



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting

Minutes

Location: FSD3 Board Room

Thursday, May 19, 2022

6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Julia Mims.

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the May 19, 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: Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve tonight's agenda as presented. Jason Kirby 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 8-0.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Almeta Fleming 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 8-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: April 14, 2022 board minutes, the Certified Personnel Report, and Student Transfer Requests.

Public Participation: Yamekia Robinson, City of Lake City councilwoman, addressed board members and those present for tonight's meeting. Implementation of the Lake City Youth Council (LCYC). This council is a way for the youth to get involved and see how their government works, who their local representatives are, how they can help them, and how they can be a voice for the young people in their community when it comes to certain issues. The LCYC mission is to strengthen engagement, education, community service, and leadership of our young people. The way we plan to accomplish this mission is through education, training sessions, youthful events, being proactive, advocating, strategizing, planning and volunteering. Who can join the LCYC? Any FSD3 student who are rising 10th, 11th or 12th grade student in the upcoming SY. How can they join? Through an application process, then they will go through an interview process, and then a selection process. How will the LCYC look? We are looking for 15 to 20 team members. There will be 2 elected officers and 2 appointed officers. Elected officers will be the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and they will be from the 11th and 12th grade. Appointed officers will be the secretary, which will be from the 10th to the 12th grade, and the appointed public relations director, who will also be from the 10th to 12th grade. We will also have a steering committee, which will consist of 8 to 10 adults. This group will consist of local government council members, parents,

community leaders, teachers, etc., and they will be advisors and mentors for the team to give them guidance and support. Assisting from start to finish with the students. Why should a student join? You should join LCYC because you are a community leader, a voice for the youth, and you can make a difference. 2 elected officer and 2 appointed officers. We want students to learn how the election process works so they will vote in an actual election. Express the importance of voting. Right now the Florence County voting registration is working for at least 12 high school polls for this upcoming primary, which is June 14th. This has been posted on Facebook today. This is a brief outlook on how our LCYC will look and operate. After our informational meeting this month for interested individuals who have been signing up. In June we will have our first face to face meeting with everyone who submitted an application. After the election of officers and appointments, we will then begin our regular meetings. I would like to see us taking trips to the statehouse, youth council workshop, and come before the local council meetings to bring their issues and concerns. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share information concerning the new LCYC. I want our young people to know they have a voice, and we will be able to help them use their voice for the young people of Lake City. Any questions. Barbara Bryant stated that she thought this was a great endeavor and appreciated what the city is doing.

Board Chair Report

1. *Report of any Meetings/Schools Attended* – Barbara Bryant thanked everyone for attending the board meeting this evening. It is an attempt to keep you involved and informed as to what is going on in FSD3. It has been an extremely busy time of the year. Ms. Bryant, and other board members, attended the MSAP National conference in Las Vegas, NV April 18-22, 2022. We had the opportunity to visit 2 magnet schools in different sessions. I also attended a session hosted by a group from Florida who talked about how they attracted students to their magnet school program and the methods they used to address any issues they may have. All of the sessions were very well put together, and I appreciated the opportunity to attend this event with the principals, 2 other board members, and directors. On April 27th several board members and I attended a Day at the Capital, where we visited the statehouse. We went to the House and Senate chambers. We also had an informational session with 8 of the 10 candidates that are running for the State Superintendent of Education. We know this is a very vital position. April 29th I added the LC High School College Decision Day. Atmosphere was upbeat. Enjoyed every minute. On May 10th at the LCECC, I attended the hip-hop version of the play Hansel and Gretel. It was magnificent. Children did a wonderful job. On May 13th I attended the JROT award banquet, very well put together, students did an excellent job. Jac'Kel Brown also attended the MSAP National conference in Las Vegas. He wanted to personally thank the FSD3 staff members that presented FSD3 during this conference. He thinks it is a very big thing that FSD3 goes out and shows what we do in our small district amongst all of the larger districts. FSD3 has something to offer. We need to celebrate these presentations. I also attended a session on how magnet schools grow and sustain with the funds they are given. They used the IRS concept-Incubate, Replicate and Scale. To grow their program, try to reproduce their program, and then try to make it better. And then on April 29th when everyone else was attending LC High School College Decision Day, Mr. Brown participated in the REMJH

Career Day. He stated it was a very well put together program, based on students' IGPs.

Everyone has been very busy.

Gloria Robinson also attended the MSAP conference in Las Vegas. She stated this conference was very impressed by the students' leadership and the future of our world. From robots to rugs, everything was inspiring. She also attended the Day at the Capital, the JROTC banquet. She was so impressed with the students' taking charge of this event. She also attended the LC High School College Decision Day.

Mattie Thomas attended the Day at the Capital taking everyone with her as she talked with legislators about the issues concerning education.

Paula Morris wanted to say that the JROTC banquet where the leadership was passed on to the students. This is what we need, teaching our children how to be leaders, thinking like leaders.

Almeta Fleming attended the Day at the Capital, and the Arts Showcase. She attended the Showcase at JCL, instilling confidence within students to go before an audience with their works. She believes this is very important for students academically as well. It shows that everyone can have talent.

Rutha Frieson stated that she watched the LC College Decision Day. It was wonderful.

2. *Request to Attend Any Meetings* – Barbara Bryant, Gloria Robinson, Mattie Thomas and Paula Morris requested to attend the SCSBA Law Conference which will be August 27-28, 2022 in Greenville, SC.

Staff Reports

Finance Update – *Michelle Humphrey, Finance Director*

April Financials - The April 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.

The 2nd Public Hearing of the 2022-2023 General Fund budget was held at 5:45 p.m. this afternoon.

Mrs. Humphrey began presenting details for the 2nd reading of the 2022-2023 General Fund budget by stating the district's mission and 6 goals. Mrs. Humphrey also presented the 135 Average Daily Membership (ADM) Trend as well as showing the final ADM for SY 2021-2022 being 2964.47. Currently, there is an Education Funding Reform: Aid to Classrooms program proposed in FY 2022-2023 in the Senate. This reform states that each school district will receive the same amount of funding from the state that it is currently receiving this fiscal year, which was termed as "stake in the ground" or "old funding formula". New funding will be distributed to districts using New Formula. The new Formula uses 1 teacher for every 10.5 students to determine the state's contribution of 75% leaving local share at 25%. The current formula for FSD3: 84% state and 16% local. The state average for a teacher is minimum salary of master's degree + 12 years of experience and fringe. With a minimum teacher salary increase by \$2K the cost be approximately \$66,524. This statewide minimum teacher salary scale must be met. Flexibility funding is based on the number of teachers, WPU and INDEX of taxpaying ability, districts will have the flexibility to spend funds as determined best. Items included in the Aid to Classrooms Program

allocation are, in General Fund Accounts: 33XX – All Education Finance Act of 1977 (EFA), 3180-Fringe Benefits and 3186-Teacher Salary. In Education Improvement Act of 1984 (EIA) funds are 3550 teacher Salary, 3555 teacher Fringe, 3538 Students at Risk, and 3597 Aid to Districts. For bus drivers' pay it should be 5% above state minimum + 3% if state employee get increase. If districts pay over state minimum full 8% is not required. Teachers that work 152 days of the 190 day SY and classified employees that work 80% of the contract days will receive a step increase. Health insurance will go up 18.1% for the employer only. This rate increase will become effective January 1, 2023. The 1% state retirement increase will be reinstated. The local tax millage has not been changed since 1st reading, which is 224.23 total number of mills for SY 22-23. Therefore, tonight Mrs. Humphrey continued to present 2nd reading with what we do know which comes to a \$31,863,090.52 balanced budget. Legislature is still debating. If anything changes, we will bring these changes to the June 16, 2022 final reading of the 2022-2023 General Fund budget. Paula Morris made the motion to approve the balanced budget of \$31,863,090.52 as presented for 2nd reading of the budget. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the balanced budget of \$31,863,090.52 as presented for 2nd reading of the budget passed 8-0.

