

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

The Webster County Board of Education held its regular meeting on November 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.

Mrs. Linda Rogers called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jimmie Johnson gave the invocation.

(No Visitors Present)

The tentative agenda was approved with the amendment of making a correction on the total for #17 to be \$20,568.95 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The September 2023 financial report was approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The October 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 October 10, 2023 (6:00 p.m.) regular meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

(No Public Comments)

The first reading of GCIC/CJIS Applicant Privacy Rights Notification Policy GAKK(4) took place at this time. Additional information will be available at the second reading.

The Board approved the Title I-A FY'24 Budget by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the Title II-A FY'24 Budget by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the Title IV-A FY'24 Budget by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to purchase student computers—15 computers and 15 monitors from Gov Connection, Inc. in the amount of \$15,910.95 (SRSA Grant) by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to purchase shatterproof film from Americus Glass in the amount of \$32,548.30 (School Safety Funds - Governor Kemp) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the installation of two poles by the Georgia Power Company (one at the Board office and one in front of school) for internet reconnection in the amount of \$8,899.00 (Local Funds) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved MTC to reconnect internet services to the Webster County Board of Education's office in the amount of \$23,053.00 (Local Funds) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved Johnson Electronic Systems, Inc. to install additional cameras in the amount of \$10,450.00 (REI-Safety Grant) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The board approved to pay SRJ Architects, Inc. for architect fees in the amount of \$20,568.95 (bond construction funds account) 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 Dr. Everett Byrd as a substitute teacher (pending completion of background check) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approved the personnel recommendation of the superintendent to hire Sergeant Tavius Lee, Georgia Army National Guard, as a substitute teacher (pending completion of background check) by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the addition to 2023-2024 supplements (due to a change in duties-memo dated 11/14/2023) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion on the numeric score on the Georgia milestone EOC and the percentage of the student's final numeric grade in the course assessed by the Georgia milestones EOC took place at this time.

The Board approved for the numeric score on the Georgia milestone EOC to count for 20% (no change) of the student's final numeric grade in the course assessed by the Georgia milestones EOC by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Ingram presented the Superintendent's report and the CTAE report—2022 ESPLOST deposit for the end of October 2023 was \$22,412.21 (handout). GSBA handouts were presented to Board members on Risk E-lert for November 2023, RMS Safety Scenario for October 2023-not

available, Policy Alert for October 2023, RMS Bus Safety Scenario for October 2023, Capitol Watch/Opinion for November 2023-State Board meeting agenda. Handouts were also presented to Board members on GAEL and GA DOE 2023-2024 Legislative Priorities. Facilities Update: The school generator is being repaired (have access to one of the rentals until repairs are done). The Curriculum/Academics/Testing GSAPS Analysis was held today by GA DOE—feedback in two weeks from GA DOE. Dr. Ingram and Mrs. Sterling attended Cognia Conference November 9-10th. FACS suggested a quarterly Honors Day and a Perfect Attendance Recognition—November 13th. Dual Enrollment registration for Spring 2024 will be held November 27th and Senior Apply to College Day is November 17th. Content Mastery and Closing Gaps components of the 2023 CCRPI embargoed. Dr. Ingram and Mrs. Balish attended the Fall Legal Issues conference virtually November 1-3. Ms. Hill and Mrs. Dotts attended the GASBO Conference in Augusta, GA last week. Help a Child Smile Dental bus was on campus November 13th. Dr. Ingram will be attending a Planning, Funding, and Budget meeting in Houston County November 15th and November 16th. WCS student advisory members for RESA attended the Board of Controls meeting with Dr. Ingram today at South Georgia Technical College. Handouts were provided to Board members on middle and high school basketball schedules. WCS received first shipment of books from the First Reader program sponsored by the Webster County Family Connections office for WCS Pre-K students. Upcoming Events—Next Board Meetings: December 12, 2023 (Work Session 5:00 p.m., Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.). Events: Apply to College Day is December 17th, Caroling on the Square is December 7th (6:00 p.m.), Doughnuts with Dads is December 13th, Holiday Program is December 14th (6:00 p.m.). District Holiday: Thanksgiving Break is November 20-24th. Dr. Ingram highlighted on student enrollment, attendance, COVID updates.

