

## CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

February 8, 2021

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 25, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Wayne Owen, Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Trudy Blackwell, Donna Hudson, Mel Battle, and Tracy Stanley. Vennie Beggarly was absent for the first part of the meeting. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. Meeting was livestreamed via Zoom.

### **I. A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Owen. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **I. B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Donna Hudson, to approve the revised minutes of the January 11, 2021 regular meeting and January 25, 2021 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### **I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the agenda as presented. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### **I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Carter shared after meeting with the teacher advisory committee they asked to share their thanks to the Board of Education for putting their health and safety as concerns and making it a priority.

### **I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Connie Kimrey read aloud the public comments that were submitted (in the order in which they were received).

Dr. Elin Claggett, Ph.D., 108 Jaye Lane, Providence, NC, 27315

Dear Caswell Co. Board of Education.

Health experts have repeatedly stated for months that children absolutely need to return to in-school learning for their healthy development and well-being. Their unified response is not ambiguous. The majority of Caswell Co. parents want their children to have the option to return to school. On Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, you decided to ignore these families. Instead, you prioritized teachers who do not want to return to the classroom because of (1) Safety, (2) Not enough substitutes and (3) Continuity in learning. So let's address those concerns.

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### SAFETY

On January 8, 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics published a study by Duke and UNC that followed 11 N.C. school districts which kept schools open. During those 9-weeks, there were 32 cases of in-school transmission among nearly 100,000 students and staff. This is a rate of 0.00032. These schools followed mitigation strategies, including face coverings for children ages 5 and older, 6-foot distancing, hand-washing and daily symptom monitoring and temperature checks. Teachers shop at stores that children go to.

### SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

21 substitute teachers have completed virtual training. How many teachers are you anticipating being absent daily? What are you doing to recruit more substitutes? Day care needs may be a problem for 41 teachers, but how many parents are paying for day care due to schools being closed?

### CONTINUITY IN LEARNING

In 2019, Caswell Co. students had an average math proficiency score of 26% & reading proficiency score of 35%. These terrible scores have undoubtedly dropped without classroom interactions. The refusal of the Superintendent to offer flash drives for all children under the Plan B increases the problem in a county with lousy Wi-Fi connectivity. Flash drives for ALL students, regardless of being home either 3 or 5 days a week will support continuity of learning. Learning is not just staring at a computer screen for hours. Children learn by interacting with other children, teachers, staff and their environment. Education is not one dimensional. Classroom learning should complement and reinforce Chromebook lessons – same lessons different setting.

### IS IT WORTH IT?

Finally, in January 2021, Superintendent Carter asked this board “. . . if we are only going to return for basically the fourth 9 weeks is it worth it?” Superintendent Carter works for you, not the other way around.

Is it worth it for high school sports?

Is it worth it to the first grader who never got to go to school?

Is it worth it to the working parents who have a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader?

Is it worth it to the parents who have to take their kids to parking lots for Wi-Fi so they can complete homework?

Is it worth it to the Senior who is struggling to complete courses to graduate?

Is it worth it to the families who have to pay for day care while they actually go to work?

Is it worth it to the 15 year old who is depressed because they can't leave the house all day if parents work and they don't have school?

Katherine Pinkleton (On behalf of Caswell County Association of Educators middle and high school)

635 Rocky Ridge Road, Leasburg, NC, 27291

CCAIE Member concerns:

- Gov. Cooper has stated that he plans to veto Bill 37. Although there is the possibility that his veto may be overruled, if the Caswell BOE makes a decision today, and Gov. Cooper's veto is

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successful, will the board walk back the newest decision and return to the previous decision of Plan C for the remainder of the year?

