



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting Minutes Location: FSD3 Board room

Thursday, March 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Barbara Bryant, Julia Mims, Rutha Frieson, Mattie Thomas, Jac'Kel Brown, Rebecca Yates and Paula Morris.

Absent: Jason Kirby and Gloria Robinson

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the March 16, 2023 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: Jac'Kel Brown 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.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mattie Thomas provided the 2nd 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: February 23, 2022 board minutes, the Certified Personnel Report and student transfer requests.

Public Participation: None.

Board Chair Report

Ms. Barbara Bryant, FSD3 Board Chair welcomed everyone attending the March 16, 2023 board meeting either personally or on Facebook. As always, the board's quest is to keep everyone informed and involved about what is going on in Florence School District 3.

1. Report of any Meetings/Schools Attended – Rutha Frieson attended the MSE Black History Month program on 2/28/2023. Jac'Kel Brown attended the SEL day activities, and he also participated in the OES Career day, which prompted him MANY questions from students about his career activities. Barbara Bryant watched the Black History Day and the Power of Caring video from JCL
2. Request to attend any Meetings – Some of the board members will be attending A Day at the Capital on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

Superintendent's Report

Finance Update – Hope Gibson, Finance Director

February Financials - The February financials are linked to your board agenda and on the FSD3 website. The 2022-2023 current budget is the final approved amount of \$33,477,137. The board-approved use of the Fund Balance is \$240,389 for housing and safety and \$136,114 for projects in development. The total amount board approved use of fund balance is \$376,503. Items also available for public viewing

is the general fund by object code of revenue and expenditures as well as by function as of February 28, 2023.

1st Reading of the proposed general fund budget for SY 2023-2024-This is a PRELIMINARY 1st reading. After reviewing the mission and goals of FSD3, Ms. Gibson began this report with a 135 Average Daily Membership (ADM) trend. Ms. Gibson continued her report with the new Education Funding Reform: Aid to Classrooms Program proposed in FY 23-24 executive budget. The local tax to be determined was also explained, which included a millage history. For the 23-24 FY it will be an increase of 9.18 mills. The budget estimates for revenue (preliminary-no definite numbers) is \$32,201,543. Julia Mims made the motion to approve this preliminary 1st reading of the 2023-2024 General Fund budget. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the 1st reading of the preliminary 2023-2024 general fund budget passed 7-0.

Human Resources Updates – Angelia Scott, HR & Federal Programs Director

Mrs. Scott gave board members a brief summary of the vacancies in FSD3 for the upcoming 2023-2024 SY. Within the numbers provided, references are being checked now for Math, Science, Social Studies and 1 CATE positions. Mrs. Scott will be traveling to recruitment fairs as well as calling, texting and implementing alternative certification programs.

Instruction Updates – Mrs. Mary Howard, Elementary & Early Childhood Curriculum Director

Mrs. Howard began her report reviewing the October and February intercession extended learning opportunities. In October 115 students were invited with an average daily attendance of 72 students. In February 120 students were invited with an average daily attendance of 60 students. Other extended learning opportunities in FSD3 that are being utilized throughout the year are: the Tutoring Center which on has a daily average attendance of 18 students/day and Mathnasium currently has 11 students attending. The FSD3 afterschool programs: LCECC's 21st Century program averages 75-80 students/day, MSE's 21st Century program averages 90-95 students/day, OES 62-66 students/day, JCL's Original six program averages 34 students/day, SESA academic program averages 38 students/day, JPT's 21st Century program averages 75 students/day and 20 students daily for Credit Recovery, REMJH 21st Century program averages 83 students/day, and LCHS has an Attendance/Content Recovery program available in the afternoons and on Saturday with approximately 58 invited with an average weekly attendance of 18 students.

Spring District Benchmarks – Spring benchmarks in March are done in order to provide a rigorous review before the end of the year assessments. The schools will analyze the data and create “Boot Camps” to provide: spiral review of “Power Standards”, addressing academic areas of weakness, and provide test taking strategies.

Summer Learning – The summer learning program will be a 5 days/week, May 31st-June 23rd. Mrs. Howard shared the vision, goals, and camps to be offered for the 2023 summer learning experience.

In the Spotlight – Dreambox growth-FSD3 is #20 in state completing 3+ lessons/week at 48%

School Connect project-part of a documentary being filmed at Artfields

SEL Counselors led our students on a day of mindfulness and celebration of one another.

Upcoming Events – March 17th is professional development, no school for students

March 22nd report cards will be issued

March 23rd PD Regional National History Day at the Bean Market hosting approximately 60 students in the PD area.

March 30th will be the Teacher Forum Gala which begins at 6:00 p.m.

Operations Updates – Mrs. Kasey Feagin, Ed. S., Chief Operations Officer

As the season calls for, Mrs. Feagin first shared testing window dates. Her report continued with **Soles for Souls**, March 15, 2023. Sixty (very appreciative) elementary students picked out shoes at Shoe Show. This is sponsored by the Greater Lake City Community Resource Center. Photos will be posted soon.

2023-2024 Request for Public Input – the Title I program is asking for public input. Please contact Kasey Feagin, Director of Title I or Linda Hair, Supervisor of Title I. Mrs. Feagin shared all of the Title federal programs and what each program's purpose. The grant window is 3/1/2023 to 7/1/2023. There is a survey on Facebook concerning this input. However, public input may also be submitted by attending a public participate meeting, completing a "FCSD3 Seeks Public Input" form or the survey. You may also email Linda Hair (lhair@fsd3.org) for Title I, Angelia Scott (ascott@fsd3.org) for Title II, IV, & V, or Kasey Feagin (kfeagin@fsd3.org) for Title III. Individuals may also participate by being part of a grant planning committee.

Textbook recommendations – The following textbooks were recommended for the 2023-2024 SY:

- SUBJECT: AP European History textbook - A History of Western Society Since 1300 for AP – Bedford, Freeman and Worth
- SUBJECT: Civics – HMH Civics – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company
- SUBJECT: Biology I Honors: Savvas Learning Company LLC – Campbell Biology: Concepts & Connections 10th Edition
- SUBJECT: Biology I CP – McGraw Hill LLC – Inspire Science: Biology
- SUBJECT: Biology II CP – Savvas Learning Company LLC – South Carolina Miller & Levine Biology
- SUBJECT: AP Biology – Savvas Learning Company LLC – Campbell Biology 12th Edition, AP Edition

Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve the textbook recommendations as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. The motion to approve the textbook recommendations as presented passed 6-0 with Mattie Thomas abstaining from the vote.

Architectural RFP – Mr. Brian Huckabee, Communications, Technology, Facilities & Maintenance Director

Invitations for bids was posted on the SC Business Opportunities website on February 1st, 2023. The deadline was February 15, 2023. An Evaluation Committee reviewed submissions on February 22, 2023. The evaluation committee included Dr. Hickson, the FSD3 finance consultant, Mr. Boland, Ms. Hope Gibson, and Brian Huckabee. The submissions were evaluated based on experience with school districts, technical expertise, range of services and proximity to FSD3. Mr. Huckabee provided the names of scores of the submissions. Based on total scores, the committee recommends that FW Architects, Inc. be approved to provide architectural services for a term of three years with a district option to extend the contract for an additional two years. Law says that architectural companies do not give fees for the RFP. The fee is negotiated after the selection. The board did ask if a board member could be part of the evaluation committee when this comes up again. Not as a voting member but just to be a part of the committee. As stated in Policy FDAB the board will need to approve this

recommendation for architectural services. Jac'kel Brown made the motion to approve FW Architects, Inc. to provide architectural services for the term stated. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve FW Architects, Inc. to provide architectural services for a term of three years with a district option to extend the contract for an additional two years passed 7-0.

Other Legislative and District Updates – Dr. Laura Hickson, FSD3 Superintendent

Dr. Hickson shared with board members that the House has started deliberations this week and are proposing several bills:

1. About \$260 million in new money for State Aid to Classroom plus other revenue will be proposed to assist districts in meeting the state minimum teacher salary increase of an additional \$2500 from last year. This would raise the first-year teacher salary from \$40,000 to \$42,500.
2. \$17.3 million in general fund revenue for an increase in bus driver base hourly rate.
3. \$120 million in nonrecurring EIA revenue for capital funding for schools (420 million for district consolidations; \$10 million for consolidating 3 schools into 1 campus and other educational buildings into 1; \$20 million for school safety upgrades).
4. \$3 million in EIA revenue to increase the teacher supplies stipend from \$300 to \$350/eligible teacher.
5. \$9.5 million in EIA revenue for Career and Technology Education.
6. \$30 million in EIA nonrecurring revenue for instructional materials.
7. \$2 million in EIA nonrecurring for startup, administrative costs for the Education Scholarship program in Senate bill 39, which has passed the Senate.
8. \$14.1 million for 188 new School Resource Officers (SROs) and \$13.1 million for SRO equipment
9. Bill H4100, prohibits counties from having multiple school districts by July 1, 2025.

Proposed Policy Manual Revision contract (old code conversion)

Dr. Hickson shared with board members that Stephanie Lawrence with SCSBA sent a proposal to revise the entire policy manual. The policies will be divided into 6 sets:

- 1) Sections A and B
- 2) Sections C, D, E and F
- 3) Sections G
- 4) Section I
- 5) Section J
- 6) Section K and L

Each revised section will require 2 readings. The goal for completion of this project is 12 to 18 months.

Important Notices to parents

Enrichment camps will be offered this summer, therefore:

- FSD3 will not offer summer school for promotion in grades K-8 this summer.
- Summer Camps will provide opportunities to accelerate students' learning by providing hands-on experiences designed to build retention.

- Parents are encouraged to contact their child's principal to discuss their child's progress.

Enter into Executive Session –Julia Mims made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Jac'Kel Brown provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 7-0.

Exit Executive Session –Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to exit executive session. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd 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.

PUBLIC SESSION

Action from Executive Session: No action items came from executive session.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Jac'Kel Brown provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn passed 7-0.

Date approved

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Jason Kirby, Secretary