

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**January 13, 2020**

The Caswell County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 13, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building of Caswell County Schools. Members present: Chairman Gladys Garland, Donna Hudson, Ross Gwynn, Vennie Beggarly, Mel Battle, and Tracy Stanley. Others present include Superintendent Dr. Sandra Carter, Amy Chandler, Andrew Tyrrell, Debra Ferrell with the Caswell Messenger, Candace Detwiler, Carol Boaz, John Satterfield, Paul Robinson, Alice Robinson. Board Attorney Ron Bradsher was in attendance. Vice Chair Wayne Owen was absent. 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 Garland. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I. B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mel Battle moved, seconded by Donna Hudson, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2019 regular meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**I. C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**I. D. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements at this time. Dr. Carter reminded the board that recognition will be given at the next meeting for student artwork.

**I. E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Scott Cranston, 215 Hall Street, Reidsville, NC

Mr. Cranston requested the use of the NL Dillard football field for a potential semi-pro football league he is trying to organize. He needs to secure a place in order for him to pitch his proposal. This is a non-profit organization. Dr. Carter reviewed board policy # 820 with him and will get in touch with him to discuss further.

**II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consent Agenda

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

Transfer Request

School Year 2020/21

Briggs, III Larry Neal Caswell to Person County 4th

2. Policy # 740, Drug & Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

Assistant Superintendent, Andrew Tyrrell, shared updates to policy # 740 noting new section "I" which includes the following:

**COUNTY AND STATE OWNED VEHICLES**

Caswell County Public Schools will require all current employees, who either drive a county or state owned vehicle, to submit to an immediate medical examination, including alcohol and/or drug testing administered post-accident. They also must participate in the school district's administered random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow up testing for both alcohol and drugs held throughout the year. Any individual who tests positive for any amount of illegal drugs will be relieved from driving. In all cases of alcohol or drug use, the employee is subject to termination.

Upon no further questions, Dr. Carter recommended approval of first reading of Policy # 740, Drug & Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators, as presented. Donna Hudson moved, seconded by Tracy Stanley to approve first reading of Policy # 740, Drug & Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators, as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Policy # 740 will lie on the table for second reading.

3. Resolutions

Donna Hudson read aloud the resolutions for former employees, James Duke "J.D." Foster, Elizabeth "Lib" Parker McPherson, and Gladys Garland read loud the resolution for James Yancey Blackwell, Jr., who recently passed away. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Vennie Beggarly, to approve resolutions for James Duke "J.D." Foster, Elizabeth "Lib" Parker McPherson, and James Yancey Blackwell, Jr. The motion carried unanimously.

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation  
Of the Life of  
James Duke "J.D." Foster*



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**WHEREAS**, James Duke Foster, or often called "J.D.," was born on June 12, 1931, and resided in Ruffin, NC, at the time of his death on December 18, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, James Foster, was a faithful and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many and his family's welfare was his major and constant concern; and

**WHEREAS**, James Foster was a native of Caswell County living in the Bethesda Church Community all of his life; and

**WHEREAS**, James Foster graduated from Cobb High School and North Carolina State University. He remained a loyal NC State fan throughout his lifetime. He was a member of Bethesda Presbyterian Church where he served as an Elder. He was a Charter Member of the Casville Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the Cobb Ruritan Club, the North Carolina Cattleman's Association, and the American Legion and a US Army Veteran; and

**WHEREAS**, James Foster was a retired educator with Caswell County Schools. Mr. Foster could be very intimidating as a teacher; however, he was a kind man and only wanted the best for his students and for them to excel. James Foster served in many capacities while employed at Bartlett Yancey High School. He was well known as the "voice" of the Buccaneers. To this day, students still remember being in Mr. Foster's classroom and the knowledge and life experiences they received. 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 James Foster 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020.

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Gladys Garland, Chairman

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Wayne Owen, Vice Chairman

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Mel O. Battle

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Vennie Beggarly

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Ross Gwynn, Jr.