- Vaccines have been a central theme, but it has also been stressed that vaccinating teachers will not protect our families, our students, or our students' families.
- Will the Central Office be able to present teachers and staff with clear guidelines for every aspect of reopening (in time to implement them), and will individual schools be allowed to, within reason, make changes to those plans as needed for each school's particular needs?
- Many students, caregivers, and employees have underlying health conditions. Will the district be able to plan for these employees?
- Difficulty in obtaining substitute teachers to cover classes in the event teachers become ill or have to quarantine.
- Many of our schools have outdated ventilation systems.
- Custodians--a few people can't clean the whole school to the standard needed to be safe with students in the building.
- Concerns with continuity for students--confusing for young students especially when switching between live and virtual.

Comments from Dr. Fauci interview on *Meet The Press* (NBC; Feb. 7th, 2021):

When asked if schools should reopen, Dr. Fauci said "It really depends on the level of infection in the community" (Caswell is red). He emphasized the need to get schools what they need to safely reopen, including "masks...and better ventilation". When asked if ALL grade levels should return to school, Dr. Fauci stated that "students in 8th grade and higher.... transmit (the virus) as easily as adults transmit", so the opening recommendation is applicable to K - 8 schools only, and that reopening should happen over the next 100 days, so that districts have time to plan. Dr. Fauci, when asked about vaccine availability, stated: "Things are going to get better as we get from February into March, into April."

From Sen. Rob Hogg (Iowa): "In the 8 days since Gov. Reynolds signed SF160, to force schools to offer 100% in-person, Iowa has reported 1,180 new cases for kids, risking themselves, their families, staff, and the public."

What we are asking:

- Please consider delaying a decision to return to in-person instruction until we learn the status of bill 37 (we should know this before the Feb 22nd meeting)
- Given that we are still in a high rate of community transmission, stay in plan C if possible

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- Please consider passing the *Shots For a Safe Return Resolution*, which would send a message to Gov. Cooper that we want our students to return to the classroom--AFTER educators have had the opportunity to be vaccinated against Covid-19.

A huge **THANK YOU** to Dr. Carter for soliciting our thoughts and concerns and to the board for hearing them!

A draft copy of a resolution for the Board of Education's consideration was read aloud and a hard copy was given to all board members for their review.

(Vennie Beggarly arrived for the meeting at this time).

### II. REPORTS

#### Bartlett Yancey Senior High School Updates / Bill Powell (Project Manager)

Project Manager Bill Powell joined the meeting via Zoom. He shared a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed updates to the high school renovations.

Highlights include:

Construction Phasing – Today through the end of school and before school returns in the fall of 2021

- Focused on the two-story building first
- Now moving into connecting corridors linking the buildings into one internal campus for students.
- Connecting corridors also are the pathway linking campus wide safety and communications systems.
- Staff and contractors crossing paths must be handled safely.
- Staff flow across campus must adjust to allow construction of these connectors. (Discussions include evening and night shifts for contractors to minimize contact).
- Site parking and external utilities phased in as weather improves.
- Front parking lots and new main office access for the fall starts as weather breaks this spring.
- Planning for demolition of the 200-300 Hall allowing access to the new Kitchen-Dining construction following the two-story building (Summer-Fall).

Construction Project Summary includes:

- Architect and Contractor submittals are generally complete.
- The Contractor continues to flag issues ahead of time allowing for proper answers.

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- Project questions are being answered in a timely fashion by Architect and Engineers.
- Project materials: Some minor joist delays due to Covid plant shutdown. No further delays known to date.
- Masonry, Steel and MEP trades are pushing the project forward.
- Overall project manpower and production is increasing.
- Project manpower: November average 50 workers per day; December average 60 per day; January average 75 per day.
- Unforeseen situations, such as Covid, weather or unsuitable soils are being tracked.
- Two-story project time used 50% / Billed to date = 39%.
- Overall project has some areas ahead of schedule and some behind schedule.
- Contractor's goal is a dry roof in March and exterior windows and storefronts will follow.
- (Starting other school areas, building dry in and keeping production levels on the two story, will be the challenge for successful schedule completion).

