



# Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting

Minutes

Location: FSD3 Board Room

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Thursday, June 16, 2022

6:30 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Barbara Bryant, Julia Mims, Rutha Frieson, Paula Morris, Gloria Robinson. Mattie Thomas, Almeta Fleming, and Jac'Kel Brown were in attendance via telephone.

**Absent:** Jason Kirby.

**Call to Order:** Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the June 16, 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:** Paula Morris made the motion to approve tonight's agenda as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve tonight's agenda as presented passed 8-0.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda:** Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the consent agenda as presented passed 8-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: May 19, 2022 board minutes, the Certified Personnel Report, and Student Transfer Requests.

**Public Participation:** Ashley Jones introduced herself as the Vice Chair of the new Florence Chapter of the Moms for Liberty. She informed board members, and those present at tonight's meeting, this Chapter is available to provide support and assistance to FSD3.

## **Board Chair Report**

1. Report of any Meetings/Schools Attended – *Several board members reported their attendance and experiences attending the many events during this very busy time of year. Events included, but not limited to, were the End of the school year Food Service Banquet, the Athletic Banquet, FSD3's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Senior Parade, the 1<sup>st</sup> Graduation Ceremony for J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts & Science Magnet School, LCHS Graduation Ceremony, the Black History curriculum series by USC.*
2. *Request to Attend Any Meetings* – Barbara Bryant and Gloria Robinson asked to attend the Beyond the Basic workshop. Only 50 participants will be allowed to attend this event. Mattie Thomas, Gloria Robinson, and Barbara Bryant has also asked to attend the Risky Business Conference that will be held in October, 2022.

## **Staff Reports**

### **Finance Update** – *Michelle Humphrey, Finance Director*

*May Financials* - The May financials are linked to your board agenda and on the FSD3 website. The 2022-2023 current budget is the final approved amount of \$29,900,845. \$573,497 and \$376,503 were amounts approved use of fund balance for Employee appreciation/retention bonus and Band, Chorus, Athletics and Potential Housing, respectively. This brings the total amount to \$30,850,845. The General Fund budget was also shown by Object Code.

Mrs. Humphrey gave board members and those present at tonight's board meeting a brief update of the final reading of the General Fund Budget FY 2022-2023. This final reading presented does use the revenues used from the HOUSE amended 5/26/2022 final budget passed by the STATE. Some of these highlights include: \$40,000 approved minimum starting pay for teachers, Bus drivers will have a 5% state minimum + 3% State Employees increase, however FSD3's pay for bus drivers has this 8% currently already in place., a step increase for all employees who qualify, Health Insurance does have a 18.1% employer only rate increase effective 1/1/2023, the 1% increase for state retirement has been reinstated. The final budget with the state approved changes came to a General Fund Balanced Budget for FY 2022-2023 of \$33,191,519.00. Julia Mims made the motion to approve the final balanced budget of \$33,191,519.00 as presented. Paula Morris provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the final balanced budget of \$33,191,519.00 as presented passed 8-0.

### **Human Resources Update** – *Angelia Scott, HR & Federal Programs Director*

Mrs. Scott showed the comparison of the vacancies from May and until this present date:

	May	June
Early Childhood	11	5
Elementary	6	2
English	1	0
Math	1	0
Science	2	1
Social Studies	3	3
Special Education	8	3
Building Construction	1	1
School Counselor	2	2
Art		1
Music (Band)	2	3
Physical Education	1	0
Media	1	1

A board member did ask Mrs. Scott a few of the top reasons that come from the Exit surveys of those leaving the district. Mrs. Scott gave the top 3 reasons: 1) Moving or relocating; 2) Amount of support; and 3) Getting out of education completely.

**Superintendent's Report- *Laura Hickson, Ed. D., Superintendent***

**Legislative Updates** – The following updates were shared with board members:

- A new state spending plan for SY 2022-2023 was adopted Friday which districts will receive funding through a new funding model, and the state minimum teacher salary schedule will increase by \$4,000.
- \$273.5 million for State Aid to Classrooms and increase to teacher salary schedule.
- \$2.2 million to increase the teacher supply stipends from \$275 to \$300.
- \$4.2 million for a 5 percent pay increase to the state bus driver salary schedule.
- \$12 million for the lease/purchase of school buses.

**FSD3 Virtual School**

As Dr. Hickson mentioned during the May board meeting, tonight she presented the 2022-2023 Instructional and safety plans for a 5-day/week face-to-face instructional model. A virtual option will be for students in grades 7-12 only for no more than 3% of students who have maintained an average of C or higher. Staff will continue to review recommendations from both DHEC and the CDC in regards to the necessary safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As well as continue to educate our staff, students, and stakeholders with the most up-to-date guidance from CHEC and CDC such as hand-washing and respiratory etiquette; provide appropriate cleaning protocols to maintain healthy facilities. Also continue to closely monitor community transmission levels. These plans will also include improving ventilation and air quality. COVID testing for our faculty and students will continue thru our local health agencies as necessary. Students with an IEP will receive appropriate accommodations based on the needs of the student. Homebound instruction will be provided based on the need. Of course, the district will continue to utilize input and feedback from all stakeholders to make the safest decisions possible to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff. Dr. Hickson asked for board approval to implement this plan. Gloria Robinson made the motion to approve the instructional safety plan for the 2022-2023 SY as presented. Rutha Frieson provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the instructional safety plan for the 2022-2023 SY as presented by Dr. Hickson passed 8-0.

**Executive Session:** Rutha Frieson made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Gloria Robinson provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 8-0.

**Exit Executive Session** – Rutha Frieson made the motion to exit executive session. Gloria Robinson provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to exit executive session and enter into public session passed 7-0. (Almeta Fleming lost connection with the meeting.)

**PUBLIC SESSION****Action from Executive Session:**

No action was needed from executive session.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Paula Morris provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn passed 7-0.

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Date approved

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Barbara Bryant, Chair

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Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

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Rutha Frieson, Secretary