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

Mrs. Scott reported to board members the # of vacancies as of May 19, 2022. Currently, there are 5 vacancies in Early Childhood, 3 Elementary, 1 Math, 3 Science, 4 Social Studies, 5 Special Education, 4 Music & Band, 1 Physical Education, 1 Media, 1 Spanish, 1 business, 1 building construction and 2 Interventionists (Reading & Math).

Instruction Update – Mary Howard, Elementary & Early Childhood Director

Mrs. Howard began her report by highlighting the many partnerships established with FSD3 for summer learning. Some of these partnerships include, but not limited to, Mathnasium, Clemson summer reading programs, Education Foundation, Allen University, Home Depot, Chef Tasha Mac. Summer programs include K-8 camps, high school camps, 21st Century, academic tutoring, and JCL Enrichment STEAM summer camps.

In the Spotlight – Tonight was a special night for FSD3 BOT. Spotlights shown for the following students present at tonight's meeting:

- Sophomore Andre' McFadden-Pressley wins the SC 3A State Individual 285 lb wrestling championship with a 46 second pin the finals. Athletic Director, Matt Apicella, Wrestling Coach, Kevin Graham, were present tonight as Wrestling Coach Lorenzo McFadden presented his son with his championship ring.
- 2 JPT 11th graders (Ashley Yarborough, Isaiah Kirby) and 4 LCHS 11th graders (Jayla Jones, Saniyah Brown, Taylor Fulton and Hailey Parker) were present tonight for scoring the highest level of the NCRC Skill Levels (WorkKeys) of Platinum. Considering approximately only 3% of SC students test Platinum, FSD3 is VERY PROUD of these students.
- Jayla Jones continues to achieve. Yes, she was mentioned last month receiving entrance into a summer writing program with Yale University, and being one of the 6 scoring Platinum on WorkKeys. She was also recognized tonight for winning the SCDE and Dominion Energy Pee Dee winner of the 2nd annual Strong Men & Women in SC history student writing contest. Jayla received a Mac book and \$1,000.

Upcoming Events:

- ✓ May 30th – Memorial Day – No school
- ✓ June 2nd - Last day of School/JPT graduation will be in the FSD3 auditorium at 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ June 3rd – LCHS Gradation in the LCHS gym at 7:00 p.m.
- ✓ June 6th – summer Learning Camps begin
- ✓ June 11th – SEL Parenting Series 11:00 a.m.

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

COVID 19 cases update - A summary of cases as of May 1st as well as a breakdown of cases by schools was presented to board members and those present for tonight's meeting. Still at 0% of district or school staff tested positive and 0% were quarantined due to exposure/contact. 0% of students tested positive and 0% of students were quarantined due to exposure/contact.

State Assessments: The following state assessments are left for this SY:

- ✓ SC Ready & SC Pass – Last 20 days of school – Grades 3 - 8
- ✓ EOC – Last 15 days of school – Algebra I, Biology, English 2 & US History

BEDS Ministry – This very touching and needed ministry is possible due to the United Methodist Church in Florence. Recipient students were given a bed, mattresses, pajamas, sheets, pillow, bed covering and sleep toy on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Textbook Recommendations – The following textbooks were recommended by the textbook committees:

- ✓ **Grade 8 South Carolina History-** The South Carolina Journey, 2nd Edition (Gibbs Smith)
- ✓ **Social Studies Grades 1, 4, & 5** – South Carolina myWorld Interactive, 1st Edition, Grade 1 (Savvas Learning); South Carolina, myWorld Interactive, 1st Edition, Grade 4 (Savvas Learning); South Carolina, myWorld Interactive, 1st Edition, Grade 5 (Savvas Learning)
- ✓ **US History CP & AP** – HMH American History; McGraw Hill – American History: Connecting with the Past, 15th Edition, AP
- ✓ **US Government CP & AP** – HMH-United States Government; Bedford, Freeman & Worth – Stories of a Nation, Election Update – AP
- ✓ **Sociology** – HMH - Sociology
- ✓ **Psychology** – HMH Psychology
- ✓ **Psychology AP** – Savvas Learning – Psychology, 6th Edition, AP Edition

Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve the recommended textbooks 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 recommended textbooks passed 8-0.

