

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 7, 2020
6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBER (S) ABSENT: Ms. Sharon Porter, Secretary

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:** Dr. Booker called the meeting to order and gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. OATH OF OFFICE FOR ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS:** Dr. Russell Booker administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Meg Clayton, Mr. Rick Gray, Mr. Clay Mahaffey and Mr. Kenneth Myers.
- III. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** As provided for in board policy, the Superintendent called on the board officer nominating committee chair, Mr. Jeff Mason, to preside over the election of officers' portion of the agenda. Mr. Mason placed the names of Andy Hayes as Chair, Rick Gray as Vice-Chair, and Sharon Porter as Secretary. Coming from the nominating committee no second was required. Mr. Hayes declined. Dr. Booker asked if there were any other nominees coming from the floor. Mr. Beatty requested to nominate Mrs. Meg Clayton as Chair. Mrs. Clayton declined. Mr. Mahaffey requested to nominate Mr. Sanders Lee as Chair, and Mr. Gray requested to nominate Mr. Vernon Beatty as chair. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion for Mr. Lee as Chair, the motion passed 5-3. The recommendation from the nominating committee for Mr. Rick Gray to serve as Vice-Chair and Ms. Sharon Porter to serve as Secretary were addressed next. Coming from the nominating committee no second was required. Mr. Lee requested to nominate Mr. Clay Mahaffey for Vice-Chair. Mr. Gray's nomination for Vice-Chair coming from committee does

not require a second. Motion was defeated 3-5. The motion for Mr. Clay Mahaffey for Vice-Chair was seconded by Ms. Clayton, the motion passed 5-3. Finally, coming from committee placing Ms. Sharon Porter as Secretary. Coming from the nominating committee no second was required. The motion passed 8-0.

- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Dr. Booker requested that the agenda be amended to add an executive session item for information only. A motion was made by Mr. Gray to amend the agenda to add an additional personnel matter to the agenda for information only under Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. The motion pass unanimously.
- V. SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH-PROCLAMATION:** Dr. Booker recognized and thanked the Board of Trustees for their contributions to the academic success of all of our students. He read the Governor’s Proclamation to the Board.
- VI. BOARD SERVICE RECOGNITION:** Dr. Booker presented a lapel pin to each member of the Board of Trustees.
- VII. SCSBA ETHICAL PRINCIPLES SIGNING:** Dr. Booker lead the board members through the SCSBA Code of Ethics asking each board member to pledge their support by signing the School Board Member Code of Ethics.
- VIII. GOOD NEWS:** Beth Lancaster, Chief Communication Officer recognized Principal Nicole Thompson and her team, for demonstrating outstanding commitment to equity and opportunity for all students though its AVID program. Carver is a national model for other schools after launching four years ago and has once again been named an AVID National Demonstration School, a status earned by less than three percent of the 5,000+ AVID schools nationwide. Spartanburg High School was honored for becoming the ninth high school nationwide – and the only in South Carolina – to be awarded Two Green Globes certification from the Green Building Initiative for resource efficiency and reduction of environmental impact. The certification recognizes projects that advance sustainable design, conserve energy, reduce water consumption and promote responsible use of materials. McMillan Pazdan Smith, project architect, led the sustainability efforts. District 7 Band Director John McAllister was recognized for picking up a golden statuette at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 61st-annual Chicago / Midwest Emmy Award Gala in Chicago. John scored 100% of the music heard in the film *A Golden Cross to Bear*, a story of veterans who fought in WWI. Seven educators in D7 were honored for receiving certification or renewal on their National Board Certification, which is the highest credential in the teaching profession. The new credentialed National Board Teacher is Michelle Levine and the renewal candidates are Adena McDaniel, Melissa Basham, Jenifer Richards, Sherrie Smith, Tracy Petty, Lee Anne Bailie and Molly Fisher.
- IX. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:** There were no Citizens’ Comments.

X. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Mr. Beatty to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Mason. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- B. NAMING SPACE AT SPARTANBURG HIGH SCHOOL:** A motion was made by Mr. Hayes to approve naming the area encompassing the health classrooms; weigh room/fitness room, and training room in honor of the late K. Bryant Rose, seconded by Mr. Gray. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

XI. REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Academics: Dr. Terry Pruitt, Chief Academic Officer, noted the District was currently in the process of taking applications for all Early College Programs; Viking, Spartanburg County Early College High School (SCECHS) and Scholars Academy. Dr. Pruitt asked board members to save the date for the spring musical, Memphis. The dates of the show are April 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2020, a month earlier than we usually present the show. This will be an historic moment for District 7 as Memphis will be the first Broadway musical presented in the new District 7 Fine Arts Center.

Communications: No report

Diversity & Inclusion: Dr. Carlotta Redish, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, provided the monthly update from the Office of Diversity & Inclusion.

Finance: Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, provided the Financial Reports for October and November 2019. She said comparing November 2018 year-to-date activity to November 2019, revenue collections were up 1.95. She said the District continues to monitor revenue closely each month due to the regular ad valorem collections which began in December. Ms. Campbell said at this point in the fiscal year, fluctuations in collections can be related to timing of receipts. She noted our expenditures were within target ranges and consistent with percentages from prior year.

Human Resources: Dr. Marc Zachary, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided the monthly staffing report. The Human Resources Department has successfully processed a total of 89 certified teachers and 78 classified employees into District

7 for the 2019-2020 school term. Dr. Zachary noted he had attended Converse and USC Upstate Teacher Recruiting Fairs in December.

Operations: No report

Technology & Innovation: No report

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

School Board Recognition: Dr. Booker noted Spartanburg School District Seven would be joining school districts throughout the state and nation to celebrate School Board Recognition Month in January. More than 600 locally-elected and appointed school board members throughout the state will be recognized by schools, districts and communities throughout this month. This year's theme "School Board Strong" — highlights the unique way board members play in championing and advocating for quality education and the ownership you take for governing our local public schools. Dr. Booker thanked board members for their service and noted in honor of their commitment the district had purchased a brick in their honor to be located in the District Seven Fine Arts Center plaza.

South Carolina School Board Member Ethical Principles: As part of School Board Recognition Month, board members held a signing ceremony of the South Carolina School Board Member Ethical Principles plaque. Dr. Booker noted the document affirms a board member's vow to uphold effective governance principles and to improve public education in District Seven.

2020-2021 Academic Calendar: Dr. Booker provided the Board with a copy of the 2020-2021 academic calendar.

Capital Update: Dr. Booker provided a brief update as it related to the District's building projects.

33rd Annual 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Week: Dr. Booker shared dates of relevance for City of Spartanburg MLK Celebration. This year's Unity week theme is 20/20 Vision: His Vision, Our Mission.

SCSBA Annual Conference: Dr. Booker reminded the Board that the South Carolina School Board Association Annual Convention was scheduled to take place in Hilton Head South Carolina from February 20-23. He said February 20 was set aside specifically for new board members and board chairs.

Spartanburg High School Dedication & Open House: Dr. Booker invited the Board to join in on January 12, 2020 for the Dedicatory Ceremony of Spartanburg High School. The program, he said, would begin at 2:30pm and be followed by

an Open House at 3:30pm. He said he was excited to dedicate this magnificent place of learning and open our doors to our community for an official open house. Dr. Booker said board members would have designated seating on stage, and would play a role in the ceremony. Dr. Booker shared a copy of the billboard sign – *Thank you, Spartanburg* – that would run through the month of January. The billboard sits on the campus of Spartanburg High near the student drive and has been given at no cost to the District.

XIII. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: A draft copy of the February 4, 2020 Board agenda was provided.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At approximately 6:50 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Myers to go into Executive Session for the discussion of the personnel matter related to the 2020-21 superintendent search as well as an additional personnel matter for receipt of information as reflected in the amended agenda. Seconded by Mr. Hayes, all were in favor of the motion. The motion passed. The board invited Dr. Booker to enter executive session regarding the information item. Dr. Booker departed the executive session at 7:15 p.m. at the conclusion of discussion on that item with no required action of the board.

OPEN SESSION: At approximately 8:25 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to return to Open Session, seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

XV. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At approximately 8:26 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to move forward with candidates Keith Price, Jeff Stevens, and Valarie Williams in the superintendent search, seconded by Mr. Myers. The motion passed 7-1.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:27 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT

CHAIR

SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED