

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

December 17, 2020

Work Session Minutes

The Caswell County Board of Education met in a work session on Thursday, December 17, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Wayne Owen, Vice Chair Gladys Garland, Donna Hudson, Tracy Stanley, Mel Battle, Trudy Blackwell, and Vennie Beggarly. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter. Connie Kimrey recorded the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Owen at 9:00 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

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). Tracy Stanley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Donna Hudson moved, seconded by Gladys Garland, to return to Open Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Wayne Owen asked for recommendations from Dr. Sandra Carter on items discussed during closed session.

Dr. Carter recommended approval of Superintendent timeline with meeting time for one-on-one to occur in February/March, April/May, and June/July. Mel Battle moved, seconded by Donna Hudson to approve changes to Superintendent timeline as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

Board members requested an updated revised copy of the timeline.

Dr. Carter recommended payroll specialist position be removed from the classified pay scale and to receive a 1% pay step each year. Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley. A board member shared that she did not bring this topic up for discussion for everyone to get a raise; however, to make sure there was continuity and fairness and for that reason only. Upon no other discussion the motion carried 5-2 with Hudson and Beggarly voting "No."

Dr. Carter recommended approval of a bonus (formerly known as Christmas bonus) for employees in early January in the amount of \$300 for full time and \$200 for part time using money from fund balance. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Mel Battle to approve bonus in the amount of \$300 for full time and \$200 for part time using fund balance.

A board member asked if this could be in a separate check. Dr. Carter will provide a listing of employees prior to the checks being disbursed.

Upon no further questions, the motion carried unanimously.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

December 17, 2020
Work Session Minutes

A brief recess was taken for lunch.

Chair Wayne Owen reviewed dates for another work session in January. It was agreed upon to meet on January 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Owen asked board members to submit their topics to him or Dr. Carter and they will compile a listing as well as any other items you would like to discuss in January.

Professional Development for Board Members

Information was shared regarding training for board members and discussion took place. Dr. Carter was requested to find out more information from the North Carolina School Boards Association regarding the Master Board courses and bring back to the upcoming work session. It was also discussed to see if there are other opportunities from Chris Campbell.

\$50,000 Funds

Dr. Carter reviewed information regarding the \$50,000 from the commissioners and the possibility of setting up a scholarship with the Community Foundation or another source. Discussion was had regarding what direction the board would like to go in with either a scholarship or teacher mini grants. The consensus was to move ahead with a scholarship of some type and the advantages of putting the money into the foundation.

Dr. Carter recommended setting up a scholarship for students majoring in education. Donna Hudson moved, seconded by Gladys Garland to approve the recommendation.

Questions asked included: If the scholarship was singular, will it be part of the Community Foundation, and only for students majoring in education (not any student), will a stipulation be included they must return to Caswell County to teach and if that is even an option to include.

Upon no further questions, the motion to approve using the \$50,000 toward a scholarship for a student majoring in education was approved 6-1 with Stanley voting "No."

Chair Wayne Owen questioned if the board wanted to do something on their own or move forward with the Community Foundation. It was agreed that Dr. Carter will look into getting updated information and bring back to the January 11th board meeting.

Plaque for Bartlett Yancey Senior High School

Discussion took place on the wording for the plaque for the new high school. Various thoughts were discussed and reasoning of why or why not to include certain names.

Trudy Blackwell made a motion, seconded by Gladys Garland, to include current names for both Board of Education and Board of Commissioners on the plaque for the high school.

More discussion took place on rationale and it was shared there is no specific guidelines to follow as other plaques are different at each school. Dr. Carter made the suggestion of waiting until the last inspection is made. County Manager Bryan Miller has shared the information with his board.

CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

December 17, 2020

Work Session Minutes

Upon no further discussion, Trudy Blackwell withdrew her motion and Gladys Garland withdrew her motion.

The Board of Education will review this later upon closer completion of the high school.

Board of Education Travel

Discussion took place regarding the \$1500 allotment for board members. Questions were asked if that money can be carried over from year to year in order to have enough funds to attend a national conference. Consensus was that board members would like to change the policy and include that unused money could be carried over from year to year. Dr. Carter will bring back Board Policy # 504 to the January 11th meeting for a first reading.

P-Card holders and Users

Information was shared that included a list of all P-Card holders. A board member had requested this information and wanted to make sure that all purchases were being approved correctly. Upon discussion, it was agreed that the three newest board members would receive P-Card training. The P-Card requires many steps as far as approvals and accountability.

Broadcasting Meetings

Wayne Owen shared information regarding the board minutes. With virtual meetings the video has to be stored at some location. Also with written minutes they do not have to be verbatim and suggested if someone specifically wants what they said in the minutes to let Connie know.

Plans are for the January 11, 2021 meeting to be virtual unless technical complications arise.

Other

Discussion took place regarding an article in the local paper in which it shared that the high school athletics may be realigned. Concern was shared that the principal and athletic director need to attend the meetings to push for conference placement and they have the option to appeal. Per this article the realignment would change many of the teams we currently play.

ADJOURN

Gladys Garland moved, seconded by Donna Hudson to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Wayne Owen
Chairman

Dr. Sandra Carter
Superintendent