

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

The Webster County Board of Education held its regular meeting on February 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Linda Rogers, Mrs. Mary Hinman, Mr. Donald Brown, Mr. Jimmie Johnson, Mr. Landon Matthews, and Dr. Dorothy Y. Ingram, Superintendent were present.

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 adding to the agenda—#6 Approve the location of the High School Prom at the Plains Community Center—by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

The January 9, 2024 (5:00 p.m.) work session minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 9, 2024 (6:00 p.m.) regular meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Landon Matthews, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 26, 2024 (4:30 p.m.) special called meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the location of the Webster County High School Prom at the Plains Community Center by a motion made by Mr. Landon Matthews, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

(No Public Comments)

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 Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

(No Action Taken In Executive Session)

The Board approved the updated Board Policy GASB 87 Descriptor Code (blank) by a motion made by Mr. Landon Matthews, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved to keep the Board of Education voting districts the same as voted on February 8, 2022 by motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Landon Matthews. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the Local School Board of Education Code of Ethics Resolution 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 move Dr. Everett Byrd from a substitute teacher to a 49% teacher for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year 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 accept the resignation of Mrs. Ann Swain (49% Administrator), effective June 30, 2024 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Ms. Lamarra Fletcher (School Counselor), effective June 30, 2024 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Landon Matthews. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation/retirement of Mrs. Regina Dotts (Human Resources Director—Payroll/Benefits), effective June 30, 2024 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation/retirement of Mrs. Brenda Cox (Student Records Clerk), effective December 31, 2024 by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Landon Matthews. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Ms. Brenda Crimes (Full-Time Custodian), effective June 30, 2024 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Ms. Adrian Searcy (Part-Time Custodian), effective November 29, 2024 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to give a 3% bonus to employees in February of 2024 by a motion made by Mrs. Mary Hinman, seconded by Mr. Jimmie Johnson. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to give a bonus to employees in March of 2024 (\$2,000 for full-time and \$1,000 for part-time with ESSER III Funds) by a motion made by Mr. Jimmie Johnson, seconded by Mr. Landon Matthews. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to give a retention bonus to employees in May of 2024—employees who are returning for the entire 2024-2025 school year—(\$2,000 for full-time and \$1,000 for part-time with ESSER III Funds) by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hinman. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Ingram presented the Superintendent's report and the CTAE report (discussed in work session)—Dr. Ingram commented that the 2022 ESPLOST deposit for the end of January 2024 was \$23,809.89 (handout). Webster County was awarded the Safer Schools Grant in the amount of \$196,070.00. Handouts were presented for GSBA—Risk E-lert February 2024, GSBA—RMS—Emergency Checklist Topics, GSBA—RMS-Bus Safety Scenario, GSBA—Policy Alert—January and February 2024, Webster County Extension 4-H January 2024 Report, GSBA-Capitol Watch—Day 18, and State Board Meeting—January 11, 2024 (Next Meeting February 15-16, 2024). Webster County Schools received the GAEL

Vision Award Banner at Winter GAEL in January for taking advantage of GAEL membership and encouraging professional development. Facilities Update: Governor Kemp's Security Funds have been used to provide additional lighting outside of the school to lighten up dark areas to provide more security. Curriculum/Academics/Testing: Special Education report dated 1/26/24 GADOE determined that Webster County Schools has no significant disproportionality, disproportionate representation or significant discrepancy. STAR Banquet is March 4th at 6:00 p.m., Columbus State University—Two (2) Star Students. Local End -Of-Year Testing was presented (handout). Webster County Schools is preparing for Georgia Milestones, March 5, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. (3rd-9th grade and 9th-12th grade). Board Goal Setting Training will be held on March 25, 2024. GDOT Bridge Replacement—CR 123/Churchill Road @ Kinchafoonee Creek. Dr. Ingram commented that she will attend the RESA Superintendent Support Collaborative Meeting on February 13, 2024 at Albany High School, Albany, Georgia. Also, Dr. Ingram will attend the RESA Board of Controls Meeting on February 20, 2024 at Sumter County High School, Americus, Georgia. Next Board Meetings: March 12, 2024 (Work Session at 5:00 pm, Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Events: February—CTAE Month, February 9th—Spring /Sports/Club Pictures, February 12th—Q3 Progress Reports, February 28th—SGTC STEM Mobile Lab (Grades 6-12), February 29th—College and Career Fair, March 5th—Preparing for GA Milestone Assessment (5:30 p.m.). District Holidays: February 19th—President's Day, March 18-22nd—Spring Break. Dr. Ingram commented on the Georgia Department of Health COVID-19 updates, attendance for students and employees, and student enrollment of students.

