

**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, April 10, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Sharon Porter, Chair  
Mr. Sanders Lee, Vice-Chair  
Mrs. Meg Clayton, Secretary  
Mr. Vernon Beatty  
Mr. Rick Gray  
Mrs. Mr. Clay Mahaffey  
Mr. Jeff Mason  
Dr. Ernest White

**MEMBER (S) ABSENT:** Mr. Andy Hayes

**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

A tour of Drayton Mills Elementary School was done prior to the meeting. The tour began at 5:30pm and concluded at 6:15pm at the site of the new elementary school. Thomas Webster (principal), McMillan Pazdan Smith, and Harper Construction were on hand to assist with the tour. The scheduled meeting began at 6:30pm.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Porter called the meeting and gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE 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:** There was no Good News
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Mr. Wess Kyzer spoke to the board regarding his child at one of the schools and Laura Ringo spoke regarding her support for the Wellness Policy.
- V. ACTION ITEMS:**
  - A. Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Mr. Gray to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Dr. White. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

- B. Approval of Board Policy – ADF – First Reading:** Mr. Gray brought forth a recommendation from the Board Policy Committee to approve Board Policy ADF – First Reading. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- C. Approval of Board Policy BBBC – First Reading:** Mr. Lee brought forth a recommendation from the Board Policy Committee to approve Board Policy BBBC – First Reading. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- D. Approval of Board Policy IKE – First Reading:** Mr. Beatty brought forth a recommendation from the Board Policy Committee to approve Board Policy IKE – First Reading. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- E. Approval of Resolution of Remembrance in Honor of William Donald Bain, Jr., Former Board Member of the District Seven School Board:** A motion was made by Mr. Beatty to approve the Resolution of Remembrance in Honor of William Donald Bain, Jr., Former Board Member of the District Seven School Board, seconded by Mr. Lee. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**VI. UPDATES FROM THE NORTHSIDE DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND The CITY OF SPARTANBURG:** Our partners from the City of Spartanburg and Northside Development Group provide a comprehensive update on the activities taking place on the Northside. Bill Barnet, Northside Development Group Chair, Tammi Hoy Hawkins, Northside Development Group Project Manager, and Ed Memmott, City Manager, provided the update. Highlights included a new effort to create mixed income, diverse housing for all income and household types, the Northside Development Group (NDG) and its partners through the transformation planning effort have established a holistic housing strategy to include supporting the creation of mixed income rental housing on Brawley Street, to provide support to existing residents through an owner-occupied rehabilitation program, to the recent announcement to build 90 units of mixed income multifamily rental housing at the corner of Howard and College. Retail and commercial spaces are also being established on the Northside in partnership with VCOM and Wofford. Mr. Memmott, noted the day lighting project of the Butterfly Creek was complete and shared exciting details about new development in downtown Spartanburg.

**VII. REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:**

**Human Resources:** Dr. Carlotta Redish, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, provided the monthly staffing report.

**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:** Dr. Terry Pruitt, Deputy Superintendent, provided the schedule on state and other testing assessments.

**Student Services:** Dr. Sonia Leverette, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, shared with the board that law enforcement officers who were assigned to work in a school setting either full-time or part-time and/or those officers who supervise School Resource Officers would be attending a training session. She also noted additionally, Don Mims, Director of Student Services and Myles Wilson, Energy and Safety Coordinator, would be collaborating to develop and lead the in-district SRO trainings throughout the year. Dr. Leverette said nearly 300 applications had been received during the school choice window, and that her department was now reviewing requests.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, provided the Financial Reports for February 2018. She said comparing February 2017 year-to-date activity to February 2018, District revenue collections were down 0.8% as it related to the percent of budget collected. She noted her department would continue to monitor revenue closely each month now that regular ad valorem collections began in December. She said at this point in the fiscal year, fluctuations in collections could be related to timing of receipts, but even so, based on information they had at this time, it did appear budget estimate would fall short for the local items of ad valorem, vehicles and delinquents. She stated they are working with County officials to investigate the slowed collections. She also noted the district's overall revenue budget could fall short approximately \$200,000 given current information and due to the items listed above. She noted expenditures were within target ranges and consistent with percentages from prior year.

**Planning & Operations:** Dr. Thomas White, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Operations, provided assistance in the Board visit to Drayton Mills Elementary School prior to the meeting.

**Technology Report:** There was no report.

## **VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**Inclement Weather Make-up:** Dr. Booker reiterated the schedule from the previous month's meeting. Due to the inclement weather we experienced on September 11, January 8, January 17, January 18, and January 19, students are scheduled to make the days up on February 19, March 30, and June 4 as designated on the calendar. Two additional days were forgiven during the March board meeting and students will no longer need to make up the days on June 5 and June 6. In addition to the two days district-wide, the board granted forgiveness for the following: On September 12, 2017 students at Carver Middle School and Mary H. Wright were unable to attend school due to power outages resulting from Hurricane Matthew. On October

24 students at Chapman Elementary School were unable to attend school due to a power outage.

**SC Department of Education Financial Risk Assessment:** Dr. Booker said since the District was the recipient of numerous federal awards and grants that the South Carolina Department of Education was required, as a pass-through entity for specific federal programs to award, administer, and monitor each sub-award to the districts that receive them. As such, he noted the SCDE conducts an annual risk assessments of school districts based on overall financial and programmatic performance as demonstrated through 10 criteria: required reporting, experience of key personnel, programmatic compliance, fiscal compliance, performance, frequency and need of technical assistance, financial stability, quality of internal financial controls, timeliness of annual financial audit submission and other miscellaneous criteria. He said overall risk scores of less than 18 indicate the district is a “low risk” entity for financial non-compliance. Dr. Booker was pleased to announce that the District received an overall risk score of “11” which is considered very low risk. The lowest risk score available is a “9.”

**135 Day Enrollment:** Dr. Booker highlighted the District’s K5-12 135th day enrollment figures for 2018. He said enrollment over the previous year grew by 48 students to 7,086, and that total enrollment in K3-12 was 7,393 students. The District continues to see positive growth in enrollment.

**Excellence in Financial Reporting Awards:** Dr. Booker shared that the District recently received two awards honoring the “gold standard” in financial reporting - Government Finance Officers Association’s Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Association of School Business Official’s International’s Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting. He said both awards are the highest honor a district could receive in financial reporting, and noted our District goes beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports that proves evidence of its spirit of transparency and full disclosure. He said earning these nationally recognized certificates of excellence shows a community that the district is committed to fiscal integrity, can help achieve a better bond rating, and demonstrates a district’s transparency as you share financial information above and beyond what is required.

**Budget Update: Dr. Booker said budget meetings with** principals and departments had been completed. He proposed the dates to present the budget to the board.

**Children’s Museum: Dr. Booker said** District Seven was proud to be partnering with the Children’s Museum of the Upstate. He said the grand opening of the museum was scheduled for May 19, 2018.

**IX. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** A draft copy of the May 1, 2018 Board agenda was provided.

**Board Retreat:** Ms. Porter thanked all the Board members for committing their time to come together to discuss their collective work and reminded them that dinner would be on Friday, April 20 at 6:30. The retreat will begin on Saturday, April 21 at the Milliken Customer Center. She stated Dr. Booker will be sending out additional information regarding the logistics, and that the facilitator will be contacting them. She thanked the board for their ongoing commitment to the children of District Seven and this community.

**2 Days at the Capital (2 DAC)** 2DAC is a two-day event sponsored by the SCSBA during the legislative session for board members, superintendents and other public school advocates. During the meeting, members will spend time at the State House meeting with legislators, attending legislative committee meetings, and increasing the visibility and voice of local school boards. The first session is March 8. Spartanburg County is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12. Information has been mailed to you by the SCSBA. A flyer is attached.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Gray to go into Executive Session to discuss legal and contractual issues relative to acquisition of real estate associated with completion of construction of the new elementary school on Skylyn Drive, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**OPEN SESSION:** At approximately 8:21 a motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to return to Open Session, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**XI. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mr. Mahaffey made a motion to authorize the superintendent to take any and all contractual and legal action required to acquire real estate necessary to the completion of construction of the new elementary school on Skylyn Drive as discussed in executive session, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 8:25 p.m. a motion was made by Dr. White to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gray. 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**