

**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, June 6, 2017  
6:00 p.m.

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

**MEMBER (S) ABSENT:** Mrs. Meg Clayton

**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, AND NAACP

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Lonon called the meeting to order. Ms. Porter gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Dr. Booker asked to amend the agenda and move Item 6 to Item 4. A motion was made by Dr. White to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- III. GOOD NEWS:** Sally Hammond recognized members of our community who this year helped make the Early Learning Center at Park Hills a happy and happening place for children in our community. From gardening projects to butterflies, from books to bird feeders, from chaperones to champions in their willingness to donate time and funds - the Early Learning Center has been blessed with a number of partnerships - Fannie Louise Holcombe Garden Club and LEL International. JBE was honored for receiving a Bronze National Healthy Schools Award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation America's Healthiest Schools. Carson Hardigree was honored as one of those emerging performers in the Rising Stars Piccolo Spoleto competition. Carson performed Summertime on June 2 in the St. Matthews Lutheran Church Auditorium, in downtown Charleston. Numerous students in chorus, orchestra and band who earned All-state or All-region recognition were recognized. McCracken Middle School students Sean Abbott, Sutherland Brice,

Allyson Dunlavey, Daniel Jones, Makiyah Kerns, Clara Maultsby, Annika McEnroe, Kate Murphy, Timmy Sullivan, Daniela Valladolid, Harrison Van Vleet, Jackson Van Hyning and Madison Ward were recognized for their scores on the Le Grand Concours, a national competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French, where they are evaluated for their written, oral and listening comprehension skills in French. Two student received silver medals - Aaron Baymiller who ranked 7<sup>th</sup> and Grace Till who ranked 5<sup>th</sup>. Good News was capped off with recognition of those students in our Gifted and Talented ODYSSEY Program who are eared top awards in the Wordmasters Math Olympiad and WordMasters Challenge. Math Olympiads Silver Pins went to Liam Nettles and Ilan Flacon. Fourteen students won highest honors and earned perfect scores (20/20) in the Gold Division where nationwide only 51 third graders, 35 fourth graders, 23 fifth graders, and 30 sixth graders did the same Mary Ella Bullington, Levi Lazenby, Gabe Malarney, Sam Mitchell, Josiah Rogers, Jillian Stone, Addie Usry, Leighton Cooke, Nalani Manigault, Gabrielle Tanner, Luke Duncan, Dylan Prus, Samuel Van Hyning, and Lydia Lawrence. In Challenge #3, a team of third graders placed first in the nation in Challenge #3 . The team, coached by Susan Holcombe, earned this honor as the top scoring third grade team out of 113 teams in the nation. Students on this team are Mary Ella Bullington, Reese Crocker, Patrick Delaney, Sara Catherine Evans, Sarah Grace Fluckiger, Riley Fordham, Jaeda Johnson, Myles Klosterman, Levi Lazenby, Gabe Malarney, Sam Mitchell, Evers Morris, Davis Norton, Joshiah Rogers, Natali Servando, Jillian Stone, and Addie Usry. Twelve students won highest honors for yearlong individual achievement. This puts this elite group in the top 10-15 students at their grade level in the entire nation! The following students are awarded a highest honors medallion from WordMasters for their impressive accomplishment: Gabe Malarney, Sam Mitchell. Addie Usry, Leighton Cooke, Steven Egge, Isak Jackson, Colin Mills-Winkler, Anna Wang, Luke Duncan, Dylan Prus, Jessie Arrington, and Jackson Van Hyning. Honors also went to a team of third graders that placed first in the nation in the year-end cumulative standings. The team, coached by Susan Holcombe, is comprised of students representing the E.P Todd School, Pine Street Elementary, Mary H. Wright Elementary, and Meeting Street Academy. Students on the National Championship team are Mary Ella Bullington, Sebastian Cartwright, Reese Cooper, Reese Crocker, Patrick Delaney, Virginia Delaney, Sara Catherine Evans, Sarah Grace Fluckiger, Riley Fordham, Kamaya Free-Foster, Sophie Groover, Sarah Halstead, Thomas Hyde, Jaeda Johnson, Myles Klosterman, Levi Lazenby, Gabe Malarney, Sam Mitchell, Evers Morris, Wade Cooper Neely, Davis Norton, Emma Kate Pittman, Josiah Rogers, Natali Servando, Jillian Stone, Addie Usry, and Charlotte Ward.

- IV. DRAYTON MILLS VILLAGE UPDATE:** John Montgomery, CEO of the Montgomery Development Group, provided a comprehensive update of the Drayton Mills Village project. The special section from the Spartanburg Herald Journal detailing the current projects underway in the Drayton community was distributed to board members.

V. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Brad Steinecke spoke to the board regarding the name for the new elementary school. He offered his suggestion of Lawson's Fork Elementary or Academy.

VI. **ACTION ITEMS:**

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

B. **Approval of 2017-2018 District Seven Budget:** A motion was made by Dr. White to approve the 2017-2018 District Seven Budget as presented, including the capital and debt service components, seconded by Mr. Hayes. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

C. **Approval of 2017-2018 McCarthy/Teszler Budget:** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve the 2017-2018 McCarthy/Teszler budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

D. **Approval of 2017-2018 Daniel Morgan Technology Budget:** A motion was made by Mr. Beatty to approve the 2017-2018 Daniel Morgan Technology Budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

E. **Approval of 2017-2018 Spartanburg Alternative School:** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve the 2017-2018 Spartanburg Alternative School budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

F. **Approval of Authorization to Request Title I Funds:** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve the Authorization to Request Title I Funds, seconded by Mr. Hayes. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

G. **Approval of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Comprehensive Health Recommendation:** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Comprehensive Health Recommendation, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VII. **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, noted the CHEAC had endorsed a comprehensive health curriculum change implementing *Nu Culture* evidence-based curriculum and approved videos as determined by the CHE teachers and D7 instructional staff; this recommendation will replace the current AIM Curriculum. Dr. Pruitt said Summer School and Summer Reading Camp would be held in two sessions. Session 1 would be held from June 12, 2017 – June 29, 2017 and Session 11, July 10 – July 27, 2017. He noted the District had received two grants to expand our summer reading camp. One is a state competitive grant, which allowed adding 4 additional teachers and 60 rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. The second was a grant from the Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM) which allowed the hire of one additional teacher to serve 15 rising 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.

**Student Services:** There was no report given.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, presented the financial reports for April 2017. Comparing April 2016 year-to-date activity to April 2017, revenue was down (3.8%). This difference was based primarily on the timing of local revenue receipts from one year to the next. She presented the annual required communication from the District's External Auditors. The communication letter notifies the Board that the District has engaged McAbee, Schwartz, Halliday and Co. to audit the financial statements of our school district for the year ended June 30, 2017. Ms. Campbell stated that even though there was not a State budget at this time, she presented budgets for approval. She said no budget presented would require a millage increase. The proposed revenue budget she said was estimated at \$69.6 million, which was an increase of 4% over last year's budget. The proposed budget includes a step increase for teachers and 2% for all other employees. The budget also includes a 2% employer retirement increase and a 1.7% employer health increase as these are required adjustments to our budget.

**Planning & Operations:** Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, provided a brief update on the progress for the new elementary and new high school projects. For the elementary school site, the steel for the building was going up and on the high school site grading had almost been completed. Both projects are on schedule. Dr. White reminded the board of the live cam installed at the Drayton site. Dr. White said Chartwells and District Seven would again be participating in the Summer Feeding Program. He noted some 30 different sites were being utilized at various dates and times this summer.

**Technology Report:** Dr. Eric Levitt, Chief Communications Officer, shared the technology department was working on several large-scale projects including MacBook distribution for students and teacher, ActivPanel installation and upgrading to VoIP phone system. He said the first phase of the MacBook re-distribution was completed, and every teacher left for the summer with a MacBook. He said over the summer, the District would receive a shipment of 4,000 student MacBooks that would be ready to distribute to students in grades 6-12 upon their return to school. The existing 3,800 student MacBooks he said would be re-purposed for students in grades 2-5. Dr. Levitt noted the MacBook sale to graduating seniors went very well. In the end, 165 students were provided with their MacBook for an extremely reasonable cost of \$175. He said the district pilot of 79 Promethean ActivPanels went very well during the last two months of school. He said once the RFP is awarded on June 19, installation of the high-definition, touchscreen displays would begin almost immediately. Dr. Levitt noted that the District was in the process of upgrading the district and school phone systems with a Voice over IP (VoIP) system hosted by AT&T. He said the VoIP phone system provides modern calling features that the District was currently lacking including call waiting, leaving a message on a busy line, and the ability to retrieve voicemail messages via email. He said anticipated a savings of \$12,000-\$15,000 per year on phone service.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

**Express Congratulations to Retirees:** Dr. Booker expressed congratulations to the District’s retirees. He noted the wonderful retirement reception on May 23 and wished to express his sincerest gratitude to the 38 retirees who were honored for their 1,224 years of service.

**Express Congratulations to our Support Staff of the Year:** Dr Booker expressed congratulations to the District’s Support Staff Members of the Year. They were recognized on May 18.

**Summer Schedule:** Dr. Booker said beginning Monday, June 5, 2016 and ending Friday, July 28 the district would operate on a 4-day week (Monday – Thursday) summer schedule. The switchboard at the district office will operate from 7:00am – 5:00pm Monday – Thursday.

**VII. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** No report given.

- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 7:05 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to go into Executive Session for discussion of a Personnel matter, seconded by Mr. Hayes. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
  
- X. OPEN SESSION:** At approximately 7:16 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to return to Open Session, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
  
- XI. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no action taken.
  
- XII. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 7:16 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Lee to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

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**SUPERINTENDENT**

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**CHAIR**

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**SECRETARY**

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**MINUTES APPROVED**