

**SPARTANBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7**

Minutes of Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Virtual Meeting via Zoom/YouTube

Thursday, April 23, 2020

4:00 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 4 pm by Mr. Lee. My Hayes provided the invocation and welcomed those attending virtually on the D7 YouTube channel.
- II. CHECK-IN:** Mr. Lee turned the meeting over to Dr. Booker who invited each board member to check in and to advise how each are doing. Each board member provided a brief update. Dr. Booker asked for a moment of silence for the loss of two students one middle school and one high school since eLearning commenced in March.
- III. STAFF RECOGNITION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Dr. Booker mentioned special appreciation for District 7 staff members such as our bus drivers and cafeteria workers on the front lines providing meals to our D7 students. Students and families are also to be commended for their efforts to adapt and press through the eLearning environment. Keep up the good work.
- IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**COVID – 19 Update:** Governor McMaster has closed school campuses through the end of the school year. Executive order permits flexibility for district to decide when remote learning should end. D7 last day is June 1<sup>st</sup> but the executive order permits remote learning to end as early as 5/15/2020. Board members will be asked to provide feedback on options to be considered for our students. Meals will continue to be delivered through June 1<sup>st</sup>. Survey's will be distributed from each school to do a well check with our families. Please encourage your families to complete for each school they have children enrolled at.

**Class of 2020's:**

4k, 5<sup>th</sup> graders, 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and of course our graduating seniors. D7 will be purposeful to be mindful to make these ceremonies special for each of these groups. While we would like to have seniors on campus in caps/gowns, we have to be sure it is safe to do so. We will likely move graduation from May 22<sup>nd</sup> to allow more time to format the ceremony to be the best suited for the environment at that time. Spartanburg County will attempt to be consistent across the Spartanburg County districts.

**Instructional (eLearning) Update:** Extended learning and summer school will be critical for the gaps that will exist. D7 will start these conversations to be sure we are considering all students and the specific gaps families could experience. An all hands-on deck mentality within the community for reading and math, both faith-based and SAM for example, will provide critical resources to assist D7 as we plan for the summer months.

**Capital Update:** Dr. Booker provided an update on the capital projects to include the punch list at Spartanburg High School, the turf field at Carver Middle School, final stage of the HVAC upgrade at Pine Street, the newly completed TK Gregg Center and the renovation of the old high school to become the new home for McCracken Middle School.

**Budget Update:** Dr. Booker provided some quick comments about the challenging times ahead following the pandemic. A goal of not laying off employees is very high on our list. Substitute teachers are the only group at this time that have been heavily impacted in D7. All non-essential spending has been stopped. Stimulus money from state will be used in this fiscal year and next. Class sizes will have to increase slightly which is not ideal but better than teachers being laid off. We anticipate the state mandating step increases across the state be frozen to avoid gaps expanding across the state.

- V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At approximately 5:28 pm a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Seconded by Mr. Myers, the motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION:** At approximately 6:00 pm a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Myers. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

- VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 6:01 pm a motion was made by Mr. Hayes to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Myers. All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_