

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, September 2, 2014
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Rick Gray, Chair
Mr. Andy Oberg, Secretary
Mr. Vernon Beatty
Mr. Andy Hayes
Mr. Sanders Lee
Mrs. Julie Lonon
Ms. Sharon Porter
Dr. Ernest White

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Mrs. Laura Bauknight

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:** Mr. Gray called the meeting to order. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was provided by Mr. Oberg.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve the agenda, seconded by Dr. White. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- III. GOOD NEWS:** Dr. Booker recognized Teachers of the Year: Jesse Boyd Elementary, Sarah Kate Abee; Chapman Elementary, Ann Caudle; Cleveland Academy and D7, Marquice Clark; Houston Elementary, Valarie Cleveland-Tyson; Mary H. Wright Elementary, Candace Miller; Pine Street School, Todd Seagle; E.P. Todd School, Wendy Rollins; Carver Middle School, Andrew Youngblood; McCracken Middle School, Gwen Proctor; Spartanburg High School, Jessica Burke; Early Learning Center, Teresa White; McCarthy Teszler School, Emily Cook; and Whitlock Flex Center, Teresa Sims. Dr. Booker also recognized the 47 students who achieved perfect scores on the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) test. Of the 47 students – 40 students scored perfect on one test, 6 students on two tests, and 1 student on three tests. The students earning a perfect score in one area are: Chantel Aguirre, English; Rachel Allen, English; Jessie Arrington, Math; Aidan Atance, English; Teagan Barnett, Writing; Justin Barron, English; Will Beeson, Math; Maxwell Booker, Math; Deacon Cox, English; DeHaven Dickerson, Math; Alyssa

Dowling, Writing; Isabelle Edwards, Social Studies; Will Ericson, English; Ilan Falcon, English; Tristen Godfrey, Math; Aaron Grieshop, English; David Jacob, English; Thomas Kendrick, English; Will Kendrick, Writing; Mac Kimbrell, Math; Lawson Kyle, English; Faith Lee, Writing; John Love, Science; Sarah McMeekin, English; Edward Morris, English; Zachary Moore, Science; Banks Mullen, Math; McClure Mullen, English; Colton Pereyo', Writing; Charles Pickens, Math; Jacob Price, Math; David Sanders, Science; Elizabeth Stevens , English; Jarrod Swanson, Math; Nolan Sykes, Science; Jack Thorp, Math; Alexander Turner, English; Taliesin Vaneman, Science; Layton Ward, English; and Olivia Wolfe, Writing. Six students received perfect scores in two different test areas: Nicole Giesbertz in English and Math; Nathan Jones in English and Math; Thomas Keller in English, and Math; Drew Lawton in Writing and Math; Christopher Latham in English and Science; and William Long in Writing and Math. Elizabeth Skinner from Pine Street School earned a perfect core in Writing, English, and Math.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: There were no citizen comments

V. ACTION ITEMS:

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

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Instruction: Dr. Terry Pruitt, Deputy Superintendent, noted that the 7Shares conference was a great success and that feedback had been very positive. Karen Yarborough provided an update on the MacBook and iPad deployment for the 2014-2015 school year. Dr. Pruitt reminded the board that the 7Reads reading day would take place on Tuesday, September 9 with an assembly program at SHS at 9:00 a.m. and an evening event at 7:00 p.m. at the Spartanburg County Library. Dr. Pruitt shared that the Viking Early College (VEC) was off to a great start with the addition of Cohort II. He noted the district had a total of 36 young men enrolled in VEC, in addition to the five young ladies (3 from Carver, 1 from McCracken, and 1 from EP Todd) in the inaugural class of the Spartanburg County Early College High School on the main campus of Spartanburg Community College. Dr. Pruitt also mentioned for the 2014-2015 school year, that the District would have five students enrolled in The Scholars Academy at USC-Upstate. Dr. Pruitt concluded his report by informing the board that the District had been named a finalist in Digital Promise's League of Innovative Schools. Digital Promise is a national, independent nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to accelerate innovation in education.

B. Personnel & Student Services: Dr. Carlotta Redish, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Student Services, provided a copy of the staffing report.

- C. Communications:** Ms. Sally Hammond, Chief Communication Officer, provided a copy of the communications overview and media report along with a list of pertinent dates for the month.
- D. Planning & Operations:** Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, provided an update on ongoing capital projects throughout the district. The major projects included the branding and new seating at Duncan Park, the SHS gym dehumidification, playground improvements at Jesse Boyd and Pine Street, upgrades to life safety equipment and the lobby area of the Early Learning Center, and security enhancements at all schools. Dr. White also shared upcoming information about improvements to the Senior Lounge and to an addition of a Viking Vendor store area to come at SHS. Dr. White provided information about implementation measures within the District's Wellness Policy. He also shared information about a new zero waste recycling program the district was going to pilot at Jesse Boyd and Cleveland.
- E. Financial Report:** Mrs. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer informed the board that there was not a financial report this month.
- F. Superintendent:** Dr. Russell Booker, Superintendent, noted the smooth opening to the 2014-2015 school term. He noted enrollment for K5-12 was 6,875 students, which represented a slight increase (59 students) over last year. This figure he noted did not include enrollment for pre-K or the McCarthy Teszler School. Dr. Booker shared with the board that the City of Spartanburg had been named one of five cities in the nation chosen to participate in "The Way to Wellville", a five-year health challenge. He noted, Spartanburg beat out more than 40 others to take part in the challenge, with the goal of improving the city in four areas: Access to care, obesity, kindergarten readiness, and community pride. The other cities chosen are: Clatsop County, OR, Greater Muskegon, MI, Lake County, CA, and Niagara Falls, NY. Dr. Booker announced the Cleveland Academy of Leadership had partnered with HopeLab out of California in an effort to help students there build greater levels of resiliency. HopeLab researches and develops technology-based products to improve human health and well-being, and its foundation now focuses on resilience research as part of a strategy to support the psychological and biological health of individuals and communities.

Potential October Board Meeting Change: Dr. Booker stated that District Seven had been selected into the League of Innovative Schools. He requested approval from the board to reschedule the October 7, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting to Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lonon to reschedule the Tuesday, October 7, 2014 Board meeting to Thursday, October 9, 2014, seconded by Mr. Oberg. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At approximately 7:45 p.m. a motion was made by Dr. White to go into Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter, seconded by Mr. Oberg. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

OPEN SESSION: At approximately 8:17 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Oberg to return to Open Session, seconded by Mrs. Lonon. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VIII. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was no action taken.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:20 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Porter to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed

SUPERINTENDENT

CHAIR

SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED