



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting

Minutes

Location: Zoom Meeting

Monday, January 3, 2022

2:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

In Attendance: Barbara Bryant, Julia Mims, Jac’Kel Brown, Paula Morris, Rutha Frieson, Jason Kirby, and Almeta Fleming. ***Mattie Thomas joined the meeting later due to technical difficulties.**

Absent: Gloria Robinson

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the January 3, 2022 board 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 Board Chair Bryant led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: Julia Mims made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Almeta Fleming 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.

***Ms. Mattie Thomas joined the meeting.**

Discussion of return to school after the Winter Break – Dr. Hickson updated board members, and those present for this virtual meeting, of the COVID-19 cases since January 1st. Currently, since January 1st, the percentage of district/school staff out, either positive or quarantined, is at 4%. The percentage of students out, either positive or quarantined, is at 1%. Dr. Hickson also shared past numbers, going back as far as August. Dr. Hickson and board members discussed several points concerning the return of students and staff: 1) continuing the mask mandate; 2) continuing to implement all safety protocols such as temperature checks for staff, students and visitors; 3) asking for staff and students with symptoms to stay home; 4) students with chronic asthma and other illnesses can request temporary virtual placement; 5) checking into a COVID-19 School-based testing contractor; and 6) Encourage full vaccination to include the booster.

After much discussion, board members thanked Dr. Hickson and her staff for being so vigilant in monitoring this situation. Dr. Hickson ensured board members she would keep them updated as needed. No action was taken concerning this matter. Students and staff will return to school tomorrow, Tuesday, January 4, 2022.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn passed 8-0.

Date approved

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Jac’Kel Brown, Secretary