### III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### Caswell County Schools: School Your Way: Plans A, B, C

Dr. Carter reviewed a PowerPoint presentation and shared that there has been a push in legislation with Senate Bill 37 (In-Person Learning Choice for Families) for school districts to offer in-person instruction. Although it is not mandatory at this time, she felt it may become law in the near future and due to timeframe constraints she felt that this could be problematic for parents and felt the Board needed to look at students returning to school.

Dr. Carter shared data on updated Covid-19 cases for Caswell County and within Caswell County Schools. She also met with the Teacher Advisory Committee and shared feedback on what plan the teachers are comfortable with. If Plan A and B are considered, Dr. Carter shared she would need to make a few changes to the school calendar to allow teacher workdays before the return of school. Finally, if considered, all teleworking would need to end on February 12, 2021.

Virtual learning will still be an option; however, students will be expected to participate as often as the in-person student and will need to login real time daily. Students must log in daily and complete any check-ins, assignments, etc. by the time frame given by the teacher. Students are expected to be in attendance/present for the first 30 minutes in the Google Meets during each block or longer as determined by the principal. Students will be marked absent if students are not present in the first 30 minutes of the Google Meets. (Attendance will not be adjusted past two weeks or past deadline provided by school. Teachers will make students aware of the times of the Google Meets in their

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class. Teachers will notify students if changes occur for their scheduled class). Students who choose Remote Learning must be able to participate virtually. Flash drive only available on a case-by-case, need basis. Virtual students will be expected to sign a Memorandum of Understanding of expectations/requirements for virtual learning.

Upon review, Dr. Carter recommended, based upon legislature, as well as the recent reduced numbers of staff out of school due to Covid, approval to move from Plan C to Plan A for elementary and Plan B for middle and high school students with the staggered entry plan as presented. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Mel Battle.

Comments from a board member included that the vote is a difficult decision and everyone will not be happy; however, this decision covers all areas for students and if we do not act today, it was felt that students will get further and further behind. Also, it was mentioned that the board voted for athletics last meeting and with sports there is no social distancing especially with wrestling.

Concerns and questions from board members include:

- Do we have enough bus drivers?

Mr. Tyrrell responded that we currently have enough and will know if we need extra based on the number of students that will opt to return. At this time with the staggered entry, Mr. Tyrrell said we are okay with our current bus drivers.

- Ventilation concerns especially with older buildings?

Mr. Tyrrell responded that some of the older buildings are not what the current requirements might be and we are looking into options for classroom filters. Other recommendations can include opening windows and doors if the classroom allows it.

- Do we have cleaning capabilities with our current custodial staff and do we need to look at having custodians possibly do deep cleaning on Friday evenings and Saturday?

Mr. Tyrrell responded that moving forward the custodians may have extra duties noting that elementary will be eating in their classroom so this will require an additional trash pickup during the day. We have currently tried to fill the vacant custodial positions. Mr. Tyrrell will speak with principals regarding staff and times that are needed. One option was to ask if bus drivers are willing to stay and assist with cleaning. Mr. Tyrrell spoke with principals and all indicated they are good. He will reach out to them again to make sure they do not need additional help with cleaning, schedules, etc. Mr. Tyrrell shared he spoke with Transportation Director Chuck Hudson and they are reaching out to bus drivers to see who may be willing to work in between routes or after a bus route to assist in daily cleaning and sanitizing.

- Will students still participate in field days, prom, etc.?

Mr. Tyrrell responded that at this point the focus is on in-person learning and once acclimated there may be ways to allow activities safely and socially distanced. For physical education classes the teacher will go in the classroom and have activities with the elementary students. Outside time will occur with strict guidelines and possible mask breaks outside. All this will

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need to be reviewed before allowing physical education class to resume as normal. It will be a gradual release and constant monitoring and review as we go forward.

- Is plexi-glass installed in classrooms?

Mr. Tyrrell responded at this time plexi-glass has been installed in the receptionist areas and high traffic areas. Currently none has been installed in the classrooms. This will need to be ordered based on what the needs are.

