

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, October 1, 2019

6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBER (S) ABSENT: Mr. Vernon Beatty

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:** Ms. Porter called the meeting to order and Mr. Gray gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Mr. Gray moved, with a second by Ms. Clayton, to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 7-0.
- III. GOOD NEWS:** Ms. Beth Lancaster, Chief Communications Officer, recognized Cleveland Academy and Mary H Wright on their receipt of Wardlaw Institute Awards. Jesse Boyd was celebrated for being named to the 2019 List of America's Healthiest Schools – this is the 3rd year the school has been named to this prestigious list by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. William Lawton was honored for being named National Merit Semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Twenty-two students in the District in grades 3-8 recently were recognized for scoring the maximum on a rigorous annual assessment test - 11 students received the maximum score on the SC READY Math test, 11 students received the maximum score on the SCPASS Score in Science, and 1 received the maximum score on the SCPASS Score in Social Studies. (These students were tested this spring – but scores were recently announced – so some of these students have changed schools) *Meeting Street Academy:* Rodriques Estrich, Math; *Jesse Boyd:* Ligon Martin, Science; *Pine:* Everett Stone, Math; Aleeson Earnhardt, Math; Margaret Brantley, Science; Aleeson Earnhardt, Science; Wynn Story, Science; Madison Tidmore, Science; Drake Vaughn, Science; Leah Keen, Math (now MMS); Levi Lazenby, Math (now MMS); Josiah Rogers, Math (now MMS); Charlotte Ward, Math (now MMS); Sebastian Cartwright Social Studies (now MMS); *McCracken:* Carson Bishop, Math; Anna Beeson, Math; James Howlett, Math; Paul Isak Jackson, Science; Chariya Moon, Science; Sierra Hufford, Math and Science (now SHS); Lawson Kyle, Science (now SHS) and Taliesin Vaneman, Science (now SHS).

Dr. White arrived at 6:06 p.m.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: There were no Citizens' Comments.

V. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consent Agenda: Dr. White moved, with a second by Mr. Gray, to approve the Consent Agenda as written. The motion passed. 8-0.

B. Approval of Delegate(s) for the 2019 SCSBA Delegate Assembly: A Motion was made by Mr. Mahaffey to appoint Mr. Lee as the Delegate and Mr. Mason as the Alternate, seconded by Mr. Gray. The motion passed 8-0.

C. Approval of Agreement to Waive Restrictive Covenants and Waive Option to Purchase Debt on Mary H. Wright Property on Caulder Ave: Mr. Lee moved, with a second by Dr. White, to approve the Agreement. The motion passed 8-0.

VI. REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Communications: Ms. Beth Lancaster, Chief Communications Officer, provided a copy of the communication's overview and media report along with a list of pertinent dates for the month. She noted with an eye towards celebrating each important milestone for our new Spartanburg High School, much thought and preparation has gone into welcoming our community to Viking Stadium for our first home game. From jumbotron board contents to honoring our Teachers and Support Staff of the Year and other special guests, and from creating a new gameday stadium info brochure to creating new hype videos featuring our student athletes, it had been an exciting time of preparation.

Diversity & Inclusion: Dr. Carlotta Redish, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, provided a copy of the monthly update from the Office of Diversity & Inclusion along with a list of pertinent dates for the month.

Finance: Ms. Missy Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, said that due to the fact that the District was currently working to close out the books for the 18-19 school year and had not rolled the fund balances forward, an analysis of the financial statements would provide no relevant information at this time. She said information would be forthcoming.

Human Resources: Dr. Marc Zachary, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided the monthly staffing report. He noted they had successfully processed a total of 88 certified teachers and 66 classified employees into District 7 for the 2019-2020 school term. Dr. Zachary also noted the Human Resources Department had been busy developing the New Teacher Induction Meetings and recruiting strategies for the year.

