



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting

Minutes

Location: FSD3 Board Room

Thursday, March 17, 2022

6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Barbara Bryant, Almeta Fleming, Paula Morris, Gloria Robinson, Jason Kirby, Rutha Frieson, and Jac'Kel Brown was in attendance via telephone.

Absent: Julia Mims and Mattie Thomas

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the March 17, 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. Gloria Robinson 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: Gloria Robinson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Rutha Frieson 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 7-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: February 24, 2022 board minutes, March 10, 2022 Policy Review minutes, the Certified Personnel Report, and Student Transfer Request(s).

Public Participation: There were no requests for public participation.

Board Chair Report

1. *Report of any Meetings/Schools Attended* –Almeta Fleming attended the Black History Program at J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts and Science Magnet School. She especially enjoyed the speaker and the student participation. Barbara Bryant participated in a virtual meeting with Ronald E. McNair Jr. High School and the District Office meetings concerning community concerns.
2. *Request to Attend Any Meetings* – Day at the Capital is April 27, 2022. Gloria Robinson, Rutha Frieson, Barbara Bryant, and Almeta Fleming confirmed they would like to attend at this event.

Staff Reports

Finance Update – *Michelle Humphrey, 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 \$29,900,845. The General Fund budget was also shown by Object Code.

Preliminary (First Reading) of the 2022-2023 General Fund budget

Michelle Humphrey presented the Preliminary (First Reading) of the 2022-2023 General Fund budget. Mrs. Humphrey discussed the 135 Average Daily Membership trend, the education funding reform, and the local tax. All of these items can to a preliminary revenue of \$32,478,983.00. Broken down:

\$7,718,450 from Local monies; \$6,406,519 from State monies (this amount is NOT involved in the new formula); \$17,825,714 from State monies (with new formula), and \$528,300 from transfers. Mrs. Humphrey also listed the transfers connected to this amount for board members. Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve this proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 passed 7-0.

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

Mrs. Scott presented to board members and those present at tonight's meeting the FSD3 Recruitment Strategic Plan. This plan's purpose is to look at what FSD3 can do to be a better employer. Strategies include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ employee benefits – exploring mileage reimbursement, exploring house purchase, and day care for district employees
- ✓ alternative certification programs – looking at USC's Carolina Collaborative for Alternative Preparation (CarolinaCAP) program. This program will be focusing currently on Main Street Elementary School.
- ✓ internship certification – this is paid student teaching internships for eligible teacher candidates who are currently enrolled in a State Board of Education-approved educator preparation program in SC and has been approved by the college or university for participation in an internship program.
- ✓ leadership academy – currently FSD3 has three leadership academies in place. 6 individuals are currently enrolled in the Aspiring Principal Academy, 7 individuals are currently enrolled in the Aspiring Assistant Principal Academy, and 8 individuals are enrolled in the Aspiring Instructional Leaders Academy.
- ✓ strategic staffing incentive – FSD3 is looking at up to \$5,000 in bonuses to qualified applicants. To qualify depends on classroom management skills and evidence of excellent attendance. This incentive is directly concerning Main Street Elementary School and Ronald E. McNair Jr. High School. This incentive is pending approval using ESSER funds.

Instruction Update – Mary Howard, Elementary & Early Childhood Director

Mrs. Howard began her report with the question "Why Spring Benchmarks in March?" As Mrs. Howard explained, the goal is to provide a rigorous review before the end of the year assessments. Therefore, schools will analyze the data and create "Boot Camps" to provide spiral review on "Power Standards," address academic areas of weakness, and provide test taking strategies.

Summer Learning Opportunities – Summer learning begins Monday, June 6th and ends Friday, June 24th. Within these three weeks are 12 programs within the district for students to participate in as well as

several off-site summer enrichment camps. Camps are already projected to serve a total of over 700 students.

In the Spotlight – Jayla Jones, LCHS, has been named a 2022 Yale Young Global Scholar, Ms. English's TAG class's book, Florence 3 Poet-Tree has been selected as a semi-finalist in the Studenttreasures National Book Challenge©. Students were present at tonight's meeting to read their poem that was included in this book, 7 FSD3 students have been accepted as 2022 Jr. Artists for the 2022 ArtFields event, Olanta Elementary Creative Arts and Science Magnet School continues to challenge student to read, read and read. OES also had a multicultural night to include a partnership with Olio Studio. An OES student, Kristina Wilson, won second place in the SERCAP Art Contest, OES will also be having a Spring Fling testing Celebration on April 8th. City of Lake City Mayor Anderson gave a proclamation that March 11 is SEL day, which was celebrated all across the district. Main Street Elementary has GREATNESS.

