

## CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 23, 2021

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 23, 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, Mel Battle, Donna Hudson, Vennie Beggarly, and Tracy Stanley. Others present included Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Andrew Tyrrell, and Board Attorney Ron Bradsher and Mike Gentry. 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 Vennie Beggarly, to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2021 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dr. Carter recommended approval of agenda as presented with the addition of Item # 2 (New Business), Participate Invoice. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Donna Hudson, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Participate Invoice. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dr. Carter shared that the first day of school went well and students were excited. Dr. Carter shared the average daily membership report with the board and noted that the numbers usually increase as the week progresses.

Dr. Carter thanked the Caswell Outreach Ministry through the assistance of Paul and Alice Robinson, Tonya Pegg, and Sheila McLaughlin, for the donations of school supplies.

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

Mike Gentry, 31 Cedar Cove Road, Pelham, NC 27311

Mr. Gentry addressed the board sharing that he has two grandchildren in the school system and asked the board to clarify their position on the teaching of critical race theory in Caswell County schools.

He also shared the following:

Seventeen states have introduced bans on Critical Race Theory to combat the Marxist ideas of Ibram Kendi, and in particular, racial shaming in the classroom. Critical Race Theory is not history

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 23, 2021

education or civics education; it is action civics designed to shape students into 'change agents' who will undo the very foundations of American society. Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson has formed the F.A.C.T.S. Task Force to prevent this sort of indoctrination of our children. Hugh Blackwell, NC district 86, has introduced the 'Academic Transparency Bill' to combat CRT.\*\* John Torbett, NC district 108, has introduced House Bill 324 to help protect NC children from CRT. State Superintendent Catherine Truitt commented that, "This is a common-sense bill that provides reasonable expectations for the kind of civil discourse we want our children to experience in public schools.'

\*\* Note: Here are some ideas that HB324 is designed to combat:

- "One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex.
- "An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
- "An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex.
- "An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex.
- "An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex.
- "Any individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress.

I end my comments by entering into the public record the following article: Parents Against Critical Race Theory' by Max Eden. Washington Examiner, June 22, 2021

**II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consent Agenda

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

(New)

Kindergarten Request for Transfer

Chance, Skylar	Stoney Creek	to	Oakwood (K)
Fields, Constance	Stoney Creek	to	North (K)
Hawkins, Matthew	Oakwood	to	North (K)

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**August 23, 2021**

Spaulding, Jeremiah	North	to	Oakwood (K)
Turner, Gabrielle	North	to	Oakwood (K)
Turner, Gracelynn	North	to	Oakwood (K)
Wilson, Dale	North	to	Stoney Creek (K)

**New Request**

Anderson, Tanner	Oakwood	to	North (5 <sup>th</sup> )
Lindsey, Kayla	South	to	Oakwood (5 <sup>th</sup> )*

**Renewals**

Jones, Rachel	Caswell	to	Rockingham (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Jones, Samuel	Caswell	to	Rockingham (10 <sup>th</sup> )
Jones, Grace	Caswell	to	Rockingham (10 <sup>th</sup> )
Jones, Christian	Caswell	to	Rockingham (7 <sup>th</sup> )
McKinney, Charles	Caswell	to	Rockingham (11 <sup>th</sup> )

**School Resource Officer Invoice**

Total: \$82,432.00

Funds: At Risk (1.5850.069.311.000.000.00)

**iReady**

Total: \$25,895.85

Funds: Federal Title I (3.5330.050.418.000.000.00)

**GradPoint**

Total: \$12,521.25

Funds: At Risk (1.5310.069.418.000.000.00)

**2. Participate Learning Invoice**

Dr. Carter recommended approval of the invoice for Participate Learning. This will be paid from PRC 020 State Funds. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley, to approve Participate Learning invoice as presented in the amount of \$18,320.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Participate Learning \$18,320.00

Christian Rengifo Daza (Spanish / Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School)

Funds: PRC 020 (State funds)

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES**

- Bill Powell, Project Manager for Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School will be at the next meeting to provide an update of the high school construction. Concerns were shared that Mr. Powell

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**August 23, 2021**

should give updates monthly to the board in person or via Zoom. Dr. Carter will share this with Mr. Powell and he will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

- Open House at all schools was well attended and there were no issues with the mask requirements. Dr. Carter also noted that the landscaping at all schools looked very nice and the landscaping company has done a great job.

**V. REPORTS/UPDATES**

None at this time.

**VI. 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 after a five-minute break. Trudy Blackwell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**VII. OPEN SESSION**

Mel Battle 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 made a motion, seconded by Gladys Garland to approve the personnel listing as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

<b>Resignation</b>	
Central Office	Amy Chandler, Finance Officer = Eff. 7/29/21
NL Dillard Middle School	Allison Haran, 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science = Eff. 8/13/21
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Teresa Irvin, 9-12 EC Teacher = Eff. 8/17/21 (declined position)
Stoney Creek Elementary	David Chumley, Child Nutrition Mgr. (Eff. 9/2/21)
<b>Transfer</b>	
Oakwood Elementary	Felicia Crews, K-5 Teacher Asst. (moving from South Elementary) = Eff. TBD

