

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 10, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.

The Webster County Board of Education held its regular meeting on February 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Linda Rogers, Mr. Donald Brown, Dr. Sophronia Thompkins, Ms. LaToya Riggins, Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, and Mrs. Janie S. Downer, Superintendent/Principal were present.

Mrs. Linda Rogers called the meeting to order.

Dr. Sophronia Thompkins gave the invocation.

Mrs. Linda Rogers recognized visitors.

Ms. LaToya Riggins motioned to add to the agenda—executive session for discussion on personnel—seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved 3-2, with Ms. LaToya Riggins, Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, and Dr. Sophronia Thompkins voting for the motion; Mr. Donald Brown and Mrs. Linda Rogers opposed. There being no discussion, the tentative agenda was approved with the amendment of adding to the agenda—executive session for discussion on personnel--by a motion made by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, seconded by Dr. Sophronia Thompkins. The motion was approved 3-2, with Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, Dr. Sophronia Thompkins, and Ms. LaToya Riggins voting for the motion; Mrs. Linda Rogers and Mr. Donald Brown opposed.

The January 2014 financial report was approved by a motion made by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, seconded by Mrs. LaToya Riggins. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 13, 2014 regular meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Dr. Sophronia Thompkins. The motion was approved unanimously.

The January 21, 2014 special called meeting minutes were approved by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. 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 by a motion made by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, seconded by Ms. LaToya Riggins. The motion carried 3-2, with Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, Ms. LaToya Riggins, and Dr. Sophronia Thompkins voting for the motion; Mrs. Linda Rogers and Mr. Donald Brown opposed.

The Board approved to exit out of executive session by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Dr. Sophronia Thompkins. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jacquilla Scott addressed the Board. She had concerns regarding a newspaper article that highlights a Webster County school bus accident on December 19, 2013 and the reason why only some of the Board Members were contacted about the accident. She also had a concern regarding substitute drivers' training completion along with the bus care.

Janet Bush addressed the Board. She stated that she would like to continue last month's addressing she made to the Board. She stated that choices should be made for the benefit of students rather than personal feelings.

Phil Addy addressed the Board. He had concerns regarding some of the Board members having interest in a bus driver record rather than educating the children. He announced that SACS is working closely with investigating the actions of the Board; some of the Board members have personal agendas and need to be removed from their positions.

Billy Bearden addressed the Board. He had concerns regarding some of the Board members having personal agendas and no interest for the school or children; Board members should resign.

Wayne Dillard addressed the Board. He highlighted on Code of Ethics. He also commented that SACS is looking at the liability of the Board members-elected officials.

Bill Minick addressed the Board. He commented on another ad in the newspaper regarding good things happening at the Webster County School. After the comments were made regarding this matter, he commented that he 1<sup>st</sup> heard about school bus incidents, 2<sup>nd</sup> heard about the Superintendent's problem with the Board, and 3<sup>rd</sup> heard about the Board not following Superintendent's recommendation to terminate a bus driver—no one is above the law.

The Board approved the superintendent's recommendation to allow FBLA officers and Mr. Michael Baker to attend the state convention in Atlanta by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Ms. Latoya Riggins. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved George Herring's employment resignation letter (Retirement Effective 6/30/14) by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire John Greene as administrator (Elementary/Middle-12 months) for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Dr. Sophronia Thompkins. The motion was approved 4-1, with Mr. Donald Brown, Dr. Sophronia Thompkins, Ms. LaToya Riggins, and Mrs. Linda Rogers voting for the motion; Mr. Nehemiah Stevens abstained.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Dorothy Crimes as Administrator (High School-12 months) for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire LeAnne Eason Smith as Administrator (Curriculum/Programs-12 months) for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Michael Batts as Athletic Director /P.E. Teacher-11 month for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, seconded by Dr. Sophronia Thompkins. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Derrmaris Battle as Alternative Education/Credit Recovery Director-11 months for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Marcia Roberts as Media Specialist-11 months for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Staci Israel as Counselor for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens, seconded by Mr. Donald Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to rehire Angela Sims as Speech Therapist-contracted for 2014-2015 by a motion made by Mr. Donald Brown, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Downer presented the Superintendent's report. Mr. John Greene presented the Special Education Report. Mrs. Downer presented the Title I Report prepared by Mrs. LeAnne Eason.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion made by Ms. LaToya Riggins, seconded by Mr. Nehemiah Stevens. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Approved 3/17/2014**