- Will teachers be provided a face shield and will students be provided masks?

Mr. Tyrrell responded that face shields and PPE gowns are available for teachers. Students will be provided with 5 face masks and bus drivers will also have extra on the buses in case a student forgets or doesn't have one. Also, masks with plastic coverings will be provided for teachers in the lower levels to assist with phonics. Mr. Tyrrell shared that each principal has a letter that addresses specifics (masks, forms, schedules, etc.) and is ready to be finalized based on the decision of the board.

- How much additional work is going to be put on teachers / will they still have a planning period and can they meet in Professional Learning Centers (PLC)?

Dr. Carter shared that the teachers will have a designated planning period and those that are virtual will not be the same as the current remote plan noting they will be required to participate in the class and flash drive users will be required to phone in. Virtual learning will not be the same. Parents that are in need of hot-spots should contact the principal first and then reach out to the central office second. Dr. Carter shared she encouraged teachers to meet virtually for PLCs.

- Do we have plans in place if more students arrive to school that we are prepared for noting Instructional Education Plans.

Mr. Tyrrell shared that we are looking at exclusion situations and working towards this. Dr. Carter shared this is why it is so important to move forward so we can have plans in place and this will factor on the number of students who choose to return to school in person. Mr. Tyrrell shared that if a student chooses to stay home and has an IEP that certain services may need to be looked into regarding individual services and the companies that offer them.

Dr. Carter shared that the Piedmont Triad Educational Center group of superintendents plan to send a letter to the governor to support the need for teacher vaccines. Board members were in agreement that a resolution needs to be sent on behalf of the board as well.

Upon no further comments or discussion, the motion made by Gladys Garland, seconded by Mel Battle to move from Plan C to Plan A for elementary and Plan B for middle and high school with staggered entry as presented passed unanimously.

Elementary:

- ❖ March 1: PreK-1<sup>st</sup> and Adaptive Curriculum Students
- ❖ March 8: Grades 2 and Grades 3



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Dr. Carter recommended approval of changing the deadline for the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) to February 12, 2021. There will be no teleworking beyond this time. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Mel Battle, to approve deadline for FFCRA to end on February 12, 2021.

Discussion included if there are other avenues for employees with legitimate concerns. Other options would include using accrued sick leave or possible approval of the contagious disease leave. Concerns included if the timeframe was enough for employees who have daycare issues or who are taking care of elderly family members. Dr. Carter shared with the timeframe, we need all staff in place and information has been discussed with staff noting that the leave may be ending soon as the original date (until extended at the last meeting) was February 5<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be made aware of the options available.

Upon no further discussion, the motion made by Gladys Garland, seconded by Mel Battle, to approve deadline for FFCRA to end on February 12, 2021 was approved unanimously.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Consent Agenda**

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the consent agenda as presented. Donna Hudson moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Budget Amendments #7, #8, #9**

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS								BUDGET AMENDMENT # 7				
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 June 30, 2021.												
#		Account Code						Description	Debit	Credit		
1	3	3600	017	000	000	000	00	Revenue - CTE		5,244.00		
	3	5100	017	000	000	000	00	CTE - Regular Instruction Services	4,994.00			
	3	8100	017	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	250.00			
2	3	3600	060	000	000	000	00	Revenue - Title VI-B Handicapped		1,708.00		
	3	5200	060	000	000	000	00	EC - Student Support Services	4,930.00			
	3	8100	060	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs		3,222.00		
3	3	3600	118	000	000	000	00	Revenue - IDEA VI-B Special Needs Targeted Assistance		5,250.00		
	3	5200	118	000	000	000	00	EC - Student Support Services	4,956.00			
	3	8100	118	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	294.00			
4	3	3600	119	000	000	000	00	Revenue - IDEA Targeted Assistance Preschool		4,223.00		
	3	5200	119	000	000	000	00	EC Pre-K Student Support Services	3,987.00			
	3	8100	119	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	236.00			
5	3	3600	049	000	000	000	00	Revenue - IDEA Preschool		268.00		
	3	5200	049	000	000	000	00	Preschool - Student Support Services	396.00			
	3	8100	049	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs		128.00		
6	3	3600	082	000	000	000	00	Revenue - Title VI-B State Improvement		14,401.00		
	3	5200	082	000	000	000	00	EC - Student Support Services	13,595.00			
	3	8100	082	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	806.00			

