



# Florence County School District 3

## *Called Board Meeting Minutes Location: FSD3 Board room*

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**Tuesday, May 30, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:** Barbara Bryant, Julia Mims, Rutha Frieson, Mattie Thomas, Rebecca Yates, Paula Morris. Gloria Robinson & Jac'Kel Brown were present via telephone.

**Absent:** Jason Kirby

**Call to Order:** Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the May 30, 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:** 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.

**Items to consider:**

*Athletic Facilities Upgrade Options* – Dr. Hickson recapped the presentation from the April 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

- Option #1 – Ward Stadium Upgrades – quote of approximately \$3,612,050.
- Option #2 – LCHS Track Upgrades to include new stadium-quote of approximately \$11,385,680.

During the last meeting, 5/11/2023, the board wanted to hear more from the students and community concerning this project. Dr. Hickson shared the results from the surveys sent out to students and community members. 65.5% wanted to see a new stadium (Option #2), 23.8% wanted to renovate the current stadium (Option #1), and 10.7% wanted to keep the current facility as is. When asked if they would consider purchasing reserved seating for the new facility, 38.1% voted Yes, 28.6% voted No, and 33.3% voted Maybe.

The question was asked if the district had to have a certain amount of money before we could even start the project? Dr. Hickson explained as with the SES cafeteria expansion, certain amounts need to be met before moving forward, and she is assuming this will be the same way.

Ms. Bryant did a roll call of Option #1 and Option #2 vote: this vote ended with a 4-4 vote. After more discussion among board members. Ms. Bryant asked each board member if they would reconsider their vote, one board member changed their vote from Option #1 to Option #2. Therefore, Ms. Thomas made the motion to approve Option #2, Paula Morris provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this vote. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve Option #2 for the new stadium facility passed 8-0.

*Alternative Education Modification* – Dr. Hickson shared with board members and those present for tonight's meeting the survey results from a question about the current Panther Academy system. There were 73 responses to the question about whether you would like to see Panther Academy students to

have more opportunities. 73.97% voted Yes; 8.22% voted No, 10.96% said Maybe and 6.85% voted Other. The modification will place Junior High students at either the Virtual Center or a placement at REMJH campus and the high school students at the College portable unit at the LCHS. Dr. Hickson plans on giving students a comprehensive plan for each individual student for success. This will take the Panther Academy site at the LifeLong Learning Center no longer needed. Julia Mims made the motion to approve the alternative education proposal as presented. Gloria Robinson provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> for this motion. 7 board members voted in favor of this motion with 1 against. The motion to approve the alternative education proposal as presented passed 7-1.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Mattie Thomas 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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Jason Kirby, Secretary