

**WEAKLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
**Special Called Meeting**  
**Central Office**  
**January 26, 2023**  
**5:15 – 6:05 P.M.**

**Board Members:** Beau Atkins, Wendell Cates, Jeff Floyd, Martin Hamlin, John Hatler, Gath Meeks, Doug Sims & Steve Vantrease. (Absent-Joshua Moore)

**Administrative Staff Present:** Brian Allen, Michelle Clements, Jeff Cupples, Scott Killebrew, Lee Lawrence, David Lewellen, John Lifsey, Melanie Needham, Patresa Rogers, Eva Essary, Betsi Foster, Jon Gardner, Lindsey Parham & Terri Stephenson.

**Media Present:** *WCMT*

**Meeting Called To Order:** Chairman Vantrease called the meeting to order.

**Purpose of the meeting – To begin the search process for Director of Schools.**

- I. **Agenda Approved** – Motion by Floyd, seconded by Hamlin to approve the January 26, 2023 agenda. Motion carried.
- II. **Review Application** – The board looked over the search criteria document along with the previous application & discussed the modified changes needed for both & once the changes are made they will then be brought back to the board at the February 2, 2023 meeting for approval.

**Solicitation of Applications** – The board discussed the different ways to advertise with local & regional colleges, media, TSBA, TOSS, KSBA & COSSBA. There was a discussion about reaching out to candidates that may have an interest in applying & stating that it could be allowed & it was mentioned that everything with this process will be documented & public knowledge.

- III. **Community Engagement** – Vantrease talked about different types of community engagement. He mentioned talking with the school system employees to keep them up to date on the changes & allowing them to have input as well. He mentioned the different communities within our county & let them talk about what they are looking for in this position. County Commissioners will need to be engaged & fully aware of what we are doing. Talked about ways to get community engagement from different towns & when going to these communities could have open sessions with the people & could send questions from the board to get their input on what their ideas would be for the schools in the county. Discussion about allowing input at the board meetings if they were on the agenda. Community input at the meetings is governed by our policy with written notice 5 days in advance that they want to speak & we could set this up for a regular meeting or another special called meeting with 3-5 minutes to speak on the information they would like us to know for this process.

Will need to be done before we do serious deliberations. This would also include our staff at the schools. Other board members agreed this would be a good idea & needed for this process.

**IV. Timeline** – The board discussed what they would consider the timeline for each phase of the process.

**A.** February 2, 2023 – Application approved to the public.

**B.** March 10, 2023 – Application deadline.

**C.** Interviews will begin after March 10, 2023.

The board agreed to amend the timeline as needed once the process starts.

**V. Adjourn** – Vantrease adjourned the meeting at 6:05 PM.

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Steve Vantrease, Chairman

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Randy Frazier, Secretary