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CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS										BUDGET AMENDMENT # 7	
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 June 30, 2021.											
#	Account Code							Description	Debit	Credit	
7	3	3600	166	000	000	000	00	Revenue - CARES Act ESSERF Learning Management System		5,984.00	
	3	5800	166	000	000	000	00	School Based Support Services	5,649.00		
	3	8100	166	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	335.00		
8	3	3600	169	000	000	000	00	Revenue - GEER Student Health Support		94,087.00	
	3	5800	169	000	000	000	00	School Based Support Services	88,822.00		
	3	8100	169	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	5,265.00		
9	3	3600	170	000	000	000	00	Revenue - GEER Supplemental Instructional Services		39,968.00	
	3	5300	170	000	000	000	00	Alternative Programs Support Services	37,732.00		
	3	8100	170	000	000	000	00	Indirect Costs	2,236.00		
									<b>174,483.00</b>	<b>174,483.00</b>	
<b>Justification(s):</b>											
1	Allotment Revision #21 - CTE additional allotment (Increase in Revenue)										
2	Allotment Revision #30 - Group Home/Foster Home allotment (Increase in Revenue)										
3 & 4	Allotment Revision # 29 - DPI approved plan for PRC 118 and 119 (Increase in Revenue)										
5	Allotment Revision # 39 - IDEA Preschool additional allotment (Increase in Revenue)										
6	Allotment Revision #37 - DPI approved plan for PRC 082 (Increase in Revenue)										
7, 8, & 9	Allotment Revision # 41 - DPI approved plan for PRC 166, 169, and 170 (Increase in Revenue)										
<b>Funding Source: Federal</b>											
Total appropriation in current budget:										<b>\$ 3,146,494</b>	
Amount of increase/decrease of amendment:										<b>\$ 171,133</b>	
Total appropriation in amended budget:										<b>\$ 3,317,627</b>	

**Budget Amendment # 8**

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS										BUDGET AMENDMENT # 8	
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 June 30, 2021.											
#	Account Code							Description	Debit	Credit	
1	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund	3,305.00		
	1	5200	000	000	000	000	00	Student Support Services		3,305.00	
2	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		2,211.00	
	1	5100	000	000	000	000	00	Instructional Support Services	2,211.00		
									<b>5,516.00</b>	<b>5,516.00</b>	
<b>Justification(s):</b>											
1	Allotment Revision #37 - EC Headcount Transfers (Decrease in Revenue)										
2	Allotment Revision #41 - November & December Subpay (Increase in Revenue)										
<b>Funding Source: State</b>											
Total appropriation in current budget:										<b>\$ 19,234,650</b>	
Amount of increase/decrease of amendment:										<b>(\$ 1,094)</b>	
Total appropriation in amended budget:										<b>\$ 19,233,556</b>	

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**Budget Amendment # 9**

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS								BUDGET AMENDMENT # 9				
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 June 30, 2021.												
#	Account Code							Description	Debit	Credit		
1	8	4890	530	000	000	000	00	Community Food Service Grant		1,500.00		
	8	5320	530	459	000	000	00	Other Food Purchases	1,500.00			
									1,500.00	1,500.00		
<b>Justification(s):</b>												
1	Align budget to reflect funding from Caswell County Community Food Service Grant to purchase food for high needs families.											
<b>Funding Source: Restricted</b>												
Total appropriation in current budget:									\$	1,014,667		
Amount of increase/(decrease) of amendment:									\$	1,500		
Total appropriation in amended budget:									\$	1,016,167		

**2. Community Foundation / Scholarship**

Dr. Carter shared information she received from the Community Foundation which included a draft copy of a rubric for scholarship requirements. This addresses most aspects that are needed but additional information can be added to the agreement. At this point, it is only a draft for the board to review. The chairman shared he felt it would be good for the board to review thoroughly and study the guidelines before voting and bring back to the next meeting for a decision.