Policy ADF District/School Wellness:

The following revisions to Policy ADF were recommended by the SC state department of education:

1. **LWP Policy Contacts:** 4th page, bottom - Need to change “**Other References**” to read as LWP Committee Members.
2. **Competitive foods and beverages** – Page 1, 1st paragraph where it reads *See Policy EEA* (add hyperlink to EEA).
<http://www.florence3.k12.sc.us/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=29624864>

3. **Competitive foods and beverages** – Page 1, 2nd paragraph, add hyperlink to reference “Exempt Fundraisers Memorandum 2015) see below

<https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/school-district-memoranda-archive/smart-snacks-and-exempt-fundraisers/smart-snacks-and-exempt-fundraisers/>

4. **Nutrition Promotion**-On Page 2, under Nutrition Promotion, 2nd paragraph, , remove *Smarter Lunchroom techniques and through* from LWP and leave the remaining sentence which reads, *strategies and best practices meeting the USDA Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards.*
5. **Physical Education** – Evaluate if Physical Education will meet state standards.

Add the following after **Nutrition Education** and before **District Wellness Committee/Coordinated District Health Advisory Council**

Physical activity

Children and adolescents should participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. A substantial percentage of students’ physical activity can be provided through a comprehensive school physical activity program which includes quality physical education as the foundation; physical activity before, during and after school; staff involvement; and family and community engagement. Schools may promote opportunities for physical activity via in school announcements, newsletters, posters, etc. The district is committed to providing these opportunities, and schools will ensure that these varied physical activity opportunities are in addition to, and not as a substitute for, physical education. The district encourages the use of physical activity as a reward when feasible. Physical activity during the school day (including but not limited to recess, classroom physical activity breaks, or physical education) will not be withheld as punishment for any reason. This does not include participation on sports teams or with other sports-related after school activities, nor does it include participation on sports teams with specific academic requirements. Physical education The district will provide students with physical education using an age-appropriate, sequential physical education curriculum consistent with national and state standards for physical education. The physical education curriculum will promote the benefits of a physically active lifestyle and will help students develop skills to engage in lifelong healthy habits and incorporate essential health education concepts. The curriculum will support the essential components of physical education. See policy IHAE, Physical Education, for more information. All students will be provided equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes. The district will make appropriate accommodations to allow for equitable participation for all students and will adapt physical education classes and equipment as necessary.

Almeta Fleming made the motion to approve the revisions to Policy ADF 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 revisions to Policy ADF passed 8-0.

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

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

- The Ways and Means offered a 36-0age amendment to Proviso H5150. One major change in this amendment to the previous House-passed version of the bill was the inclusion of an additional \$50 million in State Aid to Classrooms. The House amendment, referred to as House II, amended the Senate-passed budget to the previous House version and then amended that version further. The changes are listed below:
 - ✓ \$50 million – Additional funds in State Aid to classrooms
 - ✓ \$500,000 – moves the working conditions survey from CERRA, which tracks teacher retention, to USC
 - ✓ \$3.19 million – SCDE for PowerSchool/Data collection
 - ✓ \$12,148,240 – SCDE for grants Committee. This is a reduction of 411 and locks it in the budget.
 - ✓ \$95,965,999 – SCDE for Instructional Materials. This represents a reduction of \$4,034,001.

Currently, there is no finalized budget.

