



# Florence County School District 3

*Board Meeting*

*Minutes*

*Location: FSD3 Board Room*

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**Thursday, June 17, 2021**

**6:30 p.m.**

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

**Absent:** Jason Kirby

**Call to Order:** Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the June 17, 2021 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:** Rutha Frieson 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:** Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda 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 consent agenda as presented passed 8-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: Minutes from the May 20, 2021 board meeting, the Certified Personnel Report, and student transfer requests.

**Special Recognition:** Retiree Recognition-13 FSD3 employees retired as of the end of SY 2020-2021:

- ✓ Lizzie M. Barr, Cafeteria Assistant Manager
- ✓ Sarah L. Brown, Bus Driver
- ✓ Melissa Ann Carber, Library Media Specialist
- ✓ Janice T. Creel, Teacher
- ✓ Emma Davis, Instructional Assistant-Special Education
- ✓ Sandra K. Floyd, Cafeteria Manager
- ✓ Ella M. Graham, Bus Driver
- ✓ Terry I. Green, Cafeteria Manager
- ✓ Shannon M. Ham, Teacher
- ✓ Deborah Page, Cafeteria Operator
- ✓ Cynthia Redden, Teacher
- ✓ Victoria C. Sings, Literacy Coach
- ✓ Betty Patricia Smith-Wright, Cafeteria Manager

**Public Participation:** There were no requests for public participation.

### **Board Chair Report**

1. *Report of Any Meetings/Schools Attended* – Barbara Bryant attended the partnership with Allen University held earlier today. Jac’Kel Brown enjoyed the graduation of the LCHS Class of 2021. Secretary Brown did state that he believes the graduation parade is here to stay. Mattie Thomas attended the stakeholders’ breakfast held at The Stables this morning. Gloria Robinson also attended the stakeholders’ breakfast. Both Ms. Thomas and Mrs. Robinson said the meeting was very informative stating where the district presently is and where we are headed. Mrs. Robinson also attended the Senior Awards Day and the Allen University Partnership Announcement. Barbara Bryant also stated she attended the LCHS graduation, and she made the statement that any gifts given to graduates need to be given at the Senior Awards Day. Paula Morris attended the Stakeholders’ Breakfast and the Senior Awards Day.
2. *Request to Attend Any Meetings* – None.

### **Staff Reports**

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

*May Financials* - The May financials are linked to your board agenda and on the FSD3 website. Our current budget remains at \$30,162,700, which includes the \$200,000 board approved use of fund balance for facility safety improvement measures and the board approved Christmas Bonus for FT/PT employees. Mrs. Humphrey’s presentation still includes a comparison of the General Budget of SY 19-20 and FY 20-21 based on the FY 19-20 revenues due to the Continuing Resolution.

*General Fund Budget for SY 2021-2022* – Mrs. Humphrey informed board members that the legislators of SC have not finalized the SC budget. If any changes are made that will affect the 2021-2022 FSD3 General Fund budget, would be brought back to the board’s attention with the opportunity to vote to amend this budget presented tonight for final approval. Jac’Kel Brown made the motion to approve final reading of the 2021-2022 SY General Fund Budget 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 final reading of the 2021-2022 SY General Fund Budget passed 8-0.

#### **Human Resources Update** – *Angelia Scott, Human Resources Director*

Mrs. Scott gave board members the latest number of vacancies needed for the 2021-2022 certified positions. Currently, needed are 3 in Early Childhood; 5 in Elementary; 1 in English; 2 in Math; 1 in Science; 5 in Special Education; 1 in Music; 1 Media Specialist; and an ESOL position for a total of 20 position. Staff will begin to monitor the current student enrollment to determine if adjustments to these figures are needed.

#### **Instruction Update** – *Mary Howard, Elementary and Early Childhood Director*

Mrs. Howard started her report with attendance counts for Summer School. “Every Day Counts!” The first day of Summer School, FSD3 had 618 students in attendance. As of today, enrollment is 800 students in a summer camp provided by FSD3. In the Spotlight, Dr. Sara Beth Dew from JPT was named SC Council on the Holocaust Educator of Excellence for 2021. Dr. Dew received a certificate of her award and a \$500 check and \$500 grant to use toward classroom resources.

