

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

January 11, 2021

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Wayne Owen, Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Trudy Blackwell, Vennie Beggarly, Mel Battle, and Tracy Stanley. Donna Hudson was absent. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher, Erika Nunnally, Brendan Nunnally, Riley Wiley, Leon Wiley, Dylan Wall, Faith Johnson, Donna Johnson, Marcellus Abbott, Miles Jefferson, Latoya Dixon, Debra Ferrell, Grace Watlington, and Kati Fowlkes. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes. *(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 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 Vennie Beggarly, to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 regular meeting and December 17, 2020 work session as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Carter shared information regarding a team representing N. L. Dillard Middle School, competed in the recent WordMasters Challenge™—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The 6th grade team scored an impressive 185 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year.

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge™, sixth graders Jayden Aldridge, Alexandria Brown, and Seth Ensley achieved an outstanding individual score of 20/20 on the challenge. Additionally, a score of 19/20 was achieved by Nathan Hammock, Mattie Howard, and Hailey McFarling. The students were coached in preparation for the WordMasters Challenge™ by Mrs. Kim Meadows.

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I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Erika Nunnally, 83 Germantown Road, Pelham, NC, 27311

Ms. Nunnally addressed the Board of Education regarding her thoughts on allowing athletics to begin. She shared that students are missing out on lifetime opportunities and shared that other schools have started back. Although she understands the concerns with Covid; she felt it was affecting students. She felt that they deserve to spend time with each other. She asked the Board to consider allowing the students to participate in sports despite Covid concerns and felt that it could be done in a safe way.

Brendan Nunnally, 83 Germantown Road, Pelham, NC 27311

Brendan Nunnally shared his thoughts with the Board of Education noting that other school districts have allowed sports to begin and he cannot explain how this makes him feel. He questioned how can other districts allow sports and Caswell not consider it. He felt there are ways to make it safe and taking sports away is difficult on the students. He shared education is important; however, kids are very interested in playing sports noting seniors who are missing out on their "senior year" and recruitments from colleges and scholarships. He also shared that it is affecting band as well. He shared that last year was a record season for the football team and felt this year could have broken even more records. He would like athletics to begin.

Rylie Webster, 391 Oakview Loop Road, Yanceyville, NC, 27379

Rylie Webster shared she continues to see schools around Caswell that are allowing sports and questioned what this means to students. It hurts their heart especially those that are seniors this year and have not been allowed to participate noting there would be no "Senior Night." She shared that other districts are going back for five days a week and others are going back for second semester and felt it is doable for Caswell to do the same. She shared that they are told that coaches feel they should not play if they are not in school; however, she felt that the coaches are very confident that they can play safely and coaches would also like to be able to participate. She felt that the issue is that teachers are scared and questioned if they are so scared, why do they continue to go out in public, out to eat, grocery stores, etc. She felt they are not actually scared but would prefer to continue with the virtual setting versus in person in the classroom as it is easier. Teachers should not continue to say they are scared. She asked the Board of Education to consider the effects on what it is doing to students and not just how the teachers feel.

Barley Quentin, 155 Whitestone Drive, Ruffin, NC, 27326

Barley Quentin addressed the Board of Education with his concerns on athletics and would like for sports to begin. He shared that by being in Caswell others feel that is a disadvantage; however, students from Caswell set goals to go to college and some students rely on sports to provide assistance in scholarships or being recruited. Not being allowed to play at this time makes it very difficult. He also shared that sports makes a difference and helps the student athletes focus on schoolwork. He asked the Board to please consider student athletes when making their decision.

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II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Caswell County Schools – School Your Way

Dr. Carter reviewed information on returning to school and shared data on a PowerPoint presentation to the Board of Education. Covid numbers have dramatically increased and Caswell County is currently a “red” county.

An overview of updated information was shared and two options were presented to the Board of Education. Those include: Plan C (current plan) with all remote and Plan B (hybrid model) which includes all PreK-12 students return to school for face-to-face instruction two days per week with three days of remote learning. If students have demonstrated academic success during first semester and parents request for their child to remain virtual they will have the option as long as they have sufficient internet access; however, flash drives will no longer be an option.

