

**CHOCTAW COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING – 4:00 P.M.  
CHOCTAW COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025**

**MINUTES:**

Board President Marilyn Richard called the meeting to order and a quorum was established with (5) members present:

Mr. Isaac Johnson  
Mrs. Marilyn Richard  
Mr. Randy Gibson  
Mr. Tommy Campbell  
Mrs. Beverly Skinner

Superintendent James and Board Attorney Alex Braswell were also present for the meeting.

**INVOCATION:**

Derek Wright

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the agenda for Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Board Meeting.

Motion- Gibson

Seconded – Campbell

Motion-Carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Superintendent James recommended the approval of the December 9, 2025, Board meeting minutes.

Motion-Johnson

Seconded – Skinner

Motion- 4-1 Abstain - Gibson

**BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION MONTH**

CCES – Presented a gift card to the Board members

CCHS – Presented a gift certificate to the Board members

SCES – Presented a gift certificate to the Board members

SCHS – Presented a gift certificate to the Board members

CCTD- Presented a gift certificate to the Board members

**OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIPS**

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the out-of-state field trip for Choctaw County High School's softball team to travel to Clarkdale, MS, on March 14, 2026, and to

Quitman, MS, on March 21, 2026. The purpose of the trip will be to participate in softball games.

Motion – Johnson

Seconded – Gibson

Motion – Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve Choctaw County Elementary School to travel to Meridian, MS, on February 27, 2026. The purpose of the trip is an incentive trip as a reward for academic achievement and motivation for continued improvement on the ACAP assessment.

Motion – Skinner

Seconded – Campbell

Motion – Carried

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the retirement of Dorothy Banks, teacher at Choctaw County Elementary School, effective February 1, 2026.

Motion – Skinner

Seconded – Gibson

Motion-Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the resignation of Cynthia Catlett, teacher at Choctaw County Elementary School, effective February 6, 2026.

Motion- Campbell

Seconded- Johnson

Motion - Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve Bailey Belk, teacher at Southern Choctaw Elementary School, for family medical leave, effective February 2, 2026.

Motion- Skinner

Seconded- Gibson

Motion-Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve Jacqueline Frost, custodian at Southern Choctaw High School for family medical leave, retroactive to December 11, 2025.

Motion – Campbell

Seconded – Johnson

Motion – Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the retroactive date for Constance Blanks, for Bus Driver Trainer to October 7, 2025.

Motion – Johnson

Seconded – Skinner

Motion – Carried

Superintendent James recommended the Board approve the following volunteer coaches at Choctaw County High School for the 2025-2026 season:

Clinton Thomas (Basketball)

James Prestage (Basketball)

Motion – Johnson

Seconded – Gibson

Motion – Carried

### **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES**

- Mrs. Fannie Stewart, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at Choctaw County Elementary School won the Capit National Reading Challenge for the month of November 2025.
- Southern Choctaw Elementary School will travel to Montgomery, AL in February to be recognized by the State Department of Education as one of the most improved schools in the state of Alabama based on the SCES report card grade on the state accountability report card. Southern Choctaw Elementary School's report card grade improved from a 65D to an 83B.
- Choctaw County School System as of January 12, 2026, was listed number one in the State of Alabama for having the highest percentage of seniors completing all of the FAFSA application requirements, and were listed in the School Top Ten Achievers in the State of Alabama. Southern Choctaw High School ranked number 2, and Choctaw County High School ranked number 4 in the state.
- Choctaw County High School and Southern Choctaw High School are the recipients of a 2025-2026 College-and-Career Ready Grant. Each high school received \$25,000.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Superintendent James announced that the next Board Meeting be held on Tuesday February 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at the Choctaw County Board of Education.

Motion – Johnson

Seconded – Campbell

Motion – Carried

### **ADJOURN**

---

Superintendent of Education

---

President, Choctaw County Board of Education