

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

The Webster County Board of Education held its regular scheduled meeting on September 12, 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.

Mrs. Linda Rogers recognized the visitors.

The tentative agenda was approved with the amendment of adding to the agenda—#7 Approve SRJ Architects, Inc. Fees in the Amount of \$8308.95 (Bond Construction Funds)—by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

The August 8, 2023 (5:00 p.m.) work session minutes were approved by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The August 8, 2023 (6:00 p.m.) regular meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The August 17, 2023 (9:00 a.m.) special called meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Pastor Robert Orr from Macedonia Baptist Church of Preston, GA spoke at this time. He highlighted on the support they have for Webster County Schools. Mrs. Rachel Speegle also highlighted that they (Macedonia Baptist Church Family) organized an outreach committee to provide assistance throughout the community. The Church Family thanked the Webster County Board of Education for their service to the community and presented treats; they are praying for a safe and successful school year.

The Board approved SRJ Architects, Inc. fees in the amount of \$8308.95 (Bond Construction Funds) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The first reading of Investment Earnings Board Policy—Descriptor Code DFL took place at this time.

The first reading of Governmental/Agency Funds within Schools Board Policy—Descriptor Code (*blank*) took place at this time.

The first reading of GASB 87 Board Policy—Descriptor Code (*blank*) took place at this time.

The Board approved the addition to supplements for 2023-2024 due to a change in duties (Memo Dated September 12, 2023) 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 as well as the CTAE report:

Superintendent's Report—Dr. Ingram presented the Board members with handouts (discussed in work session).

CTAE Report—In the process of reviewing the CLNA and prioritizing the needs of the CTAE Program. Ms. Stephens and Ag students planted ferns. Ag students participated in the Ag Region Rally in Moultrie on September 7, 2023. WBL: Mr. Baker currently has three (3) students enrolled in WBL for 2023-2024. Gas & Go and Merritt's. He has four (4) students pending for enrollment. Mr. Baker has met Dollar General and Gas N Go. DUAL ENROLLMENT: Fall 2023 enrollment SGTC: Twelve (12) 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> students participating. PROBE Fair—GSW, Americus, GA – 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders – September 28, 2023.

Mrs. Balish presented the Principal's report as well as the Special Education's report:

Principal's report—Administrators finished working on the School Safety Plan. After a review with the Emergency Department Heads from Webster County, the plan was approved and given to Cody Brown for submission to GEMA. Since then, GEMA has issued approval and the plan has been thoroughly reviewed with faculty and staff. Preplanning was a success—had lots of workshop classes (Ethics Training, TKES Evaluations Class, Teacher Handbook Training, etc). Tomorrow, Dr. Ingram and Mrs. Balish will be attending the Teacher Retention meeting at Chattahoochee Flint RESA. Mrs. Balish commented, "We are very fortunate to have a supportive community that provided us with donations of school supplies and clothing." Donations came in from Preston Baptist Women's Mission, the Moose Lodge in Leesburg, Dr. Ingram's Sorority Zeta Phi Beta, and Macedonia Baptist Church—we appreciate all the support provided by our stakeholders. Open House was a great success—many people were present this year. During Open House, there were tables set up for school related sign-ups such as registration and bus route. Members of the Webster County community set up tables such as the Health Department, DFCS, Citizens Bank, Family Connections, Merritt Pecan Company, Adams Family Pharmacy, and Interfor—donated water bottles for all the students. PBIS Kick-Off is in the making very soon. Mrs. Balish commented, "We are working hard to encourage positive behavior in students every day; Mr. McCullough is taking control of planning—doing a great job; and we have had many reports from teachers stating how much they like the increased positivity in the building this year—we are prepared for our best school year yet."

Special Education's Report—Since the beginning of the school year, Mrs. Balish and her special education team has divided caseloads into balanced groupings and all students are being served

with appropriate services. Directors' webinars have begun. Mrs. Balish attended a meeting today and received a great deal of information about upcoming deadlines and preparation for Maintenance of Effort. Thursday and Friday of this week, Mrs. Balish will be attending the Albany, Georgia GLRS meeting about the Special Education Budget and Data Tools Workshop. Draw-downs for 2022-2023 have been completed and the special education budget is closed out for last school year.

Mrs. Sterling presented the Title I report— Curriculum: Reading K-5 is using the new HMH curriculum. Math K-12 is using the new curriculum. TKES Pre evaluation conferences will be held this week. Six GSW students scheduled to complete required hours of training next week. Federal Programs: Working towards closing out FY'23 budgets by September 30<sup>th</sup>—currently identifying and reviewing the allocations for all FY'24 funds.

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

Time Adjourned: 6:16 p.m.  
Prepared By: Regina T. Dotts  
Approved: 10/10/2023