



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting Minutes Location: FSD3 Board Room

Thursday, November 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Barbara Bryant, Jac’Kel Brown, Jason Kirby, Mattie Thomas, Gloria Robinson, Julia Mims, Paula Morris, and Rutha Frieson. Rebecca Yates joined the meeting via telephone.

Absent: None.

Call to Order: Board Chair, Barbara Bryant called the November 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, and Post and Courier. 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: A request was made to amend tonight’s agenda to include an action item under the Instructional update for advisory courses. Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve tonight’s amended agenda. Jac’Kel Brown provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the November 16, 2023 amended agenda as presented passed 9-0.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Gloria Robinson made the motion to approve the Consent 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 the consent agenda as presented passed 9-0. This consent agenda contained the following items: October 19, 2023 board minutes, the Certified Personnel Report and student transfer requests.

Special Recognition – Master Davie Coker from the Lake City Masonic Lodge #193, along with other members, presented 114 coats varying in different styles and sizes for students of FSD3.

Public Participation: Antwan Jones was present at tonight’s meeting to present a program he created (On Tee). This program will implement students in Good Standing to help students in the Alternative Setting with some hands on assistance. If there are any questions concerning this program, Mr. Jones may be reached at jones.antwan@lchs.org.

Board Chair Report

Ms. Barbara Bryant, FSD3 Board Chair welcomed everyone attending the November 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 – Chair Bryant talked about attending the Pee Dee Regional Advocacy Meeting in Marion on Wednesday, October 21, 2023. This meeting discussed items that will be coming up in the legislative sessions in Columbia and discussion was also about the Board Legislative Contacts (BLC), which is basically what Dr. Hickson sends to us each month and the SCSBA sends emails telling us what is going on in the legislative world. It was also brought up about implementing a board members being on the BLC committee. Ms. Mattie

This section, Board Chair Report #1 is revised as requested from the 12/14/2023 board meeting. Revision is on the 1/16/2024 agenda for approval.

Thomas advised that she would like to serve on this committee. There is also an Advocacy tool box with great suggestions to bring the local delegation to us, not just when we need something but also to let them know what a great job they are doing, quarterly or more, if needed. Several other board members also attended this meeting. Ms. Mattie Thomas mentioned that she attended a conference sponsored by the SC Democratic Party with guest speaker Dr. Miguel Cardona, Secretary of Education. He came with the saying "How are the children?" Jonathan Jackson, Jessie Jackson's son was also in attendance at this event. Ms. Thomas assured everyone that she let everyone know about FSD3's teachers and students. She also said she will be attending another event this Saturday at which time she will also talk about FSD3's teachers and students.

2. Request to attend any Meetings – Mrs. Paula Morris and Mrs. Gloria Robinson will be attending the SCSBA Legislative Delegate Assembly & Business Meeting December 2 in Charleston.

Superintendent's Report

Finance Update – *Hope Gibson, Finance Director*

October Financials - The October financials are linked to your board agenda and on the FSD3 website. The 2023-2024 current budget is the final approved amount of \$37,723,138.00. The board-approved use of the Fund Balance is \$535,106 for Classified Salaries increase. The total amount board approved use of fund balance is \$3,453,003. Items also available for public viewing is the general fund by object code of revenue and expenditures as well as by function as of October 31, 2023.

Policy Review

The following 'C' policies were approved for 1st reading in the October 19, 2023 board meeting. These same policies are now up for 2nd reading, which is final approval of these policies:

- CB 'School Superintendent'
- CBI 'Evaluation of Superintendent'
- CC 'Administrative Organization'
- CCA 'Organization Chart'
- CFA 'School Principals/Building Administrators'
- CFC 'Assignment and Transfer of School Administrators'
- CH 'Policy Implementation'
- CM 'School District Annual Reports'

Julia Mims made the motion to approve 2nd reading of the new policies as presented. Gloria Robinson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve 2nd reading of policies CB, CBI, CC, CCA, CFA, CFC, CHJ, CM passed 9-0.