**Operations Update** – *Kasey Feagin, Ed. S., Chief Operations Officer*

**COVID 19 cases update** - Mrs. Feagin began her report with the COVID19 cases since May 1<sup>st</sup> reported in FSD3. 3 positive cases of District or school staff; 5 positive cases of students; 8 Quarantined district or school staff due to exposure; 233 quarantined students due to exposure. 7 students were virtual/231 are F2F or hybrid. Cases since June 1<sup>st</sup> – 0 positive cases of district or school staff; 2 positive cases of students; 2 quarantined district of school staff due to exposure; 25 quarantined student due to exposure.

**BEDS Ministry** – On Saturday, May 22, 2021 26 beds with a mattress, mattress pad, pajamas, bed sheets and comforter will be delivered to identify elementary students. 25 additional beds will be distributed in December 2021.

**Textbook Adoptions** – The following books have been selected for adoption, if the funding from the state department comes through:

- Social Studies- Grades 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> – McGraw-Hill – South Carolina Networks Social Studies
- Pre-Calculus & Calculus & Alg 3 – Savvas Learning-Pre-Calculus, Graphical, Numerical, Algebraic  
Cengage Learning – Calculus for AP a Complete Course  
Cengage Learning – Calculus: An Applied Approach
- Statistics – Pearson – Elementary Statistics, Picturing the World
- Health K-12 – McGraw-Hill – Health and Wellness K-8  
The Goodheart-Willcox Company – Essential Health Grade 9-12
- World History – Savvas Learning Company LLC – World History, Survey
- Visual and Performing Arts – Elementary Visual Art-Exploration in Art K-6  
Elementary Music – Quaver’s Beyond Marvelous General Music South Carolina K-6  
Middle Art – Explorations in Art 7-8  
Middle Band – Essential Elements for Band  
Middle Chorus – Hal Leonard Voices in Concert, Level 1A: Treble Choral  
High School Art – The Visual Experience  
High School Painting & Art 2 – Experience Painting  
High School Drawing & Art 2 – Discovering Drawing  
High School 3D Design & Art 3 – Experience Clay  
High School Band 1, 2, 3, 4 – Foundations for Superior Performance  
High School Chorus 1, 2 – Hal Leonard Voices in Concert, Level 3: Mixed Choral Collection  
High School Music Appreciation – Music! Its Role and Importance in Our Lives  
High School AP Music Theory – The Musician’s Guide to Theory and Analysis, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition  
High School Dance – Experiencing Dance  
High School Theater – Basic Drama Projects
- CTE – Automotive Technology – Cengage Learning Automotive Technology: A System  
Entrepreneurship – Cengage Learning, Entrepreneurship: Ideas in Action  
Health Science Clinic Study – Applied Educational Systems, Inc. Health Center 21 – South Carolina Clinic Study  
Medical Terminology – Cengage Learning Medical Terminology for Health Professions

Accounting – Cengage Learning Century 21 Accounting: Multicolumn Journal

Cengage Learning Century 21 Accounting: Advanced

Mrs. Feagin asked for approval of these recommendations in order for these to be purchased in case the funds come through for these selections. Paula Morris made the motion to approve the textbook adoption list 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 textbook adoption list as presented passed 8-0.

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

**Legislative Updates** - Under legislation (H.4285) adopted by the General Assembly, lawmakers can return June 8-10, June 21-23 and June 29-30 to finalize the state budget and take up local bills and resolution and conference committee reports on legislation that has passed both chambers.

**ESSER III Funds-** March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law. The US Department of Education is providing an additional funds for the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). These funds will be utilized to close the achievement gap and create a safe learning environment for our students. A "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan" must be developed. Stakeholders must be involved by asking for input from our parents, community members and businesses. This input will be used to finalize the "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan" and develop an expenditure plan that aligns with the plan. A survey online along with the Safe Return Plan and the 15 allowable categories under ESSER III will be used to gather data. This survey will consist of questions to address two major parts: Spending of ESSER III Funds and A Safe Return to In-Person Instruction. FSD3 will receive \$12,788,521. 2/3 will be received now and 1/3 will be received later. These funds have very specific guidelines for expenditures. Dr. Hickson presented board members with a view of the questions listed on this 2-part input survey to be placed online.

