

**SPARTANBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7**

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Charles H. Humphries, Jr., Administration Building  
Spartanburg, South Carolina  
Thursday, October 9, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Rick Gray, Chair  
Mrs. Laura Bauknight, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Andy Hayes  
Mr. Sanders Lee  
Ms. Sharon Porter

**MEMBER(S) ABSENT:** Mr. Vernon Beatty  
Mrs. Julie Lonon  
Mr. Andy Oberg  
Dr. Ernest White

**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. Lee.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Bauknight. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- III. GOOD NEWS:** Dr. Booker shared with the board that on Sept 23rd, the District was notified it had been named one of 11 new members accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, by Digital Promise, a national, independent nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to accelerate innovation in education. As the only district from South Carolina tapped for membership this fall, District 7 was selected from a competitive and national pool of applicants based on its leadership, evidence of results, innovative vision for learning, and commitment to collaboration. He shared then news of SHS being nominated to compete in the Best Boys High School Sports Program Contest presented by the USA Today. SHS won the state round, then went on to the regional round where it received a wild card bid to the finals. The community rallied around SHS resulting in a 3rd place finish nationwide. Dr. Booker was pleased to report that SHS had been named to Newsweek's 2014 America's Top High Schools Beating the Odds list. Over 14,000

schools in the nation were considered for this ranking and only six South Carolina schools made this list. Spartanburg High School was the only school in the county honored. This year, Newsweek produced a list, which leveled the playing field for districts with diverse demographics. Based on the criteria used the achievement level of District 7 students shows that they are not only beating the odds but succeeding at every level from college prep, honors, advanced placement, to career and technical education. Two academically talented seniors from Spartanburg High School - Audrey Ellis and Brenna Ryan – were recognized for being named semifinalists in the 60th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Semifinalist status means that Audrey and Brenna are in the top one percent of our nation’s high school seniors. Jayden Brown, fourth grader at Houston Elementary, was honored for being named one of three winners in The First Tee Life Essay Contest. Jayden chose to write about "Safety" which is one of First Tee's 9 Healthy Habits.

**IV. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:** There were no citizen comments

**V. ACTION ITEMS:**

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

**B. Approval of Delegate(s) for the 2014 SCSBA Delegate Assembly:** A motion was made by Mrs. Bauknight to appoint Ernest White as the Delegate and Rick Gray as the Alternate, seconded by Ms. Porter. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A. Instruction:** Dr. Terry Pruitt, Deputy Superintendent, noted that Fall Map Testing was underway, and following the testing he would be conducting the annual "data talks" with principals and teachers. He shared that 7Reads had been a great success and reminded the board that on October 22 and 23, author, Kimberly Teter from North Carolina would be visiting the Viking Early College and Spartanburg High School. Dr. Pruitt concluded his report with information about the Gallup Student Poll measuring hope, engagement, and well-being which will be administered the week of October 20 to all 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

**B. Personnel & Student Services:** Dr. Carlotta Redish, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Student Services, provided a copy of the staffing report. She also shared information about a new partnership with ReGenesis Health Care. She noted beginning October 7, that a state-of-the-art mobile health unit would provide comprehensive primary care services to students attending the Cleveland Academy of Leadership. The unit will also be staffed with a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, LPN, and a Medical Assistant.

**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. She also thanked the board for taking the time to respond the survey she had sent out.

**D. Planning & Operations:** Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, provided an update on capital projects. He shared timelines details about the playground at the Early Learning Center, as well as the Viking Vendor and Senior Lounge area at Spartanburg High School.

**E. Financial Report:** Mrs. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer informed the board that there was not a financial report this month, but did share the annual Procurement Report. Ms. Campbell noted that the Women & Minority Owned Business Vendor Fair had been a great success and that nearly twenty vendors had attended. She concluded her report by sharing the Annual Procurement Audit, which covered transactions from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

**F. Superintendent:** Dr. Russell Booker, Superintendent, shared the 20<sup>th</sup> Day Enrollment Report. He noted the districts current total enrollment (PK-12) was 7,149 students as compared to 7,150 the previous year, and that K5-12<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment was 6,832 students as compared to 6,763 the previous year. This, he stated, was a student growth of 69 over last year. Dr. Booker reminded the board of the Homecoming festivities during the week of Oct. 13. As requested by the board, Dr. Booker mentioned that Spartanburg High School's Student Council researched the possibility of moving the homecoming parade on Wednesday, October 15 to a new location in downtown, but that after reviewing the logistics of moving the parade, they had decided to keep the parade near the school. Board members asked if moving the parade location downtown could be revisited next year. Dr. Booker reminded the members of the Board Retreat scheduled for Friday, October 17. He noted a consultant from Franklin Covey would be on hand to lead them through the session. Dr. Booker shared with the board that at the next meeting representatives from the SC Budget and Control Board would be attending to inform members that the voting lines would need to be adjusted following the most recent Census. He concluded his report by reminding the board that the November 4 board meeting would be rescheduled to November 11 due to the election.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 7:35 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Porter to go into Executive Session for discussion of a student matter and a personnel matter, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**OPEN SESSION:** At approximately 8:05 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Porter to return to Open Session, seconded by Mrs. Bauknight. 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 8:07 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Bauknight to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hayes. 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**