The following 'D' policies were approved for 1st reading in the October 19, 2023 board meeting. These same policies are now up for 2nd reading, which is final approval of these policies:

- DDA 'Federal Fiscal Compliance'
- DFG 'Tuition Income'
- DGA 'Authorized Signatures'

- DGD 'Credit Card Use'
- DHA 'Contracting Authority'
- DM 'Cash in School Buildings'

Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve 2nd reading of the new policies as presented. Rutha Frieson provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve 2nd reading of policies DDA, DFG, DGA, DGD, DHA, and DM passed 9-0.

SCSBA recommends to delete Policy EBH 'Leasing and Renting', which will be in the new KF policy. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to delete Policy EBH as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to delete Policy EBH as recommended by SCSBA passed 9-0.

SCSBA recommends the following revisions to the following policies:

- EA 'Support Services Goals and Priority Objectives' This replaces the current policy EA 'Business Management Goals and Objectives'
- EBC 'Emergencies' – This replaces the current policy EBC of the same name.
- EBCB 'Safety Plans and Drills' This replaces the current EBBC 'Policy Safety Plans and Drills'
- EBCE 'School Closings and Cancellations' This replaces the current policy EBBD 'Emergency Closings'
- EC 'Buildings/Grounds/Property Management' This replaces the current policy ED with the same title
- ECA 'Security' This replaces the current policy ECA with the same title
- ECAC 'Vandalism' This replaces the current policies EBCA 'Vandalism Protection'
- ECAF 'Video Monitoring/Buildings and Grounds' This replaces the current policy ECAF with the same title
- ECB 'Building and Ground Maintenance' This replaces the current policy EB 'Buildings and Grounds Management'
- EEAE 'Bus Safety Program' This replaces the current policy EDG 'Student Transportation Management-Alcohol/Controlled Substances Testing'
- EEAE 'Student Conduct on Buses' This replaces the current policy JCDAD with the same title
- EF 'Food Services' This replaces the current policies EE with the same title and portions of EEA 'Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines'
- EFE 'Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines' This replaces the current EEA policy with the same title
- EGAD 'Copyright Compliance' This replaces the current policy IFAB 'Supplemental Instructional Materials and Supplies'

- EHB 'Data/Records Retention' This replaces the previous deleted policy BE
- EI 'Insurance Program/Risk Management' This replaces the current policy EGAA 'Workers' Compensation'

Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve these revisions as presented. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve revisions to policies EA, EBC, EBCB, EBCE, EC ECA, ECAC, ECAF, ECB, EEAE, EEAEC, EF, EFE, EGAD, EHB, and EI passed 9-0.

SCSBA recommends the adoption of the following new policies:

- EB 'Environmental and Safety Program'
- EBAB 'Hazardous Materials'
- EBBA 'Prevention of Disease/Infection'
- ECAA 'Threat Assessment'
- ECAG 'Video Monitoring/School Buses'
- ED 'Materials and Equipment Management'
- EEA 'Student Transportation'
- EEAG 'Student Transportation in Private Vehicles'

Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve 1st 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 to approve 1st reading of policies EB, EBAB, EBBA, ECAA, ECAG, ED, EEA, and EEAG passed 9-0.

SCSBA recommends the following revisions to the following policies for section F-FACILITIES PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

- FA 'Facilities Development Goals and Priority Objectives' This revised policy replaces the current FA 'Facility Expansion Program Goals and Objectives'
- FB 'Facilities Planning' This revised policy replaces 3 current policies-FDAB 'Selection of Architects'; FDB 'Long Range Needs Determination'; FGB 'Site Acquisition Procedures'
- FF 'Naming Facilities' This revised policy replaces the current FDC 'Naming Schools and School Facilities'

Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve the revisions 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 revisions recommended to policies FA, FB, and FF as presented passed 9-0.

Human Resource Updated – Mrs. Angelia Scott, Director of HR and Federal Programs

Mrs. Scott presented to board members survey results from the proposed adoption of a 'Sick Leave Bank'. Employees received this information through several virtual meetings. Mr. Brown, Board vice-chair, recommended recording a virtual sessions for employees that were not able to attend one in session.