**Summer Tutoring-** Summer tutoring is available for 5K-12 grade students. A big thank you to Mr. Jamie Daniels for helping to implement this project. FSD3 is utilizing FMU college students working part-time to tutor FSD3 students in need of extra help.

**Breakfast for Stakeholders** – The purpose of this meeting, held this morning at 8:30 a.m. at The Stables, is to bring ministers, business managers, Mayors, and other key supportive stakeholders together to receive an update on the "State of the District" and the role the district plays in a striving, successful community.

**District Calendar Professional Development for 2021-2022 SY** - Dr. Hickson shared with board members the Professional Development dates for SY 2021-2022. New Teacher Orientation meetings will be the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. July 21-22 will be Principal PLO and July 28-29 will be a Leadership Retreat (Leading Change during/after a Pandemic: Creating a New Normal) Skills to improve "Communication and professionalism: will be infused throughout training. August dates were given leading up to the first day of school, which is August 16<sup>th</sup>. Board members are invited to the New Employee Luncheon at the Bean Market on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Opening Ceremonies will be August 9<sup>th</sup>.

**SY 2021-2022 Roll-over enrollment counts** – Dr. Hickson shared with board members the roll-over enrollment numbers of returning students. Registration of returning students was only at 32.2%,

however, Dr. Hickson did implement a registration initiative for several days. As of 6/15/2021, registration of returning students is now at 62% for the entire district.

**Recruitment Task Force Committee** – In order to help with Board Goal #4- Recruit, retain, and train excellent instructional and administrative staff, Dr. Hickson would like to implement a recruitment strategy: to establish a FSD3 daycare for employees. A suggested location will be JCL Elementary School. Dr. Hickson asked for board approval to continue with this proposed strategy. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to give permission to establish a FSD3 daycare for employees. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to grant permission for Dr. Hickson to establish a FSD3 daycare for employees past 8-0.

**Allen University Partnership** – Dr. Hickson continued her report by highlighting the announcement earlier today of the Allen University Partnership. This partnership is a direct strategy to Board Goal #5, To build effective school, community and business relationship/partnerships. This partnership will:

1. Provide subject matter, speakers, and presenters for designated occasions and programs at schools in Florence 3.
2. Provide remote mentoring and scheduled on-site mentoring.
3. Provide student access to Saturday Art and Science programs.
4. Provide readers and leaders for enrichment, mentorship, and acceleration programs for schools across the District.
5. Support programs and initiatives in Florence 3 reflective of the universal obligation of citizenship and pursuit of the Greater Good.

**Class of 2021 recap** – There were 158 graduates in the Class of 2021. The current graduation rate is 66.5%. 76 students graduated college or career ready-students will have the opportunity to re-take the WIN assessments. 10 students are going into the military. 42 students graduated with honors 3.5 or higher. 52 students earned the SC Life Scholarship (\$5,000/year). 17 students earned SC Hope Scholarship @\$2,800 – one year only. 3 students received a full-ride scholarship. One student accepted into the Clemson nursing program out of 3378 applications with only 176 slots.

**Executive Session:** Julia Mims made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Rutha Frieson 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** – Julia Mims made the motion to exit executive session. Paula Morris 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 passed 8-0.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

### **Action taken from Executive Session**

Rutha Frieson made the motion to give Dr. Hickson a raise in salary as stated in her contract. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. After discussion, Rutha Frieson made the motion to amend the previous motion to give Dr. Hickson her **1.46% increase** in salary as stated in her contract. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to

amend the previous motion to give Dr. Hickson her 1.46% increase in salary as stated in her contract passed 8-0.

Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to allow Dr. Hickson to carry over her vacation days left from the 2020-2021 SY to the 2021-2022 SY. Paula Morris provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to allow Dr. Hickson to carry over her vacation days left from the 2020-2021 SY to the 2021-2022 SY passed 8-0.

Jac'Kel Brown then made the motion to conduct a study of 240 day employees carrying over vacation days from one SY to another SY. Julia Mims provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to conduct a study of 240 day employees carrying over vacation days from one SY to another SY passed 8-0.

**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 8-0.

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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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Jac'Kel Brown, Secretary