

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, August 3, 2021
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Sanders Lee, Chair
Mr. Clay Mahaffey, Vice-Chair
Ms. Sharon Porter, Secretary
Mr. Vernon Beatty
Mrs. Meg Clayton
Mr. Rick Gray
Mr. Andy Hayes
Mr. Jeff Mason
Mr. Kenneth Myers

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, AND Spartanburg NAACP

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Mr. Lee.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Mason to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Myers. Mr. Beatty requested the agenda be amended to add a personnel matter (administrative concern) to executive session. Seconded by Dr. Gray, discussion of the motion to amend the agenda commenced. Mr. Lee restated the motion to amend the agenda adding a personnel matter related to an administrative concern to Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Porter. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- III. GOOD NEWS:** Mr. Stevens shared Mr. Kenneth Myers' receipt of an honorary doctorate, Doctor of Ministry, awarded by the FMI Biblical Studies and Seminary on July 4, 2021.
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Mr. Elliott McCarthy, Ms. Ann Hoover, Mr. Matthew Johnson, Ms. Clare Johnson, Ms. Tania McDuffie, Ms. Nicole Cooke. Ms. Dawn Maddux and Ms. Jackie Torres addressed the board on the matter of requiring masks for students and staff.

A motion was made by Mr. Lee to take a five-minute break following Citizens' Comments, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

V. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Dr. Gray to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- B. Approval of SCAGO GO Bond Resolution:** A motion was made by Mr. Mason to approve the SCAGO GO Bond Resolution in an amount not to exceed \$4,750,000, seconded by Mr. Myers. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- C. Approval of Superintendent Evaluation Tool for 2021-2022:** A motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to approve the recommended Superintendent Evaluation Tool, seconded by Mr. Mason. Ms. Porter made a motion to amend the motion to include Mr. Stevens' 2021-2022 goals be provided to the board at the October board meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hayes the motion was discussed. All were in favor of the motion to approve the recommended evaluation tool and require Mr. Stevens provide his 2021-22 goals at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees in October 2021. The motion passed.
- D. Approval of Out of State travel for Vernon Beatty, Rick Gray and Kenneth Myers to attend the NABSE 49th Annual Conference in Los Angeles, CA November 10-14, 2021.** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve out of state travel for Mr. Beatty, Mr. Gray and Mr. Myers to the 49th Annual NABSE Conference to be held in Los Angeles CA November 10-14, 2021, seconded by Ms. Porter. Discussion of the matter included a request from Mr. Mahaffey to have the total conference cost prior to approval of travel. Mr. Gray withdrew his name from the motion stating he would not travel to the NABSE 49th Annual Conference. The motion to approve out of state travel as presented for Mr. Beatty and Mr. Myers carried with 5 in favor (Beatty, Clayton, Gray, Myers, Porter) and 4 opposed (Hayes, Lee, Mahaffey, Mason).
- E. Approval of Section A Board Policies Second and Final Reading.** A motion was made by Dr. Gray to approve the Second and Final Reading of Section A Board Policies, seconded by Dr. Myers. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- F. Approval of Section B Board Policies Second and Final Reading.** A motion was made by Mr. Hayes to approve the Second and Final Reading of Section B Board Policies, seconded by Mr. Mason. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VI. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Communications: Ms. Beth Lancaster, Chief Communications Officer, provided a summary of the communications projects, media coverage and upcoming events across District 7.

Diversity & Inclusion: Dr. Carlotta Redish, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, provided an update on D&I activities over the summer, introductions to new staff members, and upcoming training opportunities for the Racial Equity Institute.

Finance: Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the General Fund Expenses/Budget, the number of meals served throughout the District during the Summer Feeding Program and the 2021-2022 Meal Prices.

- VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:** Mr. Stevens began his remarks requesting all board members sign the annual safety agreement. Dr. Eric Levitt, Chief Operations & Technology Officer, joined Mr. Stevens to provide an update on capital improvements to include updates at Carver Middle School, the start of the additions and renovations at McCarthy Teszler and roof repairs throughout the district. Next Dr. Terry Pruitt, Chief Academic Officer, joined Mr. Stevens to an instructional update for the 2021-22 school year and the anticipated impact on student achievement.

Mr. Stevens continued his remarks with information from the South Carolina High School league concerning safety with athletic programs in the continuing pandemic. He next recognized 14 deserving students after receiving their diplomas at the completion of summer school. Information was provided on the upcoming annual School Law Conference, and calendar events to include scheduled committee meeting dates.

Mr. Stevens continued by providing information to the board on the new Robert Smalls Apartment Community which will be included in the Meeting Street Academy attendance zone for the 2021-22 school year. This exception permitted by policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools, was made to allow continuity of service for our students until the existing attendance zone can be changed to include this new community.

Mr. Stevens concluded his remarks by outlining the District safety strategies and protocols for 2021-22 school year.

- VIII. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** Mr. Lee presented the draft agenda for the September 7, 2021 Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 8:40 pm a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to go into Executive Session for discussion of personnel actions related to the Superintendent Evaluation and the administrative concern added per Mr. Beatty’s motion, as well as a contractual matter related to facility use. Seconded by Mr. Beatty, all were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

OPEN SESSION: At approximately 9:08 pm a motion was made by Dr. Myers to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Hayes. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

- X. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Dr. Myers to approve the contractual matter relating to the demolition of Z. L. Madden building, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 9:10 pm a motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Mason. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

SUBMITTED BY: _____