

SPARTANBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Charles H. Humphries, Jr., Administration Building
Spartanburg, South Carolina
Tuesday, January 3, 2017
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Julie Lonon
Ms. Sharon Porter
Mr. Sanders Lee
Mr. Vernon Beatty
Mrs. Meg Clayton
Mr. Rick Gray
Mr. Andy Hayes
Mr. Clay Mahaffey
Dr. Ernest White

MEMBER (S) ABSENT: None

NOTICE TO MEDIA: In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80, as amended, the following were notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: THE SPARTANBURG HERALD/JOURNAL, WSPA, WYFF

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Julie Lonon called the meeting to order. Mr. Gray gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** Dr. Booker announced the agenda item, and in accordance with Board Policy BD, turned over the election of officers to the Nominating Committee. Dr. White brought forth a motion to recommend the slate of officers remain the same for the next cycle – Julie Lonon, Chair; Sharon Porter, Vice-Chair; Sanders Lee, Secretary. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- IV. SCSBA ETHICAL PRINCIPLES SIGNING:** The SCSBA has asked that each school board hold an official signing during the January board meeting of the Ethical Principles poster. The signing is to serve as a symbolic gesture by the board, publicly saying that they will uphold these effective governance principles. Each board member signed the poster. A framed copy of the poster will be preserved.

V. **GOOD NEWS:** January is National School Board Appreciation month. Mr. Beatty was honored for 25 years of service and Clay Mahaffey was honored for completing Level I. Sally Hammond, Chief Communications Officer, recognized three teachers in the District who received National Board Certification Renewal - Shannon Browning who teaches math at McCracken Middle School, Leslie Richard an English Language Arts Teacher at Spartanburg High School, and Susi Teague, the STEM Coordinator at the Whitlock Flexible Learning Center. Three students from Carver were honored for receiving “*I Am An Achiever Awards*”: Jabbari Wilkins, Traviante Robertson, and Storm Dixson. A group of students from Houston Elementary School were honored for taking on a building project that’s promoting literacy in their school and community. Fourth and fifth graders - Emmanuel Gonzalez, Jessica Gonzalez, Daniel Greer, Rachel Greer, Erik Knight, Rodney Littlejohn, Jazlyn Montgomery, Paul Quirola, Bobby Randall, Hanna Sizemore, and Lily Smith - along with kindergarten teacher Mrs. Ashley Griffith, and Mr. Will Conley from district operations teamed up with some volunteers from to help build a Little Free Library. The students met after school during the months of October and November. This will be District 7’s first Little Free Library and it will be erected in front of the school – so anyone from the community can take a book or bring a book.

VI. **CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:** There were no Citizens’ Comments

VII. **ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Dr. White to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VIII. **REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:**

Human Resources: Dr. Carlotta Redish, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, provided the monthly staffing report.

Communications: Ms. Sally Hammond, Chief Communications Officer, provided a copy of the communication’s overview and media report along with a list of pertinent dates for the month.

Instruction: Dr. Terry Pruitt, Deputy Superintendent, said the Franklin – Covey Organization would hold its annual Leader in Me Symposium in our District for the second year in a row on February 16 – 17, 2017. The event he said will be held at the Marriott downtown and both Cleveland Academy of Leadership and Chapman Elementary Schools would be participating as featured schools. The event is expected to attract over 600 attendees from throughout the Southeast.

Student Services: Dr. Sonia Leverette, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, shared with the board that the Department of Health and Environmental

Control (DHEC) again offered influenza (flu) shot clinics to all students in the District.

Financial Report: Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, presented the financial reports for October and November 2016. She noted comparing November 2015 year-to-date activity to November 2016, that the revenue collections were virtually the same as last year, down just 1%. She noted her department would continue to monitor revenue closely each month and that regular ad valorem collections would begin in December. She said expenditures were within target ranges and consistent with percentages from prior year.

Planning & Operations: Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, presented a capital update for the new elementary and high school projects. He said on Dec 30, the District had closed sale on the elementary school property (the high school property had previously closed). Dr. White said concerning the budgets on both projects that he was optimistic. He said due to the large amount of interest from various providers and subcontractors that we were receiving very favorable pricing. He noted the budget on the high school was still a little high, however he said there were still savings to be realized and noted the contingency was really conservative. Dr. White said that he and his team meet almost weekly with McMillan Pazdan Smith, Harper Corporation and M B Kahn Construction on both projects. He said other meetings that had been recently taken place had been with SCDOT concerning roads, the County concerning the Quiet Zone, and the City about permitting and annexation. Dr. White further noted meetings were continuing with teachers, principals, and district staff related to technology needs. Dr. White said grading for both the elementary and high school sites would begin soon, and noted in both cases the construction entrances were on side roads so as not to interfere with main streets.

Technology Report: There was no report given.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Student Achievement Update: Dr. Booker presented an in-depth update with recent student-achievement data. This information he said would be shared with stakeholders during his State of the District, which will be held on March 30.

Gallup Student Poll: Dr. Booker shared the results of the most Gallup student poll. He mentioned this was the 3rd consecutive year the survey has measured the engagement, hope, entrepreneurial aspirations, and career/financial literacy of our students in grades five through 12. He noted the District's scores as a whole were higher than the U.S. average.

2017-2018 Calendar: Dr. Booker presented a copy of the 2017-2018 calendar. He noted a letter had been sent to legislators asking for an earlier start date due to the solar eclipse scheduled to occur on August 21.

Mayor’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast: Dr. Booker invited members to get involved in the City of Spartanburg’s Unity Week celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. He shared with the board that he had been asked to give greetings during the Mayor’s Unity Breakfast and that The Corporation had been asked to perform.

SCSBA Request – Ethical Principles Signing: Dr. Booker said as the District kicked off School Board Appreciation Month it would be nice for Board members to publicly and jointly show that they are committed to upholding school board governance principles by signing the South Carolina School Board Association’s Ethical Principles. All members signed the Ethical Principles Poster and a card with the principles will be placed at each seat before each meeting.

- X. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** A copy of the draft Agenda for January 3, 2017 Board Meeting was provided.
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no Executive Session.
- XII. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no Executive Session. No action taken.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 7:49 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hayes. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT

CHAIR

SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED