

Talbot County Board of Education  
Board Meeting  
December 13, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.  
Central Elementary/Middle/High School  
Board Room

The Talbot County Board of Education met in regular session on December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mrs. Mildred Biggs, Chairperson (D5); Mrs. Julia Leonard, Vice Chair, (D1); Mr. James Steverson, (D2); Mrs. Sharleta Hall, (D3); Ms. Nikki Waller (D4).

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Mildred Biggs at 6:00 p.m.
- Chair Mildred Biggs led the Moment of Silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Mildred Biggs.
- A motion was made by Ms. Nikki Waller to approve the December 13, 2023 agenda, seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0
- A motion was made by Mr. James Steverson to approve the November 7, 2023 and November 14, 2023 board minutes, seconded by Ms. Nikki Waller. 5-0-0
- **Action Items from Superintendent**  
*Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent*

**1. School Food Service**

*Mr. Torrence Freeman*

**Food Service Report for November 30, 2023**

- Budget- \$659,000.00
- Expended- \$206,776.98
- Obligated- -0-
- Balance- \$454,223.02
- Percentage Spent - 45%                      Percentage Remaining - 55%

Food Service received a score of 100 on their inspection by the Department of Public Health.

**2. Financial Report for November 30, 2023**

*Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO*

- Budget- \$8,855,631.62
- Expended- \$2,211,443.64
- Obligated – (\$424,014.69)
- Balance - \$6,644,187.98
- Percentage Spent- 24.98%                      Percentage remaining- 75.02%

The SPLOST schedule has been published in the local paper as a requirement of GaDoe.

- **Curriculum Update**

*Mrs. Cynthia Epps, Assistant Superintendent*

- My observation of the After School Program “the teachers and students were engaged”.
- GADoe has listed top priority for the upcoming year is literacy. Children cannot read on grade level. Screening children for dyslexia – reading comprehension
- Paraprofessionals are a priority for elementary classrooms.
- Rural School students are more likely to graduate high school than urban students.

- **Elementary/Middle/High School**

*Mr. Jonathan Taylor, Principal*

- Mr. Taylor reviewed the internal accounts:

Beginning Balance	\$32,537.08
Total Deposits	\$ 16,755.87
Total Checks	\$ 7,423.88
Ending Balance	\$41,869.07

- Upcoming Events

Financial Aid Night – Tonight, December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday, December 14, 2023 Middle School Basketball at Chattco  
Friday, December 15, 2023 Varsity Basketball at Webster Co.  
Saturday, December 16, 2023 Varsity Basketball home vs. Schley Co.  
Christmas Break – December 18, 2023 – January 2, 2024  
January 3, 2024 – Ruby Payne – Emotional Poverty Training  
January 4, 2024 – Students return

- **Superintendent Items**

*Dr. James Catrett, Superintendent*

- **PBIS “Positive Behavior Intervention Supports”**

*Ms. Daphne Daniels*

- Ms. Daniels brought three students before the school board to be recognized as PBIS Ambassadors for the month of November 2023. The students are:

Zonneque Johnson – Central Elementary – 542 points  
Emmanual Hatchett – Central Middle School – 359 points  
Richard Kirk – Central High School – 786 points

The students were presented with a certification of honor and a gift card to Chick-Fillet.

- **American Rescue plan (ESSER III) – ESSER III – American Rescue Plan ends** September 30, 2024. There are more guidelines to follow under ESSER III. One of the requirements is a survey for the public to complete. A percentage of this plan must be spent on learning loss.

- **School Improvement – Ms. Hatcher**

Over the past year we have worked with parents, students and the community to close the gap of learning loss. We are implementing many things to close this gap and foster a culture of intervention. I-ready, STAR and other digital programs along with our afterschool program are some of the items being used. Three action steps: implement, monitor and model the standards base classroom, the collaborative process and to ensure reading proficiency. We are noticing many gains through the middle school milestones.

- **Field Trip Request – Mr. Taylor**

Name of Group	Date of Trip	Destination	Leave Time – Return Time	Number of Students	Purpose of Trip
Counseling Dept. Agriculture Classes	2/06/2024	Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College, Tifton, GA	Leave – 8:00 a.m. Return – 3:00 p.m.	40	College Campus Tour & Experience the field of agriculture at the college level
Counseling Dept. Agriculture Classes	1/31/2024	State Capital Atlanta, GA	Leave – 8:00 a.m. Return – 3:00 p.m.	8	Tour the capital, attend a legislative session. Sponsored by Flint Energies.
Counseling Dept. Agriculture Classes	3/05/2024	Kia Plant West Point, GA	Leave – 8:00 a.m. Return – 2:00 p.m.	30	Experience industry and business operations
CEMHS Band	5/16 – 5/18/2024	Washington, DC	TBA	TBA	National Music Festival

- Ms. Nikki Waller made a motion to approve the Field Trip Request as presented for the Guidance Department, seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 5-0-0
- Mrs. Sharleta Hall made a motion to approve the Field Trip Request as presented for the Band, seconded by Mrs. Julia Leonard. 5-0-0
- **Facilities Request – Mr. Taylor**

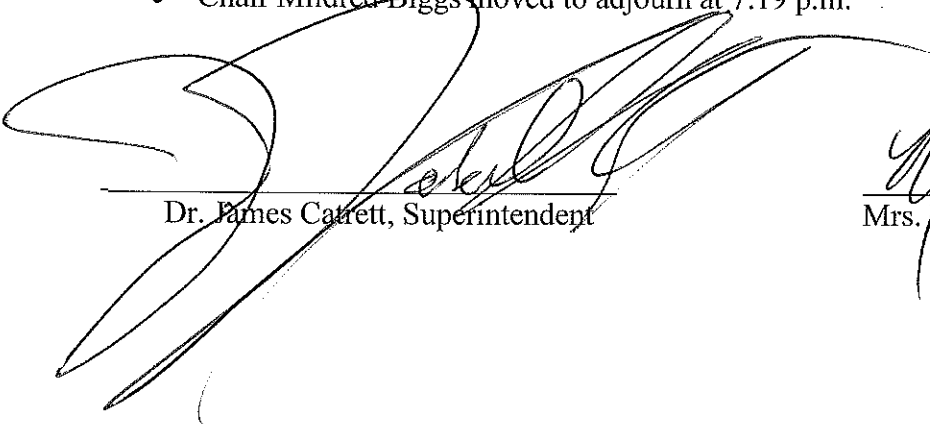
Name of Group	Date	Facility Used For	Location for Use	Hours
Talbot County 4-H	2/17/2024	Valentine Ball	High School Gym	3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
CEMHS	TBA	Winter concert and reception	Cafeteria	TBA
CEMHS	TBA	Workshop/clinic	Gymnasium	TBA

- Ms. Nikki Waller made a motion to approve the Facilities Request as presented for the 4-H, seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0
- Mr. James Steverson made a motion to approve the Facilities Request as presented for the Band, seconded by Mrs. Julia Leonard. 5-0-0

- In Recognition of 50 Years of Excellence – Cognia

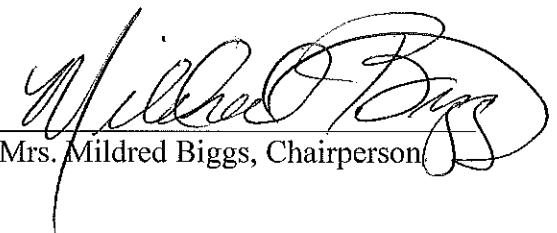
Central Elementary/High School has reached a significant milestone – 50 years as an accredited institution. Cognia recognized Talbot County Schools for meeting expectations, standards and practices for 50 years. Mrs. Catherine Walker was a new teacher during the first days of accreditation and reviewed the differences then to today.

- Chair Mildred Biggs moved to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.



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Dr. James Catlett, Superintendent



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Mrs. Mildred Biggs, Chairperson