Concerns included specifically stating for Bartlett Yancey Senior High School graduates instead of Caswell County Schools and also including for seniors of the graduating class to avoid any confusion.

Other discussion included making this information available to the public so they will be aware that monetary donations can be made to this scholarship and well as having all the scholarships that are available to seniors posted on the website. Dr. Carter shared she spoke with the high school principal and he is in full agreement and is making efforts to alert seniors of all available opportunities. Another suggestion included using the Alertnow phone system to call parents of seniors to make them aware of these scholarships.

It was agreed to bring back to the next meeting for further discussion and approval.

**V. REPORTS**

Finance Director Amy Chandler reviewed the quarterly reports. Summary of the reports include:

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- State revenues and expenditures decreased approximately \$220,000. The State fund is our primary source of revenue and mainly funds, salaries, and benefits. Some of the decrease can be attributed to a decrease in State funds received. The largest decrease in expenditures is reflected in Regular Instruction due to substitutes not being utilized during the first half of the year along with decreases in the state allotment and operational support services due to buses not being operated. These decreases are offset by increases in School Based Support Services reflecting the Personal Protective Equipment and digital resources purchased with the Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) and Nutrition Services reflecting the CRF funds for school nutrition.
- Local revenues are very comparable to the prior year showing a slight decrease of approximately \$6,700, which is primarily related to a decrease in interest earned. Due to the decline in the stock market, the interest earnings are currently not outweighing the fees, so no interest has been realized thus far for this fiscal year. Local expenditures decreased by approximately \$245,000. The major decreases were in regular instruction due to a timing difference for the holiday bonus for staff, athletics due to school sports not taking place thus far this year and supply funds have not been sent to the school and support and development services related to the Secondary Curriculum Director being funded out of local in 2019-2020 and state in 2020-2021. Other variances were primarily related to timing differences and were in line with prior year and budget.
- Federal revenues and expenditures decreased approximately \$71,000. The decrease is seen across most all accounts, but primarily related to Regular Instruction primarily related to timing differences for several large expenditures and Special Population Services due to EC contracted services expenses which were covered with CRF funds offset by an increase in School Based Support Services related to the two new nurses being funded with CARES Act funds.
- Capital Outlay revenues increased approximately \$4.5 million primarily attributable to lottery proceeds, grant proceeds, and bond proceeds received for the new high school. Capital Outlay expenditures show an increase of approximately \$4.4 million from the prior year, again primarily related to expenditures at the new high school. Although the County is making the payments, the expenditures still have to be recorded on our books for financial reporting purposes.
- Child Nutrition revenues reflect a decrease of approximately \$408,000 from the prior year. This decrease can be attributable to the decrease in participation with school being remote. Expenses also decreased by nearly \$338,000, primarily related to food costs. As of December 31, the fund shows a net loss of approximately \$105,000, net of the \$109,041 Coronavirus relief funds used to offset some of the loss. If Coronavirus Relief funds were not available, the Child Nutrition fund would show a loss of approximately \$214,000 as of December 31. The Child Nutrition program did increase the feeding sites during the second quarter in hopes to increase revenues.

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- The Restricted fund is performing as expected, showing a decrease in revenue of approximately \$53,000, which is related to the last portion of the Golden Leaf Stem Lab funds received offset by an increase for the Teacher Incentive program funds received from the County. Expenditures also saw a decrease of approximately \$73,000, primarily related to the personnel associated with the DRF grant, offset by an increase in School Leadership for the STEAM program operated during the month of July. Other variances were primarily related to timing differences and were in line with budget.

