

Talbot County Board of Education
Board Meeting
February 24, 2026– 6:00 p.m.
Central Elementary/Middle/High School
Board Room

The Talbot County Board of Education met in regular session on February 24, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mrs. Mildred Biggs, Chairperson (D5); Mrs. Sharleta Hall, Vice Chair, (D3); Mrs. Julia Leonard, (D1); and Mr. James Steverson, (D2). Ms. Nikki Waller (D4) participated via teleconference beginning at 6:17 p.m..

- 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 Mrs. Julia Leonard to approve the February 24, 2026 agenda, seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 4-0-0
- A motion was made by Mr. James Steverson to approve the January 6, 2026 and January 20, 2026 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 4-0-0
- **Food Service Report for January 31, 2026**
Ms. Mahone, Director - Food Services
 - Budget- \$659,000.00
 - Expended- \$320,372.28
 - Obligated- -0-
 - Balance- \$338,627.72
 - Percentage Spent - 49% Percentage Remaining – 51%
- **Financial Report for January 31,2026**
Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO
 - Budget- \$7,685,353.91
 - Expended- \$ 4,836,852.70
 - Encumbrances - \$108,361.15
 - Balance - \$ 2,848,501.21
 - Percentage Spent- 62.94% Percentage remaining- 37.06%

- **Elementary/Middle/High School**
Ms. Daphne Daniels, Dean of Students

- Ms. Daniels reviewed the internal accounts:

Beginning Balance	\$ 18,042.86
Total Deposits	\$ 14,984.88
Total Checks	\$ 13,627.93
Ending Balance	\$ 19,399.81

- **Middle School Athletics Update**

The Central Middle School Baseball Team has officially begun its season.

February 26 - Home vs. Schley County 4:30p.m.

March 2 – Home vs. Marion County 4:30 p.m.

March 5 – Away vs. Crawford County 4:30 p.m.

March 9 – Home vs. Taylor County – 4:30 p.m.

We are proud of our student-athletes and look forward to a successful season. Community support is encouraged at all home games.

- **Academic & Literacy Events**

March 2 – 6 Spring Book Fair / Read Across America Week

Central Elementary-High School will host our annual Spring Book Fair in conjunction with Read Across America Week. This initiative promotes literacy, encourages a love for reading, and provides students with access to engaging and age-appropriate books.

Activities throughout the week will focus on:

- Promoting daily reading habits
- Classroom literacy celebrations
- Student engagement activities
- Family participation opportunities

This event supports our ongoing commitment to improving reading proficiency and fostering a strong literacy culture within our school.

- **Special Education**
Mr. James Short, Director

Independent Living Course – ILT for special education focuses on building life skills for independence, covering food, nutrition, budgeting, sewing, laundry and cleaning.

Potential Employer Partnership

The ILT Course will also consist of local employers, entrepreneurs that will explain career paths and the hiring process for that field:

- Barbers/Cosmetologists
- Phlebotomists
- HVAC Techs
- Utility Linemen
- Real Estate Agents
- Web Developers

Resource Room: Purpose

The purpose of a resource room is to provide targeted, specialized instruction and support for students with disabilities in a small-group or individualized setting for part of the day.

Higher Education

College visits are essential for evaluating “fit” allowing students to experience campus atmosphere, culture and facilities firsthand.

State Audit

IEP Development & Implementation – IEP’s must include measurable, data-driven goals and be reviewed annually. Initial meetings must occur within 30 days of eligibility. Maintain accurate, up-to-date records and ensuring parental participation in the process.

- **Superintendent Items**

Mr. Jonathan Taylor, Superintendent

- **AirMedCare Presentation**

Laine Dupree

Ms. Dupree provided information on AirMedCare which provides emergent and non-emergent medical transport. Services are available in Talbot County.

- **Copy Machine Contract**

Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO

Automated Business Machines provided a contract for two copy machines, one for the Central Office and the second for the Media Center. The Central Office machine will be utilized for scanning documents to comply with the auditor’s recommendation of data-based accounts payable. The contract will be for 39 months at \$328.02 per month.