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Donna Hudson

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Tracy P. Stanley

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Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

*Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation  
Of the Life of  
Elizabeth "Lib" Parker McPherson*

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**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth "Lib" Parker McPherson, was born on April 29, 1929, and resided in Yanceyville, NC, until moving to Coble Health Center in Burlington, NC, at the time of her death on December 21, 2019, and

**WHEREAS**, Lib McPherson, was a faithful and loving mother, wife, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, and friend and her family's welfare was her major and constant concern; and

**WHEREAS**, Lib McPherson graduated from Hoke County High School and was the valedictorian of her class. In 1951 she earned a B.S. in Home Economics with a concentration in Nutrition from WCUNC (now UNCG). During her college years, she was a leader in Westminster Fellowship, and the Collegiate 4-H Club. Throughout her life, Lib was an avid supporter of the UNCG Alumni Association, and was awarded the Alumni Distinction Award in 2013; and

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**WHEREAS**, Lib McPherson was the first supervisor of School Nutrition Programs in Caswell County Schools. She sought opportunities to make a difference for nutrition for school children and this led to her election as president of NC School Nutrition Association (SNA). In 1992, the NC State recognized her contributions to benefit child nutrition. She served as SNA Southeast Regional Director, and then later at the national level, she served as SNA Treasurer, Vice-chair, President, and finally SNA Foundation President; and

**WHEREAS**, Lib dedicated her life to service to her family, her church, her community and her world. Her leadership skills, her amazing memory and love of learning, her strong faith and unwavering optimism, and her love of people enabled her to seize each day as an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people. Lib was truly a fixture of Caswell County Schools and is remembered today by the difference she made to Caswell County Schools; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of Lib McPherson and expresses its sympathy to her 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020.

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Gladys Garland, Chairman

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Wayne Owen, Vice Chairman

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Mel O. Battle

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Vennie Beggarly

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Ross Gwynn, Jr.

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Donna R. Hudson

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Tracy P. Stanley

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Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent

**Resolution in Memorial and Appreciation  
Of the Life of  
James Yancey Blackwell, Jr.**

**WHEREAS**, James Yancey Blackwell, Jr., was born on May 7, 1928, and resided in Yanceyville, NC, at the time of his death on January 4, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, James Blackwell, was a faithful and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many and his family's welfare was his major and constant concern; and

**WHEREAS**, James Blackwell lived his entire life in Caswell County. He attended Lees McRae College, where he was student body president, and graduated from UNC Chapel Hill. A well-known Caswell County Farmer, he was also a United States Army Veteran and a member of Bethesda Presbyterian Church where he was an Elder, a Sunday School teacher for over 50 years and a member of the church choir. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Annie Penn Hospital, a member of the Caswell County Family Medical Center Board, and the Board of Directors of Wachovia, First South Bank, and the American National Bank and Trust. He was also member of the VFW Post 7316 and American Legion Post 1981 in Yanceyville, NC. He served on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors and was a member of the Cobb Ruritan Club.

**WHEREAS**, James Blackwell was a past Vice-Chairman of the Caswell County Board of Commissioners and a long-time Chairman of the Caswell County Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, James Blackwell will be remembered by his Community and Board of Education for his leadership and his commitment to education by serving on the Board of Education as Chairman for many years to guide the school system in the right direction and putting the students of Caswell County first; and

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***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Caswell County Board of Education wishes to honor the memory of James Blackwell 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020.*

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*Gladys Garland, Chairman*

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*Wayne Owen, Vice Chairman*

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*Mel O. Battle*

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*Vennie Beggarly*

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*Ross Gwynn, Jr.*

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*Donna Hudson*

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*Tracy P. Stanley*

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*Dr. Sandra Carter, Superintendent*

**IV. REPORTS**

None at this time.

**V. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES**

Dr. Carter shared updates on the following:

- Bartlett Yancey High School renovations are moving along and staff members are working diligently in planning with Dewberry & Davis. The County Commissioners voted approval of the first stage for construction of a fieldhouse. The bid was awarded to Quality Construction. They are waiting for a finalized contract to come to them. The attorney questioned some of the wording in the contract. The revisions have been sent to their attorney for review. It was indicated that it would be ready and should be on the next Board of Commissioners agenda. Dr. Carter stated that we have received the certificate of review which gives the approval for funding and we are not above budget. The total amount includes the addition and contingency which is carried over with construction. As of now the commissioners have not determined if they are going with the USDA or bond financing. Mr. Battle questioned if Dr. Carter could share the verbiage in the contract that is being questioned or holding things up. Dr. Carter shared she did not have it; however, she could ask for it. Mr. Battle questioned if we have done everything on our end and Dr. Carter responded "Yes." Dr. Carter shared that the transfer of the deed has not been finalized; however, County Manager indicated they have everything they need. Dr. Carter attended the last commissioner meeting and the work session in hopes this would be on the agenda. She was told it should be on the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting agenda.

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- Dr. Carter shared she had met with Maintenance Director Jerry Hatchett on working on the NL Dillard Middle School vestibule to create a small entranceway to gain access from the media to make this more accessible from the inside of school. Supplies have been ordered and the maintenance department will take care of this once the supplies arrive.
- School vestibule updates were shared by David Useche, Chief Technology Officer. Mr. Useche shared that the Access Control system for the vestibules and exterior doors at NL Dillard and elementary schools are in progress. There are two components: the hardware portion is 95% complete and the software is 60%. There were some surprises with the doors in which the strikers did not fit and adjustments did not work; therefore, the strikers had to be removed and get Maglocks which required additional wiring. There was no additional cost. The cabling was installed and no cable is supposed to be exposed for security purposes; therefore, this took longer. The buzzer system is not operational as of yet due to the system being one in the same. The configuration must be completed in the server before we can turn the system on for buzzers. Once everything is ready new badges will be made for the keyless entry system. Originally the plan was to use the current badges database; however, the system is not compatible with our current badge making system or staff database. The plans are to work with the database system and use yearbook pictures of staff when applicable.

Donna Hudson expressed that the 90% and 60% were good but questioned what the estimated time would be for 100% completion. Mr. Useche shared that he plans to meet today and ask for a specific timeframe.

Tracy Stanley expressed that not all staff have a yearbook picture. Mr. Useche acknowledged that a new badge making system will be used for those who do not have current pictures. The new system will have two cameras for pictures.

### VI. CLOSED SESSION

Tracy Stanley 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. Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### VII. OPEN SESSION

Donna Hudson made a motion to return to open session. Tracy Stanley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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**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.

<b>Resignation</b>	
<b>Bartlett Yancey High School</b>	Patricia Murray, Bus Driver = Eff. 1/6/20
<b>Employment</b>	
<b>South Elementary</b>	David Anika, Custodian/Bus Driver = Eff. 1/14/20
<b>Oakwood Elementary</b>	Kayla Carter, Bus Driver = Eff. 1/14/20

Dr. Carter recommended approval of Lance Stokes to fill the vacant principal position at Bartlett Yancey Senior High School. Tracy Stanley moved, seconded by Donna Hudson to approve Lance Stokes as principal at Bartlett Yancey Senior High School. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carter acknowledged the interview committee who worked diligently on reviewing the applications and for their time, work, and diligence to select the best candidate for the high school. Those members include: Shannon Gammon, Lori Daniel, Kayla Gatewood, Asenith Enoch, John Irvin Satterfield, Donna Johnson, Alice Robinson, Andrew Tyrrell, Medina Jones, Nicole McGhee, and Dr. Sandra Carter.

Dr. Carter shared that Mr. Stokes agreed to meet at the high school today at 3:00 p.m. if he was approved by the board. Dr. Carter would like to immediately introduce him to the staff at the high school and invited all board members to attend. The interview committee was also invited to attend. There will be a community meet and greet planned in the near future.

**IX. COMMUNICATIONS**

Tracy Stanley shared that the BETA Club is working with Caswell County Pet Lifeline and would like to hold a quarter auction on March 7, 2020 and asked if permission could be granted for the use of the Large Professional Development room. No one was in objection.

**X. BOARD MEMBER OBSERVATIONS**

January 27, 2020 is the next board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Lunch at Stoney Creek Elementary

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**XI. ADJOURN**

Ross Gwynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m., Vennie Beggarly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caswell County Schools Administration Building.

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Gladys Garland  
Chairman

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Dr. Sandra Carter  
Superintendent