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES**

None at this time.

**VII. CLOSED SESSION**

Mel Battle 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. Tracy Stanley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. OPEN SESSION**

Vennie Beggarly made a motion to return to open session. Donna Hudson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**IX. PERSONNEL LISTING**

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the personnel listing as presented. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly to approve the personnel listing as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

<b>Resignation</b>	
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Tonya Millner, Teacher Asst. NC Virtual Public Schools/Edgenuity = Eff. 2/8/21
<b>Employment</b>	
South Elementary	Randy Jones, Custodian = Eff. 2/9/21

**X. COMMUNICATIONS**

- Master Board Training selections were reviewed. Information regarding the length of the courses will be shared at the next meeting for the board to make a decision on when to begin.

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- Joint meeting with Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for February 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. If the board has any questions they are asked to submit them to the Board Chair or to Dr. Carter and they will compile a listing to be forwarded to the County Manager, Chair and Vice Chair.

Discussion was had to move the regular meeting of the Board of Education to follow the joint meeting on February 22, 2021.

Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to change meeting time from 6:30 p.m. to 12:00 noon on February 22, 2021. The motion carried 5-2 with Beggarly and Blackwell voting “No.” The public will be made aware of the time change.

**XI. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS**

- Question was asked regarding athletics and if a schedule was provided of the games. It was shared that a schedule of actual games was not given at the last meeting.
- Question was asked if we can go ahead and look at options for athletics for spectators. Dr. Carter shared the company that is used across the state has not started looking at football; however, we are on their roster to talk with them and find out what the cost will be. Due to Covid, funding has not been used for athletics and it is the hope that some of that can offset the expense for live streaming. Other districts charge \$10.00 for parents to view. These are options that will need to be considered. One suggestion was to look into Facebook Live as some of the traveling sports teams have used this option.
- Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the resolution for staff to receive the Covid vaccine as they are essential employees and would like this sent to the Governor on behalf of Caswell County Schools Board of Education. The motion carried unanimously.

*Caswell County Board of Education Resolution*

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**Shots for a Safe Return to School  
Resolution Supporting Vaccination of School Workers**

**WHEREAS**, our top priority as a School District is to ensure safe spaces in which our students can learn and grow; and

**WHEREAS**, each school worker is essential to providing our students with safe, healthy learning environments; and

**WHEREAS**, the ongoing spread of the COVID-19 virus makes traditional in-person learning a significant health risk for our staff, our students, and their families, and

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**February 8, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Roy Cooper has consistently emphasized the importance of the three W's in creating safe learning environments: wear a mask, wait six feet away, and wash hands; and

**WHEREAS**, newer, more contagious and more deadly strains of the virus have recently emerged, reinforcing the importance of the social distancing and masking requirements consistent with safety guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, effective COVID-19 vaccines have now been developed, with more than one million doses now having been distributed throughout North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, adding vaccination of educators to the three W's would add another layer of protection from the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, other states have prioritized the vaccination of educators in order to increase the safety of in person instruction during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, we value the health and safety of our staff, and believe that ensuring vaccine access for educators will improve the safety of in-person instruction, and improve health outcomes overall for our students, our families, and our community;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Caswell County Schools urges Governor Cooper to restore the priority status of school workers, and immediately make each North Carolina Public School employee an essential worker and eligible for vaccine distribution within phase 2; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Caswell County Schools stands ready to coordinate with NC Public Health officials and our local health department to facilitate making the vaccine available to each of our school workers.

This the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Owen, Chairman

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Gladys Garland, Vice Chairman

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Mel O. Battle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vennie Beggarly

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Trudy Blackwell

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Donna R. Hudson

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Tracy P. Stanley

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Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

**XII. ADJOURN**

Vennie Beggarly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 p.m., Gladys Garland seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on February 22, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Owen  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Sandra Carter  
Superintendent