Discussion took place regarding surrounding school districts noting that there is no consistency. There is no right decision that is right for everyone and districts have had to change their decisions based on individual situations. Other concerns included the amount of staff that has been in quarantine. If staff is quarantined presently, they can continue to work. If Plan B is approved, staff will be required to stay at home and substitutes will be needed. Presently we have 17 trained substitutes and dependent upon the situation, this may not be sufficient. Having a trained staff person versus a substitute is not the same.

Dr. Carter shared she plans to recommend Plan B with the re-entry date of February 15, 2021. This will allow the Board of Education to review updated data at the January 25, 2021 meeting and give the option to change the decision if needed. If students have demonstrated academic success during first semester and parents request for their child to remain virtual they will have the option as long as they have sufficient internet access; however, flash drives will no longer be an option if Plan B is approved and students would be required to attend two days a week.

Further discussion took place regarding teacher concerns, medical conditions, what would happen if a school needs to close, etc. It was shared that continuous contact with the health department has been made. They have not given a recommendation; however, they continue to share the importance of wearing a mask, washing hands, and waiting 6 feet apart. Concerns were discussed regarding the vaccine. It was shared that a survey will be sent out to staff to gather information on how many are interested in taking the vaccine.

At this time, Dr. Carter recommended to move to the hybrid model, Plan B, and not begin until February 15, 2021 to allow the Board of Education time to review Covid numbers at the January 25, 2021 meeting and allow the board a chance to confirm or change their decision. Students without sufficient internet access will be required to attend two days of face-to-face

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instruction and remove remote learning days from the school (spring) calendar. Students may opt for 5 days virtual provided they have access to internet and have proven academic success from first semester.

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent which is to move to the hybrid model, Plan B, and not begin until February 15, 2021 to allow the Board of Education time to review Covid numbers at the January 25, 2021 meeting and allow the board a chance to confirm or change their decision. Students without sufficient internet access will be required to attend two days of face-to-face instruction and remove remote learning days from the school (spring) calendar. Students may opt for 5 days virtual provided they have access to internet and have proven academic success from first semester.

It was recommended to strongly communicate this in every capacity we have to make sure the information is accurate and also to include athletic information.

Upon no further discussion, the motion carried 5-1 with Stanley voting "No." (Donna Hudson was absent).

Discussion took place regarding athletics and it was shared that possibly the FFA/Beta clubs have participated in face to face competitions. Dr. Carter will follow-up.

Dr. Carter recommended that high school athletics, which includes conditioning, not begin until implementation of Plan B. The start date would be February 22, 2021. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve high school athletics, which includes conditioning, not begin until implementation of Plan B. The start date would be February 22, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter recommended that middle school athletics, including conditioning, would not begin until February 22, 2021 if Plan B is implemented. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Gladys Garland to approve middle school athletics, including conditioning, not begin until February 22, 2021 if Plan B is implemented. The motion carried unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the consent agenda. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously. A handout was shared with the board of the information listed for Budget Amendment # 6.

Budget Amendment # 5

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CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS								BUDGET AMENDMENT # 5			
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		9,104.00	
	1	5800	000	000	000	000	00	School Based Support Services	9,104.00		
2	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		8,299.00	
	1	6500	000	000	000	000	00	Operational Support Services	8,299.00		
3	1	3100	000	000	000	000	00	Allocations from State Public School Fund		27,076.00	
	1	5200	000	000	000	000	00	Special Population Services	27,076.00		
4	1	6400	000	000	000	000	00	Technology Support Services		48.00	
	1	5800	000	000	000	000	00	School Based Support Services	48.00		
									44,527.00	44,527.00	
Justification(s):											
1	Allotment Revision #30 - Additional CRF Funds for Home and Community WiFi (Increase in Revenue)										
2	Allotment Revision #30 - Transportation 2nd Installment --Align budget to actual (Increase in Revenue)										
3	Allotment Revision #35 - Group Homes/Foster Homes Allotment for EC (Increase in Revenue)										
4	Align budget for ABC Transfer between CRF PRC's (No effect on Revenue)										
Funding Source: State											
									Total appropriation in current budget:	\$ 19,190,171	
									Amount of increase/decrease of amendment:	\$ 44,479	
									Total appropriation in amended budget:	\$ 19,234,650	

