

**Camilla Schools, Inc. or Westwood Board of Trustees**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 15, 2023**

**Present:** Keith Croft, Christy Ward, Lanair Worsham, Sr., Hunter Spence, Lanair Worsham, Jr., David Griner, Boyd Williamson, Megan Williams, Jessica Adams, Harrell Rackley, Wade Shiver, Kelley Joyner, Chris Nurmi, Kelly Smith, Cader Cox, Amanda Heard

**Absent:** None

---

Christy Ward called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and Chris Nurmi opened with prayer. Hunter Spence made a motion to approve the October 2023 board meeting minutes and it was seconded by Lanair Worsham, Jr. All approved. Motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Headmaster Report – Keith Croft**

- Fall “Gun” Fundraiser – Update: We officially began the fundraiser on October 23rd. We have had two turn-in dates so far. We have two more turn-in dates and we will start drawing names on Dec 1st. If anyone would like to donate the cost of some of the firearms, we will gladly accept your contribution. Thank you all for promoting, selling and/or purchasing tickets for this fundraiser. We greatly appreciate your assistance!
- Handbook changes – Update: Our administrative team met to discuss needed changes and these have been compiled for consideration and approval.
- One Act Play performances – Update: The Region One Act play competition was held on Monday, Oct.30th and Westwood was declared Region Champions! Also, Mia Burnett was chosen as Best Supporting Performance, and Erin Sharp was awarded with Best Overall Performance. On November 7th, the team performed for our school in an effort to get some practice time in between region and state performances. The state competition will be held on Monday, Nov. 13th in Vidalia at Southeastern Tech College. We are extremely proud of these performers and wish them the best at state!
- PSAT- The first electronic PSAT test was administered on Oct. 24th and 25th. There were some unanticipated glitches that had to be dealt with, but these were handled. On Day 1, there were some student log-in issues on our end, but these were corrected very easily. On Day 2, there were some compatibility issues between College Board and Apple, but these were remedied as well. Hopefully, this first experience will help all involved to avoid future glitches like these.
- Jostens - Jostens visited campus on Nov. 3rd to meet with all juniors and seniors regarding class rings and graduation invitations.
- Radium Springs trip – Our 8th grade GA History class traveled to Radium Springs on Nov 8th. These students had a fun day exploring the springs and enjoyed a picnic as well.

- Severe Weather Drill – Our students participated in this drill on Nov. 8th.
- Progress Reports – These were distributed to students on Nov. 9th.
- Athletic Update – Our football team recently completed the season after a first-round state playoff loss to David Emanuel Academy. We are very proud of our players, coaches and cheerleaders for their efforts this season.

Our shotgun team recently completed their season after competing in the state competition. Most of our shooters had the best scores of the year at this event. Liam Rogers finished in the top 10 in trap shooting and Braxton Ethridge finished in the top 5 in sporting clays. Both Liam and Braxton were named to the all-state team. We are proud of the efforts of all team members.

Our basketball teams have begun practicing for the upcoming season. As previously mentioned, we will only compete at the middle school level with our girls. Please join us in giving all our teams fantastic support this year as we look to improve our athletic teams at the younger levels, in hopes of working back to fielding competitive teams at all levels.

- Veterans Program/Activities - Our middle and high school students participated in a veteran's program on Nov. 10th. The guest speaker was Mr. Charles Gilbert, who works for Mitchell EMC and is also a local pastor. Mr. Gilbert provided an engaging speech, in which he spoke about his service in the United States Navy as a submariner. This was an informative and enjoyable event that received many compliments from our students and teachers. Our lower school students made thank you notes that were presented to grandparents of students in each class that were veterans. Our 7th and 8th grade students attended the veterans service held at First Baptist Church to show support for those honored in this ceremony. We are proud of our students for honoring our veterans, and we are extremely thankful for all who served in the military to protect and defend our country.

- Gym resurfacing – Our gym was resurfaced on Nov. 11 in anticipation of the upcoming season(s).

- Marketing ideas – Jessica Adams and I will be meeting this Wednesday to discuss marketing/promotion ideas for our school.

- Student/teacher recognition – Megan Williams and I have had preliminary discussions on possibly recognizing student & teachers of the month, along with possibly students of the year. We have done this at other schools I have managed and I believe it has been very positive for honoring strong work ethics and positive leadership.

- Thanksgiving Holidays – Our students and staff will enjoy the Thanksgiving holidays the week of Nov 20 – 24th. We hope all of our Board of Trustees enjoy some wonderful time with family and friends as well for Thanksgiving. We are very appreciative of all you do for our school and community.

### **Curriculum/Guidance- Dicksy Hinesley**

- Dual Enrollment registration is open for our students for spring semester. I've given the students a list of classes from Brewton Parker and an online search for ABAC.

- Math Support classes during study hall are being restructured after report cards and progress reports went out. Some students are being taken out and others are being added. We are making every effort to help our students pass.

- Scholarships for seniors are already being shared on Bloomz to students and parents.

- Representatives from Brewton Parker came by to check and see if everything is going okay. They are exceptional people and are always helpful.
- I've been working on schedules for next semester and changing all DE students over to new classes.
- We are constantly updating transcripts, test scores, and sending to colleges.

#### **Chairman's Report - Christy Ward**

- Meetings with Keith
- Read CH. 18
- Next meeting will be a week early on December 13th

#### **Finance/Grants - Harrell Rackley**

Finance Committee made a motion to approve financial reports; second by Boyd Williamson. All approved.

#### **Trustees Committee/Alumni Relations- Heather Lanier & Jessica Adams**

No report.

#### **Fundraising/Goal - Lanair Worsham, Jr.**

- Will begin contacting board members to reach out to those that contribute to GOAL scholarship

#### **Booster Club - Kelley Joyner**

- Hotel rooms for State Shotgun
- Meal for JV football players and cheerleaders
- Meal for Varsity football players and cheerleaders
- Preparing for Basketball Concessions

#### **Building & Grounds - Hunter Spence**

Spreading of the gravel, the one project we cannot seem to rid ourselves of .....since August "pretty boy Griner" has been telling us "I got it, don't worry about it, happy to help." Well, it's November and we're waiting.....Maybe he is not so happy to help?! B&G's is going to implement its own "pledge" training period. David will receive a bag of gravel that he is going to have to keep in his pockets until he gets it spread. Any lip from him and he is going to carry a brick. Besides the gravel project that never seems to end, it has been pretty quiet for B&G's which has been nice. That came to an immediate and abrupt halt this month! We had an issue with Mrs. Ginny's exterior door "sticking". Wade and I have both checked on it. Metal doors have metal frames and are difficult to adjust. Wade was going to reach out to some commercial contractors and see how and what adjustments can be made on them.

New playground equipment arrived. Ms. Suzanne reached out to me and to Chris. Chris is taking the lead to help orchestrate the install of the new playground items. Thank you, Chris! \*\*The new playground equipment and equipment repairs were possible due to the alumni fundraiser. A big thank you to them for raising the necessary funds and earmarking

them for the lower school playground. Late on a Friday, we were notified of a section of chain link fence that was knocked down between the lower and upper elementary playgrounds. As you can see from the picture below we were totally exposed. Since there is no gate to get into that area it looks at one time someone pulled a post and the top rail of the fence to gain access to the playgrounds. Maybe for gravel or play equipment delivery and setup. When they finished they must have issued bubble gum and tissue paper to secure the fence together because elementary students were able to push it over. There was a sense of urgency to get that repaired. One B&G's member canceled their wedding anniversary plans to come and repair it. They were able to pull the fence together and secure it with baling wire. By no means is it a professional job but it's holding the fence up. The permanent fix is in the works. I was able to meet with Logan Boatwright and he is going to put a gate up in that location. It will be a 12' wide opening, consisting of two 6' gates. That takes care of 2 issues. 1-that will give us a wide access point to area where this is none. 2-The gate posts will allow him to pull the existing fence tight. While he is there he is going to replace a bent corner post that goes around the metal building used to house tires, pads and hurdles, which by the way looks like a dump. Students needing a project, "brownie points" or run afoul of the rules should be put to work in the building. What an embarrassment.

#### **Strategic Planning- Susan Glass, Jenny Bostick, Keith Croft, Christy**

**Ward** No report.

1. Amanda Heard PAC Focus Group
2. Lanair Worsham, Jr. Board Focus Group
3. James Adams Grandparents Focus Group
4. David Cooper Community Focus Group
5. Mary Lou Simmons Student Focus Group
6. Betsy Caldwell Teacher Focus Group
7. Keith Croft Administration Focus Group
8. Christy Ward Alumni Focus Group
9. Susan Glass Member
10. Jenny Bostick Facilitator

#### **Grandparents Club- Lanair Worsham, Sr.**

- No report

#### **PTO - Megan Williams**

- Thank you everyone for all of your help with Fall Festival! It was a great night for our school.
- The teacher Christmas lunch and bonuses will be December 11th.
- Santa is coming to surprise the students with a treat on December 14th.

### **Communications & Marketing-R&R/Goals - Jessica Adams**

- Camilla Christmas parade- Dec 7- WW will have three entries (Caroline Huey as WW Homecoming Queen, Varsity Cheerleaders, WW Senior Class Mascots)
- Thanks to Christy Ward, Terri Heard, Lacie Heard and Penny Harris for a great showing at the Camilla Chamber chili contest! Congrats on crowd favorite! Also, good job to the high schoolers who helped the Chamber with this event.
- Find a Turkey - free ice cream for students
- Social media posts- annual campaign, basketball season
- Running ad in Moultrie Observer
- Meeting with Mr. Keith on November 15th to discuss marketing efforts for 2024.

### **By-Law Review - Heather Lanier**

- No Report.

### **PTO Parent Representative - Amanda Heard**

- Social media posts-Thankful Thursdays
- Community card fundraiser-10 businesses, hoping for 5 more.

### **Old Business -**

- Ag Equipment Auction- Boyd Williamson - January 20th
- All committees meet during the month if needed. Committee chairs please forward committee reports to the board chair prior to our **next board meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

### **New Business -**

- Handbook and by law changes were presented. Board voted via email on November 28, 2023 and all changes passed.

### **Executive Session -**

Motion made to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. by Christy Ward. Second made by Hunter Spence. All agreed. None opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica G. Adams, Secretary  
Westwood Board of Trustees