

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FOR April 2023



FSD3- A Premier District of Choice



Ensuring Our Students Are College or Career Ready, Productive and Responsible members of society.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Parental Leave

- Last week, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee and the entire Committee discussed Proviso, [H. 3908](#), which mandates school districts provide paid parental leave for all full-time employees.
- The bill provides eligible school district employees primarily responsible for furnishing the care and nurture of the child with six weeks of paid parental leave at 100 percent of the employee's base pay for the birth or adoption of a child.
- It also mandates two weeks of paid parental leave for co-parenting a newborn or adopted child or following placement of a foster care child.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

South Carolina Transparency and Integrity in Education Act

- Last week, a Senate subcommittee held its second meeting to consider Proviso, [H. 3728](#), which was passed by the House.
- The bill, if passed, would enact the South Carolina Transparency and Integrity in Education Act.
- The bill, often referred to as anti-CRT (Critical Race Theory) legislation, prohibits the instruction of certain concepts, and requires a process for parents to file complaints and disciplinary actions.
- The subcommittee adjourned without taking action on the bill.



Florence County School District No. 3
General Obligation Bond, Series 2023
(Competitive Bid Results)

Purchaser	Date	Time	Rate	Fee	Conditions
Chase Bank	03/15/23	10:27 AM	3.500%	\$2,000	Semiannual Pmts
Synovus Bank	03/15/23	8:08 AM	3.880%	\$2,500	None
First Citizens Bank	03/15/23	8:23 AM	4.580%	\$0	None
Key Bank	03/14/23	4:52 PM	4.163%	\$4,000	Tax Gross Up

Analyzing all programs and practices to ensure what we spend time and finances on produce **IMPACT!**

We want to implement programs, practices, and systems that ...

- **Meet our students' academic and social needs.**
- **Build** positive relationships.
- **Support** the mission and goals of the district.
- **Create** a safe climate.
- **Create** stability –not too much change.
- **Are** mindful of the workload of employees.
- **Do not significantly increase the property taxes of our stakeholders.**

Alternative Learning – Virtual Program

Our Virtual Program serves 40 students in grades 7-12.

- The program is going well. Mr. Ed Brogdon is the Administrator.

Recommendation for 2023-2024 SY: Continue with the Virtual Platform during the 2023-2024 SY

2017 Magnet School Grant Ends

- **Our 2017 Magnet School Grant ended last year, with this school year as the “No Cost Extension Period.”** During this period, we did not receive new funding but could expend carry-over funds that end this school year.
- **We received the 5-Year Magnet School of America Grant in October 2017.**
- **One proactive thing we did** to prepare for the end of the grant was **place \$100,000 aside yearly to sustain the Magnet grant** beyond the ending funding date.
- **However**, during the past couple of COVID years, the set-aside was less than \$100,000; however, **as a district, we** have a strong fund balance.
- **As we plan** the General Fund budget for the 2023-2024 SY, **we will sustain the** magnet programs and seek other best-practices for continuous improvement as we strive for excellence and meet the academic needs of our students.
- **It’s all about continuous improvement and ensuring our students are college or career-ready, productive and responsible members of society.**

Alternative Learning –Elementary Panther Academy

- This school year, 2022-2023 SY, our Elementary Panther Pride is at JC Lynch.
- The program has been very successful.
- The number of students placed at a given time has ranged from 2 to 11 students, grades 2 – 6. Current enrollment is 11.
- **Recommendation: Leave the Elementary Panther Pride at JC Lynch Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year.**

SCHOOLS	# of Students
1st	1
2nd	2
3rd	1
4th	1
5th	1
6th	5
Total	11

Alternative Learning- Secondary Panther Academy

II. Our current Secondary Panther Pride Center serves 36 students in grades 7-12.

- The program is going well.
- **Recommendation for 2023-2024 SY: Move HS Panther Pride, grades 9 -12, to LCHS' CATE building, and move our 7 & 8 Graders to Virtual/Tutoring Center or to the stand-alone building at REM.**

Assigned School	# of Students	Male	Female
DREM	11	9	2
JPT	6	4	2
LCH	18	12	6
HPM	1	1	
Total	36		

Proposal Savings

Benefits:

1. One less bus stop in the AM and PM.
2. SRO Officers are at both sites. Panther Pride currently has a SRO vacancy.
3. Will save on Utilities: Water & Electricity
4. This proposal will eliminate at least 2 positions –which could fill some of our current vacant positions.
5. Will eliminate the need for additional Food Service Staff at Graham Road.
6. HS Panther Pride would be able to select and maintain a Career Pathway which enhances educational services.

Estimated savings:

1. Salaries: ~ \$80,000
2. Benefits: ~ \$22,000
3. Utilities: Water ~ 8000 Yr & Electricity ~ \$30,000 YR
4. Food Service Staff: ~ 30,000
5. SRO: \$58,000
6. Bus Transportation: Some savings (Funds & Time)

Parents and Students are receiving Important Notices this month!



FSD3 will offer a variety of Enrichment Camps this summer designed to accelerate students' learning.

- FSD3 will not offer summer school for promotion in grades K-8 this summer.
- Parents are encouraged to contact their child's principal to discuss their child's progress.

Video

Our Mission is to Ensure Our Students are College or Career Ready,
Productive and Responsible Members of Society