Budget Amendment # 6

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS								BUDGET AMENDMENT # 6			
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	2	5100	000	000	000	000	00	Regular Instructional Support	46,400.00		
	2	5200	000	000	000	000	00	Special Population Services	13,300.00		
	2	5300	000	000	000	000	00	Alternative Programs and Services	6,200.00		
	2	5400	000	000	000	000	00	School Leadership Services	4,200.00		
	2	5500	000	000	000	000	00	Co-Curricular Services	300.00		
	2	5800	000	000	000	000	00	School-Based Support Services	8,100.00		
	2	6100	000	000	000	000	00	Support and Development Services	650.00		
	2	6200	000	000	000	000	00	Special Population Support and Development Services	650.00		
	2	6400	000	000	000	000	00	Technology Support Services	2,000.00		
	2	6500	000	000	000	000	00	Operational Support Services	17,400.00		
	2	6600	000	000	000	000	00	Financial and Human Resource Services	2,000.00		
	2	6700	000	000	000	000	00	Accountability Services	650.00		
	2	6900	000	000	000	000	00	Policy, Leadership, and Public Relation Services	1,000.00		
	2	7100	000	000	000	000	00	Community Services	650.00		
	2	7200	000	000	000	000	00	Nutrition Services	8,500.00		
	2	4910	000	000	000	000	00	Fund Balance Appropriated		112,000.00	
									112,000.00	112,000.00	
Justification(s):											
1	Appropriate Fund Balance for Holiday Bonus.										
Funding Source: Local											
									Total appropriation in current budget:	\$ 3,115,750	
									Amount of increase/(decrease) of amendment:	\$ 112,000	
									Total appropriation in amended budget:	\$ 3,227,750	

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2. Board Policy # 504, Payment of Board Members (first reading)

Changes were made to Policy # 504 as discussed at the December 17, 2020 work session.

Changes include additional paragraph as noted:

Any funds not spent by a board member during the school year may be used by another board member with the consent of the entire board. Any board member may carry over funds from the previous school year for educational purposes.

It was suggested to change the word entire to majority. These changes will be noted on the second reading.

Upon no further discussion, Dr. Carter recommended approval of first reading of Policy # 504, Payment of Board Members, and for the Policy to lie on the table for a second reading with changes as noted. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly to approve first reading of Policy # 504 as presented with change of wording as noted. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution - Glenn Parrott

Gladys Garland read aloud the resolution for Glenn Parrott. Trudy Blackwell moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to approve the resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation
Of the Life of
Glenn Thomas Parrott*

WHEREAS, Glenn Thomas Parrott, was born on March 17, 1950, and resided at 62 Westwood Drive, Yanceyville, NC, 27379, at the time of his death on January 2, 2021, and

WHEREAS, Glenn Parrott, was a faithful and loving husband, father, brother and friend and his family's welfare was his major and constant concern; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Parrott, was a member of Prospect United Methodist Church in Yanceyville, NC. He also was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Caswell County and the Kiwanis Club; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Parrott, graduated from Northern High School, Campbell College, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

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WHEREAS, Glenn Parrott, was a devoted educator with over 30 years serving in the educational profession. He was the first Principal at South Elementary School in Caswell County. He retired from Caswell County Schools as Director of Exceptional Children. His coworkers valued his wisdom and insight and was well known as being a joy to work with; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Parrott touched the lives of many throughout his career and the staff of Caswell County Schools along with the many students he touched. He will be remembered by his Community and Board of Education for his leadership and his commitment to education; and being known for his benevolence and servant's heart to children; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Glenn Parrott and expresses its sympathy to his 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 11th day of January 2021

Wayne Owen, Chairman

Gladys Garland, Vice Chairman

Mel O. Battle

Vennie Beggarly

Trudy J. Blackwell

Donna R. Hudson

Tracy P. Stanley

Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

IV. REPORTS

None at this time.

