

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

The Webster County Board of Education held its regular meeting on February 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Linda Rogers, Mrs. Mary Hinman, Mr. Donald Brown, Mr. Jimmie Johnson, and Dr. Dorothy Y. Ingram, Superintendent were present. Mr. Landon Matthews was absent (Attending GSBA Training).

Mrs. Linda Rogers called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jimmie Johnson gave the invocation.

Mrs. Linda Rogers recognized visitors.

The tentative agenda was approved by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The December 2022 financial report was approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 10, 2023 (5:00 p.m.) work session minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 10, 2023 (6:00 p.m.) regular meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board appointed Mrs. Linda Rogers to serve as delegate for the GSBA Summer Conference 2023 by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved 3-1, with Mrs. Mary Hinman, Mr. Jimmie Johnson, and Mr. Donald Brown voting for the motion; Mrs. Linda Rogers abstained.

The Board appointed Mrs. Mary Hinman to serve as alternate for the GSBA Summer Conference 2023 by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved 3-1, with Mrs. Linda Rogers, Mr. Jimmie Johnson, and Mr. Donald Brown voting for the motion; Mrs. Mary Hinman abstained.

The Board approved the bond resolution and bond placement agreement by a motion made by Mrs. Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to open an account with Georgia fund 1 (investment account) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by a motion by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to enter into executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)) by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to exit out of executive session by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the action taken in executive session to amend the Superintendent's contract that extends the term of contract to June 30, 2026 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the 2023-2024 School Calendar by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the superintendent to give all employees a 3% bonus for the 2022-2023 school year by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to add basketball/cheerleading for grades 3-5 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to move Mrs. Debra Graham from a substitute teacher to a long-term substitute teacher by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to hire Mrs. Debra Adams as a substitute teacher (pending completion of background check) by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to hire Mr. David Kelly as a volunteer to assist with 3-5 basketball (background check completed) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved purchase of summer take-home backpacks from TCM-Teacher Created Materials in the amount of \$10,523.25 (ESSER III) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved purchase of K-5 Into Reading Curriculum-Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the amount of \$42,945.35 (ESSER III) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved purchase of new gym chairs and chair cart from DGS Sports in the amount of \$5,543.30 (Local Funds) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the standard form of agreement between owner (Webster County Board of Education) and Architect (SRJ Architects, Inc.) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Ingram presented the Superintendent's report and the CTAE report—Dr. Ingram commented the cafeteria completed its Procurement Review, held on January 23, 2023 (there were two required revisions and they have been revised). The closure letter for this review was received February 10, 2023 (handout). Webster County Schools was awarded the REI Technology Grant (\$100,000) at the January State Board of Education Meeting. This grant must be expended by June 30, 2024. ESPLOST deposit for January 2023 is in the amount of \$21,355.35 (handout). Mid-Year Allotment sheets are expected to be available by the end of February. Dr. Ingram further commented that she has received all Faculty/Staff "Intent to Return" forms for FY 24. As of now, everyone currently employed has indicated their return. Vacancies: High School Science, Middle School Science, and Special Education. Dr. Ingram will be

attending a teacher career fair at GSW on February 24, 2023. Harben, Hartley, and Hawkins announced the creation of the law firm of Pereira, Kirby, Kinsinger, & Nyguyen (handout). I am collaborating with the County Commissioner's Office (Mr. Darrell Holbrook) and the Georgia Department of Transportation in reference to adding a crosswalk and school zone flashers in the school Zone (handout). GSBA—Risk E-lert and Policy Alert (not issued); GSBA—RMS Safety Scenario for December 2022 (handout); GSBA—Policy Alert—January & February 2023 (handout). GSBA-Capitol Watch -FY23/24 Budget Proposal, Amended FY 22/23 Budget, Education Bills (handouts). The Department of Community Health is proposing a significant increase in the employer's share of health insurance from the current \$945 per month per employee to \$1,580. This would be an increase of \$635 more per employee. Whole Board training with Mr. Bill Sampson has been scheduled for March 13, 2023. All board members are required to attend and will earn 3 credit hours. (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.). Webster County School District received the 2023 GAEL Vision Award during the GAEL Winter Conference—January 22-24, 2023 for dedication to faculty and staff professional development (handout). Safety Conference will be held in Athens June 19-21, 2023 (handout). Dr. Ingram also commented on the Georgia Department of Health COVID-19 updates, attendance for students and employees, and student enrollment of students.

UPCOMING EVENTS—Board Meetings: March 14, 2023 is Work Session at 5:00 p.m. and Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Events: February 16—Sports Banquet—5:30 pm March 2—Safety & Cyber Security Stem—6:00 pm March 8—Preparing for the GMAS—6:00 p.m. March 10–12 FBLA State—Atlanta GA March 18 -Bass Fishing– West Point, GA Holidays: President's Day—Feb. 20 Spring Break—March 20-24.

CTAE report—Dr. Ingram commented on receiving an additional \$305 in CTAE Carryover Funds (funds have been budgeted and approved by DOE). Dr. Ingram is working with Ms. Hill to ensure meeting local CTAE Match in the amount of \$4459 or more. Currently, CTAE Program Improvement local funds have matched in the amount of \$3,049.63. Dr. Ingram commented that at least an additional \$1,409.37 must be spent to remain in compliance with Federal Perkins V guidelines. Spring CTAE Advisory Committee meeting is March 16, 2023. Dr. Ingram attended the CTAE Director's Winter Conference February 8-10, 2023 in Marietta, GA. CTAE Month is scheduled for February 2023. We are recognizing outstanding CTAE students, reading a CTAE Fact each month, and ending the month with our Annual College and Career Fair on February 24th. Perkins Plus grant is due February 24th. FBLA competed in the Region Tournament on January 25th at Shaw High School and 3 students placed to compete at the State Leadership Conference in Atlanta on Mach 10-12, 2023. FBLA received a \$1000 grant from DOE and it will be used to pay expenses for the State Leadership Conference in March.

Title I report—Federal Programs: Mrs. Sterling commented that she is continuing to work with Mrs. Swain ensure that all of the Title Funds are being spent to provide the best opportunities for WCS students. WCS has submitted the application for the FY 2023 Small Rural School Achievement Grant—WCS is eligible to receive \$9,684. The U.S. Department of Education will issue awards on or after July 1, 2023. Curriculum: WCS Math Team is currently reviewing several products to ensure alignment with the new Georgia Math Standards. Mr. Sterling further commented that it is their goal to provide an aligned curriculum for WCS students in grades Kindergarten through 12. WCS Reading Team has finalized their decision for WCS K-8 aligned Reading curriculum. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's Into Reading, with hopes of WCS Board of Education approving this request for classes to begin FY'24 school term with the new curriculum! WCS Science Team is reviewing various products to align WCS Science curriculum. Mrs. Sterling attended the Curriculum Directors meeting at RESA on Monday, February 13, 2023 and STEM/STEAM meeting on Feb. 14, 2023—Information will be redelivered to all Administrators and specific Program Team leaders for them to follow up accordingly. Testing: WCS has completed all of our MOY testing. (STAR, BEACON and DIBELS) Teachers' summary data reports are due this Friday. Upcoming Events: February 21st is Beta Induction at 6 p.m. Cafeteria; March 2nd is Safety and Cyber Security STEM night @ 6 p.m. for grades K-8; March 7th is Mr. Willie Greene: (PD) School Climate 3:30-4:30 p.m. Cafeteria; March 8th is Parent/Student GA Milestones Study Tips @ 6 p.m. Cafeteria;

March 14th & March 15th: (PD) Bari Geeslin: Effective Classroom Mgmt 3:30-4:30 p.m. Media Center; Spring Break is March 20th - 24th; March 27th-31st is Book Fair in the Media Center.

Mrs. Balish presented the Principal's Report and Special Education Report—Mrs. Balish commented she is working with Ms. Hill on the Maintenance of Effort report and plan to be completed very soon (this is a yearly report that is used by any school that receives IDEA funds-it shows the amount of funds provided matched against the amount of funds used to educate students with disabilities). Mrs. Balish further commented it's that time of year when many IEPs come up for annual review, and that she has been sitting in as LEA on any meetings possible. The meetings are going very well, and Webster County Schools are in compliance with all IEPs at this time. Mrs. Balish commented that the LEA Determination Chart for FY'23 is available now. This contains data from the 2021-22 school year. It is our form of a department report card. Everything looks good all the way down to timely and accurate data. Since receiving this report, Mrs. Balish contacted the program manager for the state of Georgia, Linda Castellanos, and she has provided the guidance needed to correct this score. Also, Mrs. Balish will have WCS District Liaison, Carla Carter, to provide guidance throughout the year to provide assistance where needed. The overall score is 88.89% - planning for next year to have a perfect score across the board.

Special Education— The Bobcats finished up the basketball season, now, beginning baseball and track. The WCS students have already begun practicing for the new seasons. Mrs. Balish attended the Governor's Leadership Academy held at the Griffin, Georgia RESA. Later in January, Mrs. Balish attended the Chattahoochee Flint RESA's Principal Academy (both were great learning experiences). WCS held their REACH Scholarship signing celebration-the 2 selected for the new REACH Scholarship recipients were Devin Richardson and Melva Williams. Mrs. Balish commented, "We are proud of them and hope we gave them a good start to their future college careers." WCS held the second computer check-out for chrome books and hotspots (this was to allow anyone who missed "round one" to have a chance to come in and pick up computers for their children). Mrs. Balish also commented, "We were glad to see about 10 additional parents come in for this event." The Bobcats had a Q2 Pizza Passing Party in January which was a big success. Students were eligible to come to the celebration if they passed all subjects at the time of their quarter 2 report cards (one hundred seventy-four students attended). Quarter three report cards came out yesterday (Feb. 13, 2023).

(No Public Comments)

The meeting was adjourned by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was carried unanimously.

Time Adjourned: 7:21 p.m.

Prepared By: Regina T. Dotts

Approved: 3/14/2023