Instructional Updates – Mary Howard, Ed. S., Director of Early Childhood and Elementary Curriculum

Mrs. Howard began her report noting Goal 2: Academic Achievement – To improve the academic success of all students and Goal 3: Reading Readiness – To increase the number of students reading on grade level in grades K-3. Winter Benchmark Testing are as follows:

- MAP for K-8 began November 6 and just ended on the 15th
- District Benchmarks begin November 27th through December 13th
 - ✓ DRA/IRLA/Next Steps
 - ✓ EasyCBM (K-2)
 - ✓ Mastery Connect (3-8)

Before sharing the report card ratings, Mrs. Howard 2 Tables showing (Table 1) Available Rating Points for Schools by School Type and (Table 2) Total Rating Point Ranges for Overall Ratings by School Type. The public release of report card ratings for all schools was October 10, 2023.

Next Steps

- ✓ Public meetings will be help to explain the school's rating, its implications, and how it will implement a revised strategic plan for improvement.
- ✓ Each school has created a Continuous Improvement Plan aligned to the 5-year Strategic Plan
- ✓ Additional Funding
- ✓ Each school completed a self-assessment using the Continuous Improvement Cycle Rubric

In the Spotlight

- 63 student-athletes were named to the 1st quarter All-Academic Team for maintaining Honor Roll grades while participating in a fall sport.
- SESA: Mrs. Hannah Matthews and Ms. Rebecca English were both awarded a Bright Ideas grant through Santee Electric Cooperative.
- LCECCA: National Family Literacy Night (NFL) had special guest from Arts Now giving books and at home activities for parents.

Upcoming Events

- November 20-24-Thanksgiving Break
- November 30 – Arbor Day Celebration, 9:30 a.m. @ The Bean Market
- December 4-15th – End of Course Exams for LCHS & JPT

Advisory Courses

Jason Cook, LCHS principal, presented the board with copies of advisory courses for grades 9- 12. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve these courses as presented. Jason Kirby proved the 2nd for this motion. All board members voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the advisory courses for grades 9-12 as presented passed 9-0.

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

Fall Testing

End of Course (EOC)

- English 2 – December 5 & 6
- Algebra – December 8, 2023
- Biology – December 12
- US History – December 13

Help 4 Kids

Thanks to the maintenance department for picking up each week and delivering to our schools approximately 388 bags each week. FSD3 is very thankful to Help 4 Kids making this possible each and every week.

Legislative Updates

The 2023 SCSBA Delegate Assembly Orientation Webinar will be on Thursday, November 30, 2023 starting at Noon to 1:30 p.m. During the online orientation program, SCSBA will review the Delegate Assembly agenda. Some of the items to be discussed are:

1. proposed assembly rules;
2. annual financial report;
3. proposed slate of association officers; and,
4. proposed legislative resolutions that will guide the association's legislative efforts in 2024.

Innovation Grant

Florence County School District 3 was awarded an Innovation Grant in the amount of \$305,749 to be used for the FSD3 District Panther Choice School of Innovation.

Facility Study

The last facility study was completed in 2013, which Dr. Hickson provided each board member with a jump drive of the sample assessments (LCHS) from this previous study. Dr. Hickson also highlighted the data of the assess projects that have been completed since the study.

Bond Referendum

Dr. Hickson introduced Mr. Mike Gallagher, Director Compass Municipal Advisors, LLC to discuss with board members and those present and viewing tonight's meeting the impact of requesting a larger bond through a bond referendum that would involve the community with 3 different options to pursue. Dr. Hickson asked permission to move forward with preparing for an Adoption of Referendum Resolution. After much discussion, Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to table this matter. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to table the matter of adopting a bond referendum passed 9-0.

Enter into Executive Session – Rutha Frieson made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel regarding hiring, termination, resignation, superintendent's contract, student discipline or potential legal matters. Julia Mims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to enter into executive session passed 9-0.

Exit Executive Session – Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to exit executive session. Jason Kirby provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to exit executive session and enter back into public session passed 9-0.

PUBLIC SESSION

Action from executive session – No action was needed from executive session.

Adjourn: There being no further business for the Board of Trustees, Julia Mims 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 9-0.

Date approved

Barbara Bryant, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Jason Kirby, Secretary