the public/community are aware of follow-up answers to questions or concerns.

IV. BOOSTER CLUBS

Mel Battle shared his concerns with the booster club. Policy # 5010 addresses booster clubs; however, reports are not required to be submitted. Upon discussion it was agreed that Mr. Stokes will look at reworking this policy and bring to the next meeting for review. It was felt that reports should be submitted at the end of the year just for accountability and to make sure funds are being appropriated correctly. Discussion also took place regarding booster clubs and PTSO organizations and how officers are elected, bylaws, etc. It was also shared that no employee should be the treasurer of these clubs and felt that everyone needs to be aware of the rules and procedures. Other concerns included concessions and operating this and following all school and safety standards.

V. MODIFICATIONS/IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHOOL FACILITIES

Discussion took place on making changes to schools and Mel Battle shared that he felt these decisions should come to the Superintendent and the Board of Education. He referenced taking down trees, painting walls, etc. Modifications to the buildings need approval prior to anything taking place. In years past there was a policy that referenced this.

Mr. Stokes was tasked with working on a policy to include rules/procedures for modifications/improvements to school improvements.

VI. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Discussion took place regarding receiving closed session minutes prior to the meeting to assist with time. Concerns were expressed with hard copies being shared outside of the meeting. All were in agreement if the minutes could be shared via email with a code to use to open to assist with confidentiality that this may be agreeable. It was agreed to review options prior to the next meeting to see if this situation can be worked out.

VII. ATTORNEY ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

Discussion took place regarding the attorney being present at both meetings. With the new format, it was suggested that the attorney only be present at the first meeting of the month and if questions arise, a phone call or email could be placed prior to the meetings. This will be added to the agenda and put to a vote.

VIII. ADJOURN

Joel Lillard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m., Nicole McGhee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on September 28, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Mel O. Battle	Lance Stokes
Chairman	Superintendent