Water Heater at LCECC's Cafeteria – As an FYI, the maintenance department is in the process of replacing the existing gas fire hot water heater that serves the kitchen at LCECC. This heater is 27 years old and in poor condition. The tank has developed a leak and could rupture anytime. The cost to replace this heater is approximately \$12,000. However, there are funds already in the food service budget to cover this project. The goal is to complete this project in May before summer school begins and before the tank ruptures.

FSD3's overall risk score:

SCDE conducted the annual risk assessment based on 10 areas and assigned a risk score of overall financial and programmatic performance: the areas are.....

- ✓ Required reporting
- ✓ Turnover of key personnel
- ✓ Programmatic compliance
- ✓ Fiscal compliance
- ✓ Performance
- ✓ Frequency and need of technical assistance
- ✓ Financial stability
- ✓ Quality of management information systems (internal controls)
- ✓ Timeliness of annual financial audit submission
- ✓ Other material factors (accreditation and confirmed cheating/test security violations)

The scores from each criterion are totaled for an overall risk score that indicates low, medium or high risk categories. Overall risk scores less than 19 indicate low risk, risk scores between 19 and 28 indicate

medium risk, and risk scores of 19 and higher indicate high risk. FSD3's overall risk score is "10" (Low Risk)!

Congratulations Early College Graduates!

The following FSD3 Seniors, who graduate from high school, this SY have also earned the following post-secondary degrees or certificates:

Acacia Johnson (AA); Khai Singletary (Welding); Alfred McKnight (Welding); Ethon Melton (Industrial Maintenance Technology); Jordan Barnett (AA); and Sydney Morris (AA).

Scheduled Celebrations for our Seniors:

- ✓ Thursday, May 26, 2022 – JPT Senior Night Awards @ 6 p.m. at NanYa
- ✓ Friday, May 27, 2022 – LCHS Senior Award's Day 9:00 a.m. at LCHS
- ✓ Wednesday, June 1, 2022 – Parade of FSD3 Seniors
- ✓ Thursday, June 2, 2022 – JPT Graduation @ 6:30 p.m. at Blanding Street Auditorium
- ✓ Friday, June 3, 2022 – LCHS Graduation @ 7:00 p.m. at LCHS Gymnasium

FSD3 Virtual School

Dr. Hickson informed board members that at the June board meeting she will present a plan for virtual school and targeted participants with the following goals:

- Return all students in early childhood and elementary schools back to F@F Learning (on-site).
- Establish a plan to reduce the number of fights and assaults to very minimum to zero.
- Offer virtual for medical home-bound, middle, junior high and high school students only.

SY 2022-2023 Recommended Board Meeting Dates

Dr. Hickson presented to board members the recommended board meeting dates for the upcoming 2022-2023 SY. All dates are the consistent 3rd Thursday of each month with the exception of February, which is on the 4th Thursday due to the SCSBA annual conference beginning on the 3rd Thursday of February and April, which is recommended for the 1st Thursday due to spring break. Paula Morris made the motion to approve the recommended 2022-2023 board meeting dates. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the recommended 2022-2023 board meeting dates passed 8-0.

National Student Clearinghouse Data

This information is released from the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) and it tracks high school demographic and aggregated data of students who not only go to college, but students who actually complete college at the initial college/university or end of finishing at a different college. Dr. Hickson shared with board members that she has asked the presenter of this information to come share this presentation with board members as well as administrators. She is trying to plan for a July date. She further shared that an intentional plan must be made to improve the data. However, one program that is working is the College Planning Cohort. This program tracks data. There is a cost, but here is a bigger cost not to have this program. Last SY 2 students had full college scholarships. This SY we have 5 from the College Cohort with full scholarships to a college/university. **These 5 students were at tonight's board meeting telling their experiences with the college cohort.**

Executive Session: Paula Morris made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation or potential legal matters. Gloria Robinson provided the 2nd 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 – Almeta Fleming made the motion to exit executive session. Paula Morris 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 8-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

Action from Executive Session:

No action was needed from executive session.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Rutha Frieson 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 8-0.

Date approved

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Rutha Frieson, Secretary