Upcoming events:

March 22nd – 135th day of SY 2021-2022

March 28th – Women in STEM – JPT 6:00 p.m.

March 30th – Waterford Family Literacy Night 6:00 p.m.

March 31st – Report Cards

April 15-22nd – Spring Break

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

COVID 19 cases update - A summary of cases in March as well as a breakdown of cases by schools was presented to board members and those present for tonight's meeting. 0% of district or school staff tested positive and 0% were quarantined due to exposure/contact in March. 0% of students tested positive and 8% of students were quarantined due to exposure/contact in March.

2022-2023 Anticipated Federal Funds – FSD3 is seeking public input as plans begin for the following funds:

- ✓ Title I – Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies
- ✓ Title II – Supporting Effective Instruction
- ✓ Title III – English Language Acquisition & Language Enhancement
- ✓ Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichment
- ✓ Title V – Rural & Low-income School Program

This grant window is open 3/1/2022 – 7/1/2022. While this window is open, surveys for public input are available in both English and Spanish, private schools will also be contacted to see if they would like to be a part of the plan that will be submitted. Other ways to offer input, besides the available surveys, are:

- ✓ Attending a Public Participation Meeting
- ✓ Completing a "FCSD3 Seeks Public Input Form"
- ✓ Links for surveys are English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/92VQ8LM-CNA2223>
Spanish: <https://222.surveymonkey.com/r/7L2NPP9-CNA2223-Spn>
- ✓ By emailing: Title I – Linda Hair (lhair@fsd3.org), Title II, IV, & V – Angelia Scott (ascott@fsd3.org) or Title III – Kasey Feagin (kfeagin@fsd3.org).
- ✓ Participating on a grant planning committee

State Assessments: As always during this time of year, Mrs. Feagin gave a listing of the upcoming state assessments around the district:

- ✓ ACCESS for MLs – January 24-March 25, 2022
- ✓ Performance Task – February 22 – March 18, 2022 – this has been completed as of today.
- ✓ SC Alt – March 7 – April 22, 2022 – this assessment has already started, and it has been finished already by one school in the district.
- ✓ ACT – March 22-24, 2022
- ✓ SAT – March 23, 2022
- ✓ WorkKeys – March 21-April 29, 2022
- ✓ SC Ready & SC Pass – Last 20 days of school
- ✓ EOC – Last 15 days of school

2nd Reading of Policies:

Three policies were introduced as new policies during the March 10th Policy review meeting. These policies are now ready for the 2nd reading:

- ✓ Policy JIAA – Student Sex/Gender Discrimination
- ✓ Policy JLCDB – Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- ✓ MBA – Shared Services and Staff

Paula Morris made the motion to approve 2nd reading of the policies presented. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion of approve 2nd reading of Policies JIAA, JLCDB and MBA passed 7-0.

Textbook Approval – Science textbooks for grades K-8 were presented for approval. Teachers had attended a virtual caravan of all the textbooks available and these are the ones teacher committee recommend. All textbooks have the same author (Jay Hackett) and publisher (McGraw Hill LLC). They are each grade specific. Almeta Fleming made the motion to approve the SC Inspire Science textbooks each for grades K-8. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the Science textbooks for K-8 grades as presented passed 7-0.

Policy Review for Sections E – Business Management – Policies brought to the board for needed revisions tonight are as follows:

- ✓ EA – Business Management Goals and Objectives: 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, add /her after him.
- ✓ EB – Buildings and Ground Management : 1st paragraph, 1st sentence, remove the last word /operations.
- ✓ EBCA - Vandalism Protection: Added all legal references that were missing.
- ✓ EDG - Student transportation Management/alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing: 1st paragraph, last sentence, remove “and it’s accompanying administrative rule,”. There is no administrative rule.
- ✓ EGAA – Worker’s Compensation: 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence, remove “provide” and add “permit”. 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, remove “provide” and add “offer”.