CTAE: Dr. Ingram commented that she attended the Regional CLNA Business and Industry Planning meeting on November 8th (virtually) with Sumter, Lee, Schley, and Marion counties. Spring plugs are being ordered soon for the FFA Spring plant sale—all work has been completed on the greenhouse). Nine FBLA members participated in the FBLA Fall Leadership Conference on November 7th at Columbus Iron Works Convention Center. FBLA membership consists of 20 members (high school). FFA is sending in dues to officially reactivate Webster's FFA Chapter. FFA trip for Floriculture CDE is November 14th in Tifton at ABAC (4 students). FFA trip for Vet Science/Creed Speaking is November 28th at Irwin County High School (5 students). FFA membership consists of 95 members (middle and high school). WBL: Mr. Baker is currently working with his work-based learning students.

Mrs. Balish presented the Principal's report and the Special Education report— The REACH Program was held on October 11 for grades 6th through 8th. The awards were presented to Jamier Moses and Sincere Colbert. Previous REACH Scholars were present for pictures and the high school choir rendered one selection. Nic's Kicks met with 6th - 8th grade students to provide a lesson on finances and responsibilities. The faculty had a meeting afterschool on October 19th (highlights: the computer app for PBIS points is up and running—the teachers have been sending in their ideas for rewards as students earn points). Dr. Ingram and Mrs. Balish took the van up to the courthouse for Halloween Trunk or Treating (so many kids from Webster and surrounding counties were present). WCS had a float in the Old Tyme Country Fair this year (WCS cheerleaders and athletes rode along with Dr. Ingram, Mrs. Balish, and Ms. Crimes to

throw candy and celebrate our school). Mr. Aaron Schroeder, school maintenance director, volunteered to drive the tractor for the float—appreciated his help. STEM night along with Open House was a great success. There was a huge crowd that stayed to participate in experiments and science fun. Homecoming was held November 10th against Furlow Academy from Americus. This kicked off the basketball season with a win for both boys and girls teams. The homecoming court was presented at halftime of the boys' game. Talia Jones and Taylor Bass were crowned as our new King and Queen. The following night, WCS held its Homecoming Dance at the school this year (a big turnout and all the students had a great time). WCS had a visit from the GSAPS team (interviewed teacher leaders, administrators, and visited classrooms). After combining their findings and breaking down the data collected, the team will get with WCS Superintendent and Principal through a virtual meeting to report of how the school is performing. The whole premise of the visit was to help us optimize performance when it comes to educating our students. We hope to get valuable feedback that we can use to make adjustments and improvements throughout the school. Mrs. Balish announced to the Board members that she hope they will attend some of the Bobcats' basketball games this season.

Special Education: Mrs. Balish commented that she has completed the budget revisions for this year and waiting for GADOE to approve everything (sent a reminder today to our Georgia Finance Manager for this region that everything has been submitted and eager to get things moving). An issue came up regarding the robot that was purchased a couple years ago (specifically for students with special needs such as autism). It turns out that the company we purchased the original robot and software from was not on the up and up—would not boot up (customer service was contacted). The manufacturing company was soon located, and it was discovered that the robot was made in London by Lexis. Lexis was contacted about the matter, and they felt the need to send the school the latest robot and software at no cost at all. Lexis is also going to provide any training needed to get everything up and running. This robot is able to recognize different students and call them by name, interact through conversation, and teach standards based special education life skills lessons. Plans are in place to begin working on the life skills room as soon as the budget is approved.

Mrs. Sterling presented the Title I report—Webster County Schools has been approved for the Title Funding for the FY 2023-2024 school year (Federal Program Grants received for FY 2024—Title I-A: \$143,943—Title II-A: \$20,686—Title IV-A: \$10,983). Curriculum: Cognia Accreditation conference was held November 9th and 10th. Mrs. Sterling and Dr. Ingram were able to attend various sessions in order to become more familiar with the process (hope to receive notification soon regarding the official start date as well as the Cognia representative). Eleot is an observation tool used by Cognia to determine the level of student engagement. A copy of the form has been provided to the teachers and the administrators are referencing the form during walkthrough evaluations. Mrs. Sterling is awaiting information from Cognia regarding eleot certification for administrators. eleot observation tool. Testing: MOY: STAR testing: November 13th – 17th.

The Board approved to adjourn by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

Time Adjourned: 6:36 p.m.
Prepared By: Regina T. Dotts
Approved: 12/12/2023