CTAE report—Dr. Ingram commented that she attended the CTAE Directors Winter Conference February 7-9th in Marietta, GA. Dr. Ingram is working on the CLNA and using a variety of sources (surveys, stakeholder meetings, and labor market data, etc) to help determine the overarching needs. The CLNA is due May 10, 2024. CTAE Month is February and celebrating with CTSO Weeks, SGTC STEM Mobile Lab, College and Career Fair, and CTAE fact of the day. FBLA Week is February 12-16, 2024 (List of Events Presented to Board Members). South Georgia Technical College STEM Mobile Lab will be on campus February 28, 2024 for grades 6-12. College and Career Fair will be held February 29, 2024. FFA Week was very successful last week (students enjoyed dress-up days, FFA games, Georgia Mobile Diary, and FFA Farm Day. Local Risk Assessment report is due February 15, 2024. Perkins Plus V Grant is due February 29, 2024 (Continuing to Spend Allocated CTAE Funds). WBL: Mr. Baker is currently working with his work-based learning students. He is exploring options to encourage students to enroll in the program next year. WBL Annual Report is due to the CTAE Director by April 18, 2024.

Mrs. Balish presented the Principal's Report and Special Education Report. Q2 has been completed and rapidly moving through Q3. Juniors and seniors attended the Martin Luther King Convocation at GSW followed by a trip to Monroe's. Teachers and administrators held its Mid-Year Conference. This is when the administrators meet with the faculty to make sure goals are on track before beginning their last evaluations of the year (focusing more on data and trying to be diligent about applying it on a regular basis). Mr. Willie Greene returned to continue highlighting on Mental Illness (Mrs. Sterling may have more information). Paraprofessionals attended a workshop in Americus at SGTC held by RESA (very beneficial and the paraprofessionals returned with great activities).

Special Education Report: Mrs. Balish commented that Mr. James McCullough and Mrs. Jamie McCullough will attend Mindset Training. This is a class on de-escalation of student situations before the situation gets out-of-control. It helps students with anger issues, agitation, etc. Part 2 of the training is to certify the teachers to be able to restrain a student as an absolute last resort. The two (2) Mindset Certified employees at WCS are part of a small group here, Train the Trainer, which means they can certify others in Mindset and restraint, if needed. Mrs. Balish also commented that the lead Special Education teacher was sent to a workshop in Macon called SELDA (features special education centered classes that teach a wide variety of skills from GAA to aide in completing some of the Special Education required paperwork—returned with great information). The disproportionality report has been received and WCS

is 100% in compliance again. Mrs. Balish will continue to work with the Special Education Team on spending budgeted funds in the best way possible.

Title I Report (Dr. Ingram shared the report received from Mrs. Sterling)—Federal Programs: Budget allocations and spending are reviewed monthly. We continue to work closely with Finance and Human Resources to ensure accuracy and efficiency. All of our Faculty/ Staff and most students have taken the Health Survey. We are in the process of identifying approximately 15 students that have not taken the survey. The survey is also on the school website for parents. We will allow parents who attend the KISS Family Engagement event on February 14, 2024 to complete the survey at that time. Surveys must be completed before March 1, 2024. Professional Development: February 5th—Sterling held a PD for all certified teachers on the Student Observation tool (eleot) which is used by Cognia during the reaccreditation process. February 6th—Mr. Willie Greene of Middle Flint, Americus presented Part 2: Mental Diagnoses that Impact Student Learning. Faculty and staff learned a lot. Feb. 23rd—James McCullough and Deidre Sterling will attend the Teacher Career Fair at GSW from 10-2:00 p.m. Angie Brunson, Math Specialist of CF RESA will provide PD for our 3rd-12th grade math teachers on February 26th and March 27th regarding the new math standards in preparation of EOG/EOC Milestones testing. Assessments: STAR: EOY: February 20 - 23, 2024 DIBELS: EOY: February 26 - March 1, 2024 Administrators: Administrators are in the process of completing TKES Mid-Year Conferences.

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

Time Adjourned: 7:39 p.m.
Prepared By: Regina T. Dotts
Approved: 3/12/2024