

**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 9, 2018

6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Vernon Beatty  
Mrs. Meg Clayton  
Mr. Rick Gray  
Mr. Andy Hayes  
Mrs. Mr. Clay Mahaffey  
Mr. Jeff Mason  
Mr. Sanders Lee  
Ms. Sharon Porter  
Dr. Ernest White

**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 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 Mr. Vernon Beatty, Mr. Andy Hayes, Mr. Jeff Mason and Mr. Sanders Lee and Ms. Sharon Porter.
- III. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** As provided for in board policy, the Superintendent called on the board officer nominating committee chair, Mr. Andy Hayes, to preside over the election of officers' portion of the agenda. Mr. Hayes placed the names of Sharon Porter as Chair, Sanders Lee as Vice-Chair, and Meg Clayton as Secretary. Coming from the nominating committee no second was required. Dr. Booker asked if there were any other nominees coming from the floor. Mr. Beatty requested to nominate Mr. Andy Hayes as Vice-Chair. Mr. Hayes declined. All were in favor of the motion for Sharon Porter as Chair. The motion Passed. All in favor of Sanders Lee for Vice-Chair were: Meg Clayton, Andy Hayes, Clay Mahaffey, Jeff Mason, Sanders Lee, Sharon Porter and Ernest White. Vernon Beatty and Rick Gray abstained from the vote. The motion passed. All were in favor of Meg Clayton as Secretary. The motion passed.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**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. GOOD NEWS:** Sally Hammond recognized National Beta School of Distinction Carver Middle School and it's Advisors Meredith Lockamy and Kristen Cooper. Dr. Vern Weygangt, Band Director at McCracken Middle School was honored for being recognized as a WYFF Golden Apple Award winner and a LifeChanger Teacher Achiever.

**VII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Henry Kerns spoke to the board regarding the MBE participation.

**VIII. ACTION ITEMS:**

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

**B. Approval of Comprehensive Health Committee Member (CHEAC):** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve Dr. Eric Kendall, Minister of Ed., First Baptist Church, to the CHEAC Committee, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**C. Approval of Staff Participation in Political Activity:** A motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve Mr. Tevin Deion Logan to serve as a recently elected trustee on the Spartanburg School District Three Board of Trustees as required by Policy GBI (Staff Participation in Political Activities), seconded by Mr. Mahaffey. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**XI. REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:**

**Human Resources:** Dr. Carlotta Redish, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, presented the monthly staffing report. She noted her department had been busy conducting New Teacher Induction Meetings, AP Leadership Trainings and had just finished a very successful 7Cares Health and Wellness Fair.

**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:** No report.

**Student Services:** Dr. Sonia Leverette, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, said that on January 8, 2018, the District would open its online school choice application system to families. She said advantages of the system included ease of use and faster notification of choice status. Dr. Leverette said Drayton Mills Elementary and Meeting Street Academy would be closed to choice. Dr. Leverette shared that this year, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) offered influenza (flu) shot clinics to all students in District Seven. She noted all registrations were completed online; but, mentioned while more students were registered online, fewer shots were given due to absences, illnesses or cancelations.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, provided the financial reports for October and November 2017. She said comparing November 2016 year-to-date activity to November 2017, the District's revenue collections were up 2.2%. She said expenditures were within target ranges and consistent with percentages from prior year.

**Planning & Operations:** Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, introduced team members from Harper Corporation and M.B. Kahn who provided updates on the elementary and high school projects. Concerning Drayton Mills, Mr. Hootie Solesbee's noted ceramic tile had been installed in the restrooms and the curtain wall on the entire structure was finished. He said HVAC work would begin on Jan 16. Other milestones, he noted would be on March 5, with the install of the monumental stair and March 13 with dry wall installation. Mr. Bill Cram, with M.B. Khan, shared with the board that even in light of the recent weather the high school project was on schedule for completion. Both projects are, and will also be seeking Green Glob certified status.