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**August 23, 2021**

<b>Transfer</b>	
Maintenance / Central Office	Kathy Steele, Office Support III (moving from Office Support Elementary Curriculum) = Eff. 10/1/21
<b>Employment</b>	
NL Dillard Middle School	James Clark, 6-8 Phy. Ed. Teacher = Eff. 8/18/21
	Breana Lane, 6-8 CTE Teacher = Eff. 8/13/21
South Elementary	Katherine Dailey, K-5 Teacher = Eff. 9/16/21
	Morgan Gregory, K-5 Teacher = Eff. 8/13/21
	Brenda Dozier, Bus Driver = Eff. 8/23/21
Stoney Creek Elementary	Tracy Hughes, K-5 Teacher = Eff. 8/16/21
	Brianna McCandies, K-5 Teacher = Eff. TBD
Oakwood Elementary	Tawanna Graham-Badgett, Pre-K EC Teacher = Eff. 8/24/21
Bartlett Yancey Sr. High School	Kaminda Graves, 9-12 Special Ed. Teacher Asst. - Eff 8/13/21
	Jamara Lea, 9-12 Special Ed. Teacher Asst. = Eff. 8/13/21
North Elementary	Melissa Comalander, Bus Driver = Eff. 8/23/21
	Jennifer Wallace, Bus Driver = Eff. 8/23/21
<b>Substitutes</b>	
District	Shondra Coleman = Custodian Substitute for District = Eff. 8/16/21
	Nicole Royal, Bus Aide/Child Nutrition Asst. for District = Eff. 8/16/21
	Troy Nevells, Substitute Teacher = Eff. 8/24/21
	Elizabeth Pacifico, Substitute Teacher = Eff. 8/24/21
Summer Learning Program	Priscilla Trumpower (Bus Driver) (Name not included on the initial Summer Personnel listing)
	Celia Turner ((Bus Driver) (Name not included on the initial Summer Personnel listing)

## CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 23, 2021

### IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- Master Board Training = Topics were reviewed. Connie Kimrey will touch base with the North Carolina School Board Association to see what dates are available and inquire if courses can be combined along with what trainer is available.
- Touring Schools - Discussion took place regarding visiting the schools as in previous years. Due to Covid it was agreed to hold off; however, once things regain normalcy, the board would like to visit and have lunch. The question was addressed if a board member can visit a school individually. Dr. Carter shared she would like to accompany a board member(s) if they wish to visit a school or have lunch. Discussion took place on the reasoning of why a board member would like to visit a school individually.
- Scheduled Work Sessions - Discussion took place on holding regularly planned work sessions if there was enough information to merit meeting. It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would get together and bring back suggestions for dates to meet. All were in agreement to meet once a quarter for a work session.
- Bereavement Recognition - Considerable discussion took place on what to do for an employee in the loss of a loved one. Suggestions were submitted by a board member and discussion took place. Concerns shared included use of local funds to be used to pay for flowers, etc. Consistency was another concern and the logistics of handling this. Several suggestions were made by each board member on their thoughts and upon more discussion, it was agreed for each board member to submit their suggestions via email to the Chair and to Dr. Carter so they can bring back a plan to the board.
- Child Nutrition/Annual Leave Days - Dr. Carter reviewed information prepared by Child Nutrition Director Kim Mims. It included the cost of employees using annual leave time. Dr. Carter also shared numbers from the Child Nutrition Department balance and thankfully, at this time, no assistance from local fund balance has been requested; however, other districts have had to and this may need to be looked at in the future. Discussion took place regarding why there is a need for employees in this department to be allowed to use annual leave days when students are not in school.

Upon lengthy review and discussion, Dr. Carter recommended approval for child nutrition employees to utilize up to five (5) days of their accumulated annual leave per school year on non-student days using Local Fund Balance to reimburse the Child Nutrition Department. Vennie Beggarly moved, seconded by Trudy Blackwell to allow child nutrition employees to utilize up to five (5) days of annual (accumulated) leave per school year on non-student days using Local Fund Balance to reimburse the Child Nutrition Department. The motion carried 6-1 with Garland voting "No."

It was requested that a copy of the information that is given to child nutrition employees upon their employment be shared with the board.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 23, 2021

**X. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS**

- Concerns were shared regarding mowing and if coaches are allowed to mow. Dr. Carter shared that once they are trained they are allowed to mow their designated field(s). It was agreed that there would be a limited amount of people to be trained and they are to sign paperwork with terms and conditions of using the mower and completion of training.
- Clarification was asked if a board member can visit schools individually. Chair, Wayne Owen, suggested inquiring with the board attorney. Discussion continued and past history was shared.
- Concerns were shared regarding the traffic at North Elementary and use of driveways onto Highway 86. Dr. Carter shared that the North Carolina Dept. of Transportation (NCDOT) were going to handle this prior to Covid. At this time, State DOT funding has been halted.

Dr. Carter was asked to look into this issue as cars are not allowed to go around the front of the school (in the circle) anymore. Other concerns included the traffic flow at NL Dillard Middle School.

- Question was asked regarding the clear face mask and if they have been ordered. Dr. Carter shared that Mr. Tyrrell has some on hand and more on order as they are on a limited supply. Another question included if plexi-glass can be ordered/installed in the elementary levels, especially Kindergarten, to assist with phonics. Dr. Carter shared that plexi-glass is installed at the receptionist office areas. The masks are on hand and employees have the option to wear them. They are being used in many special education classes.

**XI. ADJOURN**

Tracy Stanley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m., Gladys Garland seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on September 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

---

Wayne Owen  
Chairman

---

Dr. Sandra Carter  
Superintendent