There were no needed revisions for the F – Facilities Expansion Program section. Rutha Frieson made the motion to accept the revisions to the FSD3 policies for section E. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the revisions to the E section of the FSD3 policies passed 7-0.

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

FSD3 Stakeholders' Strategic Planning Partnership Meetings – There have been two meetings, March 8th and March 11th. The March 8th meeting was with the City of Lake City, and the March 11th meeting was with area ministers. These meetings served as input and overview for the Title I, II and III, as well as sharing FSD3's mission, operational goals, district focus, strategic plan goals and accomplishments. It was also an opportunity for the community and district to share challenges and concerns. The guiding question was: What are specific strategies/actions we could implement to transform our communities and schools and make them safer?

These meetings was also an opportunity to share more about the 2022-2023 Modified Yearlong Calendar. To talk about the intercession days and FSD3's vision for summer learning. The guiding question for this segment was: How can Churches and Community Organizations partner with FSD3 to provide continuous learning in safe spaces during intercession days?

Social Emotional Series for Parent/Guardians/Community Members – Dr Hickson shared with board members and others present at tonight's meeting, the dates and topics for the monthly SEL series.

Legislative Updates – the most pressing issue at the statehouse is the \$4,000 pay raise for teacher. This is the report, but is not an accurate picture. The state formula establishes a 75/25% split of the calculated statewide cost based on a local district's Index of taxpaying Ability. Applying the formula results in much less that 75% actually being covered by the state. The remainder to be funded by local school districts, with no other source of funding. Although reported as a \$4,000 raise, the proviso clearly states that districts paying in excess of the state minimum may use it allocation at its discretion.

Update on the Implementation of Black History and Black History resources into our Curriculum and Schools – The goal is to ensure black History is taught year-round, not just during February, Black History month, in our schools. Dr. Hickson shared with board members and others attending tonight's meeting SC Law Section 59-29-55 Instruction on Black History. Dr. Hickson also explained the research and planning that went into this implementation. She also presented the Tentative Implementation Timeline/plan beginning June 13 with an introductory professional development presentation. On June 14th a Justice for All exhibit at a site provided in the district will be open for viewing by community, teachers, students, parents, stakeholders and media. A professional development with social studies teachers, media specialists and literacy coaches will be conducted. Dr. Franklin Gause, Outreach coordinator and Education Specialist, Center for Civil Rights History and research, University of SC, joined the board meeting virtually to expound of this exhibit.

Graduation 2022 – Due to FSD3's J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts & Science Magnet School having a 12th grade this year. As a reminder, when J. Paul Truluck received the Magnet school grant, a stipulation in the grant was that eventually a school year grade would be added each year until the school was a 6th-12th grade school. This 2022 will graduate the 1st senior class of this magnet school. Ms. Frieson did state that she had been asked about why the district was having 2 graduations in 1 district. J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts & Science Magnet School last year only

went to the 11th grade. From this year forth, FSD3 will have 2 high schools with each having a graduation class. Therefore, just as other districts that have more than one high school, each school will have their own graduation services. J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts & Science Magnet School's graduation will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. and Lake City Early College High School's graduation will be held on Friday, June 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

There has been a request to combine the LCHS & Adult Ed's graduation. The Director of Adult Education is find with doing this for the adult education students who will complete requirements by graduation date.

COVID Protocols – With the lessening of the DHEC and CDC requirements for COVID protocols and the school COVID case numbers have decreased, Dr. Hickson made the recommendations to remove the mask mandate in schools. However, a mask can be worn and will still be available for anyone who wants to wear one. Dr. Hickson also recommended that schools no longer do temperature checks unless a student or adult appears to display symptoms and cease requiring employees to do the symptoms' survey checker. But, because federal law still requires a mask on buses (Public transportation), students will continue to wear a mask on the buses. Almeta Fleming made the motion to approve these recommendations as presented. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the recommendations to remove the mask mandate in schools and no longer do temperature checks, with exceptions and cease requiring employees to do the symptoms' survey checker passed 7-0.

Executive Session: Paula Morris made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Rutha Frieson 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 – Rutha Frieson made the motion to exit executive session. Gloria Robinson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to exit executive session passed 7-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

Action from Executive Session:

No action needed.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Gloria Robinson 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 7-0.

Date approved

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Rutha Frieson, Secretary