**Technology Report:** Dr. Eric Levitt, Chief Technology Officer, shared with the Board information about 1to1Plus, an online program used to track all electronic inventory and work orders. He said 1to1Plus was helping to manage student protection plan payments and track device repairs. Dr. Levitt said his department was in the process of installing a new-hosted Voice-Over-IP (VOIP) phone system. He said the new system would use the Internet to make phone calls, which would save on long distance charges. Dr. Levitt said with the 7Ignites, now entering its 5th year this year, more instructional software was being used to supplement the curriculum. He said as of the start of this school year, the technology office supported more than two-dozen software applications and digital materials that required significant set-up and user management to work properly. Dr. Levitt said to assist in the process, the District has started using Clever, a program that allows teachers and students to login to multiple programs with one username and password. Clever he said was automatically updated every day so that as rosters change, the access to the programs would automatically update.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**SCSBA Ethical Principles:** Dr. Booker noted as part of School Board Recognition Month, Board members were asked to sign a South Carolina School Board Member Ethical Principles plaque. He said the document affirms the Board's vow to uphold effective governance principles and to improve public education in District Seven.

**SCSBA Annual Conference:** Dr. Booker said the South Carolina School Board Association's Annual Convention was scheduled to take place in Hilton Head South Carolina, February 15-18.

**Drayton Mills Elementary School Update:** Dr. Booker noted progress continued to be made on the new Drayton Mills Elementary School scheduled to open in the upcoming year (Fall 2018). He said the project was on track for completion this summer. He noted faculty and staff from Chapman and Houston had been given their school assignments for 2018-2019 prior to the winter break, and by all indications, were pleased with their new assignments. Dr. Booker said Drayton Mills would be a project-based school (PBL) and that teachers and staff were training in that model with the Buck Institute. He also noted students at Chapman and Houston had undertaken a PBL activity as it related to the school colors and school mascot.

**Demographic Study Process and Review:** Dr. Booker informed the Board that enrollment in the District had risen nearly 450 students in grades K5-12 over the last five years. He said the City of Spartanburg continued to grow, and that a number of housing projects were in progress or in the planning stages. Dr. Booker shared that the District had contracted with Dr. Jerome McKibben from McKibben Demographic Research to help District Seven focusing on district demography, enrollment projections, boundary modifications, redistricting, and environmental scans.

**Salary and Staffing Review Process:** Dr. Booker noted the District had hired the Management Advisory Group International, Inc. (MAG) to complete a Salary Review and Study. He said MAG has partnered with the School District to provide a salary review and study for all included job classifications and employees within the scope of the project. He said upon completion a comprehensive and balanced report would include compensation and related staffing tables detailing recommendations. Dr. Booker said once the study had concluded, the findings would be provided to the board.

**Newly Proposed Downtown Development District:** Dr. Booker shared the plans of the Downtown Development District (DDD) with the City of Spartanburg in conjunction with Spartanburg County. He said the DDD would replace the current Broad Street TIF that was set to expire in 2018. He said the City of Spartanburg would be asking County Council to designate the site of the new 200-unit apartment

complex as a multi-county park that will be put in the DDD. Dr. Booker said it is estimated that the District would receive an additional \$250,000 in general operating revenues and \$84,000 in debt service from the newly established DDD. He said factoring in the new projects, it is estimated the initial increase in for FY2020 for District Seven would be approximately \$275,000 for general operations and \$100,000 for debt service.

**Naming, Honoring, and Dedicating Building Spaces:** Dr. Booker expressed input from the Board on a process for honoring individuals who have expressed interest in donating to the New Spartanburg High School building project in honor of individuals or groups. Dr. Booker said he had had several inquiries, and was in the process of creating a way to provide this opportunity to our community. Over the course of the next couple months, Dr. Booker said it was his hope to outline a plan for developing “Leaving a Legacy” for Spartanburg High School by creating a structure for accepting donations and detailing the process for naming specific classrooms, labs, offices, common spaces, etc. in the new Spartanburg High School. Board Members noted the funds could be used to support the District Seven Foundation and specifically support scholarships for our students.

**XI. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** A draft copy of the February 6, 2018 Board agenda was provided.

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 7:48 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Lee to go into Executive Session for discussion of a personnel and legal matter, seconded by Dr. White. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**OPEN SESSION:** At approximately 8:54 p.m. a motion was made Mr. Beatty to return to Open Session, seconded by Dr. White. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

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

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 8:54 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Beatty to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. White. 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**