Operations: Mr. Jeff Stevens, Chief Operations Officer and Dr. Booker provided an update on the schedule for the completion of the High School and on the conversion of the old high school to McCracken Middle School.

Technology & Innovation: Dr. Eric Levitt, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, noted the technology scope of work for the new Spartanburg High School was near completion. He noted that remaining systems had been installed for athletics, which included the lower level of the building, press box, stadium and outbuildings. They include Full Wi-Fi coverage, a fully functional scoreboard, security cameras in all athletic areas and the stadium, presentation displays to watch film in all coaching offices and athletics classrooms, and full audio system and presentation displays installed in the weight room.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Spartanburg High School Green Globe Designation: Dr. Booker shared with the board that the District was informed recently that Spartanburg High School has achieved enough points for Green Globes building certification. He said according to the building directory on the Green Globes website, this would make Spartanburg High School the first high school to achieve Green Globes in the Carolinas and one of about a dozen nationwide. We will be preparing a release to share with our community in the coming weeks.

November Board Meeting Date Change (November 12): Dr. Booker reminded the board that the next regularly scheduled board meeting had been moved to November 12, due to the November elections on November 5. He also noted school would not be in session on November 4 and 5.

November 5 Elections: Dr. Booker reminded the board Please be reminded that the next regularly scheduled board meeting had been moved to November 12. The meeting was originally scheduled for November 5, but was moved due to the November elections. School will not be in session on November 5.

STRIVETogether National Convening: Dr. Booker shared with the Board that a District Seven members (Russell Booker, Carlotta Redish, Glen Carson) along with a team from the Spartanburg Academic Movement had the privilege of attending the National StriveTogether Convening in Washington, D.C. September 11-13th. The focus of this year's convening centered around equity in education. It was a powerful convening, and Spartanburg was well represented among the 70 StriveTogether communities. Dr. Booker noted Victoria Bradley (Mary H. Wright) presented on continuous improvement during the conference.

Purpose Built Communities Conference: Dr. Booker told the board he had been asked to join a team from Spartanburg for a panel discussion centered around early childhood education at the upcoming PurposeBuilt Communities conference in Atlanta, GA. The conference taking place in Atlanta, October 14-16 would be also led by Shawna Bynum (Director of the Franklin School), Molly Talbot-Metz (President of the Mary Black Foundation) and Angie Garland (National Director, Early Care and Educational Programs of the Low Income Investment Fund out of San Francisco). He stated the central focus of the Purpose Built Conference is equity. Confirmed speakers include Bryan Stevenson, Founder and Executive of the Equal Justice Initiative; Richard Rothstein, Author of the Color of Law; and Tommy Espinoza, CEO and President of Raza Development Fund.

School Resource Officers: Dr. Booker noted that the District recently learned that approximately \$12 million had been appropriated by the SC General Assembly to expand resource officers in our schools. Spartanburg School District Seven has been informed that we can hire up to four additional officers. Dr. Booker note the District was working closely with the City Police Department and County Sheriff’s Office to meet the requirements set forth by the SC Department of Education. This allocation, he said, would allow us to fully staff every elementary, middle, and high school in Spartanburg Seven with a SRO.

SAM Chapter 4 Gathering: Dr. Booker noted the Spartanburg Academic Movement had released its Annual Report to the community on September 18, 2019 at Cleveland Park. He shared that two of our schools, Cleveland and Mary H. Wright were honored as a part of the celebration.

Report Card Release: Dr. Booker said that the South Carolina Department of Education had scheduled to release its annual report cards on October 1, 2019. Dr. Booker said he’d like to conduct the annual Board work session on student achievement on October 29. During that meeting he noted he would provide a comprehensive update on our 2019 student achievement results.

- VIII. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** A draft copy of the November 12, 2019 Board agenda was provided.
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** No executive session was held.
- X. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no action taken.
- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 7:15 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Hayes, with a second by Mr. Mason to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

SUPERINTENDENT

CHAIR

SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED