



Florence County School

District 3

Board Meeting

Minutes

District

Office Board Room

Thursday, August 20, 2020
6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Barbara Bryant, Julia Mims, Paula Morris, Jason Kirby, Almeta Fleming. Rutha Frieson, & Gloria Robinson.

Absent: None

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the August 20, 2020 regular monthly meeting of the Florence County School District Three Board of Trustees to order. In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-809d, as

amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: Morning News, Lake City Shopper, WBTW, WPDE, & WMBF. This agenda is also posted on the Florence County School District Three website. A moment of silence was observed after which Chair Bryant led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve tonight's agenda as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve tonight's agenda as presented passed 7-0.

Consent Agenda: Paula Morris made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to accept the consent agenda as presented for tonight's meeting passed 7-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: Minutes from the July 23, 2020 regular monthly board meeting, minutes from the special-call meeting on July 30, 2020, the Certified Personnel Report and the Student Transfer Requests.

Communications to the board

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Board Chair Report

- i. Public Participation Suspension - Due to COVID-19 and safety to the Public, Almeta Fleming made the motion to suspend the Public Participation portion (Policy BCBI) for this board meeting. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members approved. The motion to suspend the Public Participation portion for this board meeting passed 7-0. Tonight's meeting is being streamed on Facebook.

Barbara Bryant gave the following report: She participated in the FSD3 Opening Ceremonies and thoroughly enjoyed the Superintendent's address on Rise Up. We will all rise to the challenge and work together for our children and everyone in the district. Thank you to all of FSD3 you're your sacrifice, love , and dedication to FSD3. Congratulations to everyone on their service awards, those that were in the running for staff department employees of the year, as well as the following winners of these categories – Classified employee of the year Mr. Jerry State (ACE); Teacher of the Year, Desiree Wilson (JPT); Assistant Principal of the Year, Jami Kirby (SESA); and Principal of the Year-Dr. Sharon Williams (MSE). For Board members that are attending the Virtual School Law conference be sure to register online by the email you received to participate in these sessions this weekend. We will have one vote in December for the SCSBA Legislative Advocacy conference and Delegate Assembly.

- ii. *Report of any Meetings/School Events Attended* – None

iii. *Request to attend any Meetings – None*

Jac’Kel Brown and Mattie Thomas joined the meeting via telephone.

Staff Reports

Finance Update – Michelle Humphrey, Finance Director

The July financials are linked to the Board Agenda and posted on the FSD3 website. FSD3’s finance department is in the process of closing the FY 19-20 and preparing for our yearly audit. We are continuing to operate on the SY 19/20 general fund balance of \$29,632,700 due to the continuing resolution. Any savings from the FY 19/20 audit will be added to the general fund balance. Mrs. Humphrey shared with board members a comparison of the FY 19-20 revenue and the anticipated 20-21 FY revenues. Exact numbers will be provided at a later date.

Title IX adoption policies – Kasey Feagin, Chief Operations Officer

Two policies, JIA (dealing with students) and GAB (dealing with staff) reflecting sexual harassment for 1st reading. Title IX has changed greatly and has become in effect this month (August). This law will be covered in this weekend’s Virtual School Law conference. These are model policies from the SCSBA, and we are

asking for 1st reading. Rutha Frieson made the motion to accept the 1st reading of GAB, *Sexual Harassment and Retaliation (Staff)*, and JIA *Sexual Harassment and retaliation (Students)*. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve 1st reading of policies GAB and JIA passed 9-0.

Superintendent's Report – *Laura Hickson, Ed. S., Superintendent*

Reminder – School Law Conference (Virtual) begins tomorrow morning, August 21, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

Just as a recap, FSD3 will offer two learning options for the start of the 2020-2021 SY. Option 1: Face to-face with Early Childhood & Elementary Schools Monday-Friday; Middle/Junior High/High Schools will have Hybrid A/B Schedule (M-Th) with an option of Friday Virtual/Small Groups. Option 2: 100% Virtual (Remote Learning). All students start Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Virtual Town Hall Meetings. Four Virtual Town Hall meetings have been hosted for parents, students, staff, and interested stakeholders during the month of August. The dates of these meeting were August 5, one at noon and 1 at 6:00 p.m., one on August 11th at 6:00 p.m., and one on August 18 at 6:30 p.m. The last virtual

meeting will be held on September 3, 2020 beginning at 6:30 p.m. These meetings have been very well participated with a lot of questions from parents answered.

Virtual Numbers – Please note these numbers change daily. Right now we are at 1937 applications for virtual instruction which is approximately 62% of the total FSD3 enrollment. Currently, we have 81% at LCECC; JCL 33%; SESA 54%; MSE 78%; OES 68%; JPT 52%; REMJH 66%; LCHS 68%. Again these number change daily. We will keep you updated.

Parent/Student Virtual Family Meetings (trainings) – These meetings are scheduled for Monday, August 24th @ 12 pm and 6:00 pm; Tuesday, August 25 @ 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm; Wednesday, August 26th – Spanish Sessions @ 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm; Thursday, August 27th @ 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm; and Friday, August 28th @ 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm. It is encouraged for all parents to attend one of these meetings, even if their child will be attending F2F, in order to be prepared if we have to shut down again.

Virtual Open House – August 27, 2020. Schools will notify parents of the time.

LEAP (Learn, Evaluate, Analyze, Prepare) will be August 31 – September 3. These are 5 additional days of learning to help assess and prepare students for the upcoming school year. All students in grades 4K-8 are invited to attend. However, attendance is not mandatory, but highly encouraged. Grades 4K, 1, 3, 5, and 7 will attend Monday and Tuesday (8/31/ and 9/1) only; Grades 5K, 2, 4, 6, and 8 will attend Thursday and Friday (9/3/ and 9/4) only.

Device Checkout/Pick up

Parents who do not have an electronic device will be allowed to check out a device for their child beginning August 31st. Each school will communicate with their parents the specific day and time.

Internet Access

If a parent does not have reliable internet available in the home, it will be provided as requested.

Accountability

During the Shutdown due to COVID-19, a tremendous amount of emphasis was placed on services for our Special Education and ELL students. As a district, we are responsible for ensuring all students, including our Special Education and ELL students, receive equal opportunities for a quality education. All principals will

serve as the LEA and primary administrator for our ELL and special Education population. Ms. Hickson stated she will personally have monthly meetings with principals in small groups and individually for data presentations focused on these two groups.

Executive Session – Paula Morris made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 9-0.

Exit Executive Session – Paula Morris made the motion to exit executive session. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to exit executive session passed 9-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

Action taken from Executive Session – No action was needed.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees; Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn

passed 9-0.

Date approved

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Paula Morris, Secretary