- A motion was made by Ms. Nikki Waller to approve the copy machine contract with Automated Business Machines, seconded by Mr. James Steverson. 5-0-0

- **HMH Into Reading K-5 1 year renewal**
Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO

For the purchase of HMH Into Reading – Version 3, Writable 3-5 and Amira Suite K-5 for \$28,447.13 per year.

- **HMH Into Literature 6-12 1 year renewal**
Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO

For the purchase of HMH Into Literature 6-12 with Writable Version for \$24,630.39 per year.

- A motion was made by Ms. Nikki Waller to approve HMH Into Reading K-5 and HMH Into Literature 6-12 one year renewal, seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 5-0-0

- **Budget Timeline**
Mr. Torrence Freeman, CFO

The FY27 Budget Timeline was presented for the public to be notified of the Public Meetings for FY27. The first public meeting will be May 26, 2026 at 4 p.m.; the second public meeting will be June 4, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. A notice will run in the newspaper with the timeline dates.

- **Facility Use Requests**
Ms. Daphne Daniels, Dean of Students

Name of Group	Date of Project	Facility Used For	Location For Use	Hours
Governor's Office of Highway Safety	April 9, 2026	Law Enforcement Training	Cafeteria	4:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

- A motion was made by Mrs. Sharleta Hall to approve the Facility Use Request, seconded by Mrs. Julia Leonard 5-0-0

- **Project Requests**
Ms. Daphne Daniels, Dean of Students

Name of Group	Date of Project	Project	Description	Money Used for
Central Elementary School	March 6, 2026	Kona Ice Fundraiser	To sell frozen treats to PK-12 students/staff during lunch	To purchase literacy and reading initiative incentives

- A motion was made by Mrs. Julia Leonard to approve the CES' Kona Ice Fundraiser, seconded by Ms. Nikki Waller. 5-0-0

- **Athletic Schedules Track**
Ms. Daphne Daniels, Dean of Students

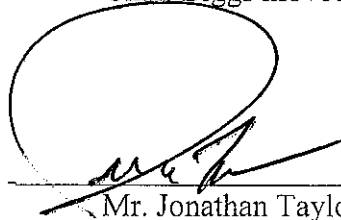
Track Schedule:

2/25/26	Away vs. Rutland	4:00 p.m.
2/26/26	Away vs. Upson- Lee	4:00 p.m.
3/12/26	Home vs. Quitman-Taylor	4:00 p.m.
3/19/26	Home vs. Quitman-Taylor	4:00 p.m.
3/26/26	Morehouse Relay (HS)	TBA
3/26/26	Home vs. Quitman-Taylor (MS)	4:00 p.m.
4/02/26	Home vs. Quitman-Taylor	4:00 p.m.
4/16/26	Home vs. Quitman-Taylor	4:00 p.m.

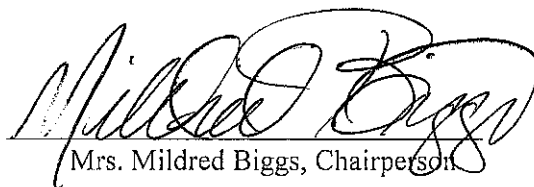
- **Whole Board Governance Training**
Mr. Jonathan Taylor, Superintendent

RESA will be offering two whole board governance trainings on March 23, 2026.

- Mr. Taylor asked for an Executive Session for personnel.
- A motion was made by Mr. James Steverson to go in to Executive Session at 7:09 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 4-0-0
- A motion was made by Mrs. Sharleta Hall to come out of Executive Session at 7:23 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Julia Leonard. 4-0-0
- A motion was made by Mr. James Steverson to approve the teacher and administrative contracts as presented by Mr. Taylor, Superintendent, seconded by Mrs. Sharleta Hall. 4-0-0
- Chair Biggs moved to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.



Mr. Jonathan Taylor, Superintendent



Mrs. Mildred Biggs, Chairperson