V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Carter shared updates on the following:

- Student Scholarship Fund information was shared with the Board. As discussed at the previous work session, Dr. Carter spoke with representative from the Community Foundation and using the \$50,000 as seed money. They shared this will give the opportunity to build a greater interest on the money. It was shared that currently the interest rate is 5%; however, 3.75% is what is utilized with the scholarship fund and 1.25% is the Community Foundation fee. The Community Foundation will not disburse funds the first year. It was estimated that the yield would be approximately \$1800 per year on the current money. They recommend

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not using it for the first year to establish the \$1800 (of the \$50,000 of which you would yield). Guidelines would need to be set up and the board would need to decide the rubrics required for the recipient(s). Amendments to the rubric requirements can be made at any time. The Community Foundation handles all other specifics including selecting the recipient as a scholarship committee is already in place. Dr. Carter shared she was made aware that two people from Caswell serve on the committee. A link could be shared on the Caswell County Schools website for people interested in making a donation in honor or memory of someone and this would be acknowledged by the Community Foundation and go into the account.

Concerns shared from a board member included the scholarship committee being in place with no input from the Board of Education. It was suggested that the Board look at all possibilities before making a decision and would like to make a list of “pros and cons” of having our own committee. It was also shared that this was a good return on the money and Dr. Carter shared she hoped the amount would increase with donations from individuals.

Board Attorney Ron Bradsher shared input from the most recent scholarship that was requested to be moved to the Community Foundation and shared that it is a very good program to generate return on the money. He shared he will pull samples of previous scholarships and share with the board members. He noted that the sample agreements with the Community Foundation are very simple and require very little input from the Board of Education sharing that once it is done, the Board of Education would not have control.

Further discussion took place and it was agreed to bring this back to the January 20, 2021 work session to make a decision.

- Chromebook Updates - Dr. Carter shared a handout to clarify the possible confusion on Chromebook purchases. When Chromebooks are purchased they come with a 5-year license by Google. After five years they are obsolete. Due to Covid, Google allowed an additional year this year only due to virtual learning. Dr. Carter felt there may be some confusion in the community regarding the amount of Chromebooks that have been purchased. We are not continuing to add Chromebooks but once the 5-year license is expired they must be replaced and deducted from the total number of Chromebooks. It is more economic to use the Chromebooks versus an iPad due to cost factors, repair costs and the Chromebooks support the Google features within the school system that are used.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

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Gladys Garland 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.

VII. OPEN SESSION

Gladys Garland made a motion to return to open session. Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. PERSONNEL LISTING

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

Resignation	
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Juan Montoya, 9-12 Spanish Teacher, Eff. 1-5-21 (Embassy cancelled all January visa appointments)
North Elementary	Yvette Worsham, 5 th Grade Teacher, Eff. 2-19-21
Employment	
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Richard Franklin, CTE Public Safety & Firefighting Technology Teacher = Eff. 1-4-21

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- Dr. Carter reviewed information regarding virtual meetings and allowing public participation. It was discussed to begin using Zoom. A license will need to be purchased and may require a technology employee to attend night board meetings with the option of paying overtime or receiving comp time. It was shared that we need to inform the public of the new procedures. This will somewhat be a replica of what the county commissioners are doing; however, they are doing all morning meetings. It was agreed for the Board of Education to continue with one morning and one night meeting per board policy.

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to begin virtual meetings by February 8, 2021 or sooner if license can be acquired. The motion carried unanimously.

- Chairman Wayne Owen reviewed items for the upcoming work session to include: follow-up on scholarship with Community Foundation, professional

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development, bid announcement postings, goals for Board of Education, equity, staff supplement (historical data)

X. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS

- Questions were asked on the construction progress at the high school. Dr. Carter shared things are going according to schedule. Fabric samples are available for the board to look at if they would like to do so. Questions were asked regarding the canopy and it was shared that the canopy would not go entirely to the new building and would need to stop at the athletic entrance. In the event that bad weather occurs, a small bus will be used to transport students back and forth to the main campus and temporary classroom building.

XI. ADJOURN

Gladys Garland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m., Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 25, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

Wayne Owen
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent