

**FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 28, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Joshua B. Timmons, Chairman
Mr. Andrew B. Gaster
Mrs. DeAnna H. Green
Mr. Roger A. Parsons

Mrs. Mary C. Powell
Mr. Ervin J. Richardson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Frank A. Travaglio

STAFF PRESENT:

Mrs. Allana Prosser, Superintendent
Mrs. Robin Altman
Mr. Paul Amann
Mrs. Lacinda Burrows
Mr. Terrell Fleming

Mr. Brian Goins
Mr. Adam Kennedy
Mrs. Mirandi Squires
Mrs. Wanda Willis
Mrs. Tina Williams, Recorder

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Shannon Woodbury

The Board of Trustees of Florence County School District Five met for regular session on Monday, August 28, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office Boardroom.

1. **Call to Order, Welcome, and Pledge of Allegiance** – Chairman Timmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed those present and asked everyone to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Confirmation of Notice to Media** – Chairman Timmons stated that in accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), the following were notified of this meeting: *Morning News*, *NPO News*, WMBF-TV, WPDE-TV, and www.fsd5.org.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – The Agenda was approved by general consent of the board.
4. **Public Forum** – There was no one present to address the board in Public Forum.
5. **Consent Agenda (A-C)** – Chairman Timmons reviewed the items of the Consent Agenda which included Board Minutes for June 26, 2023 and July 24, 2023, and Monthly Financial Statements for June and July. All items passed by general consent of the board.
6. **Regular Agenda**
 - A. Superintendent's Report
 1. **Back-to-School Kickoff** – Mrs. Prosser said the Kickoff was a great success and “One Step at a Time” will be the theme for the school year.
 2. **Finance** – Mrs. Wanda Willis told the board that the SC Division of Procurement Services has published an updated procurement code. She highlighted pertinent information about the new regulations and informed the board that upon approval, the Procurement Code will be posted on our district website. As a reminder, Mrs. Willis said the bond referendum vote is on Tuesday, August 29.
 3. **Academics** – In Academic Updates, Mr. Goins said the Back-to-School Bash hosted at JMS by Mrs. Barbara Black from Lydia's Nest was a great outreach for the community. He told the board that Mrs. Donna Gaye Tanner was named as the Teacher-of-the Year, and she will represent the district throughout the year. In honors and distinctions, Mr. Goins said JES was named a National Beta School of Distinction for 2022-23, JMS

participated in Beta Nationals in Kentucky this summer, and JHS is a 2022-23 National Beta School of Merit. Mr. Goins gave a review of enrollment over the past four years stating that we were up two students for the 2023-24 school year with enrollment staying steady since 2020-21. Mr. Goins gave opportunity for principals to give a brief update of their focus and goals for the school year.

- a. JES – Mrs. Burrows said three goals for the school year are academics, enrichment and interventions, and a positive learning environment. She discussed student leadership and positive behavior incentives.
 - b. JMS – Mrs. Squires said strategies for increasing student achievement was a goal for this year by utilizing i-Ready, Reading Plus, increased instructional time for ELA and math, and inclusion for students with Individual Educational Plans. Another goal is creating a positive school culture at JMS by using incentives for academics and behavior.
 - c. JHS – Mr. Fleming stated three goals for JHS: 1) by June of 2024, see an increase of at least 15% pass rate with a C or higher in subjects – US History, English II, Biology, and Algebra 1; 2) by June 2023, at least 70% of seniors will be College and Career Ready; 3) by 2023-24, our graduation rate will increase from 82% to 85%.
4. Operations – Mr. Kennedy gave the following information:
- a. Safety and Security – Deputy Derick Smith has returned to JHS as School Resource Officer. SCDE has completed a safety and security assessment of our schools ahead of a grant application that will fund replacement door locks on all classrooms and offices in all three schools. A grant has been submitted for funding to construct “man traps” at entrances at JMS and JHS. All schools completed annual standard Response Protocol training for teachers and staff prior to school starting. New Emergent 3 application has been rolled out to all teacher and staff computers and mobile devices.
 - b. Food Service – All three cafeterias have new leased dishwashers to replace aging and outdated equipment. Schools have transitioned back to traditional plastic trays from foam trays.
 - c. Technology – District servers are in the process of being upgraded to Microsoft Windows Server 2022. Servers are being consolidated to reduce costs. New laptops are being evaluated now for upcoming student laptop refresh for next school year. New endpoint protection software is being implemented on staff computers. AristotleK12 training has been completed at all schools and replaces GoGuardian as grant funding ended for that product.
5. Facility Updates – Mrs. Prosser told the board that renovations for the Field House and JHS gymnasium and lobby are completed. She said repairs to JES roof are currently in the works.
6. Grants – Mrs. Prosser listed the following grants as being received: DHEC- Nurse’s Aide; DHEC – Air Purifiers for all classrooms and offices; EEDA – At-Risk Coordinator and Alternative Learning Facilitator with various programs and supplies for at-risk students; several donors choose grant approvals; ARP Homeless Grant for Reading Plus Program; and Food Services equipment grant submitted at the end of last year. Grants submitted: COPS grant for safety and security needs; Innovation grant for health science programs; SCDE safety and security grant, and sidewalk grant.

7. Board Election – Mrs. Prosser reminded the Board that the Trustee Election is November 7, 2023, and Seats 3 (Mrs. Deanna Green), and At-Large, Seat 6 (Mrs. Mary Powell) are up for election with one candidate signed up to run in each Seat.
8. Upcoming Events – Mrs. Prosser reviewed upcoming events for the month of September. A PowerPoint slide was made available for the events.

7. For Action Agenda

- A. First Reading of Policy Revision JFABD, JFABD-R, JFABD-E (1-3) – Mr. Richardson moved, seconded by Mr. Gaster, that the board approve the First Reading of Policy JFABD, JFABD-R, JFABD-E (1-3) (Admission of Homeless Students). The motion carried unanimously.
 - B. First Reading of Policy JFABE – Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Richardson, that the board approve the First Reading of Model Policy JFABE (Admission of English Learner and Migrant Students). The motion carried unanimously.
 - C. Second Reading of the Following Policies:
 1. Revision of Policy KF – Mr. Gaster moved, seconded by Mr. Travaglio, that the board approve the Second Reading of Policy KF (Community Use of School Facilities). The motion carried unanimously.
 2. Revision of Policy JFAB – Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Richardson, that the board approve the Second Reading of Policy JFAB (Admission of Nonresident Students). The motion carried unanimously.
 3. New Policy GCCAC/GDCC – Mr. Travaglio moved, seconded by Mr. Gaster, that the board approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Model Policy GCCAC/GDCC (Paid Parental Leave). The motion carried unanimously.
 - D. Adoption of Florence School District 5 Proposed Procurement & Regulations – Mr. Richardson moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, that the board approve and adopt the Proposed Procurement & Regulations Code for Florence School District 5.
8. **Executive Session** – Mr. Travaglio moved, seconded by Mr. Richardson, that the board enter the Executive Session Agenda to discuss a legal matter concerning a Social Media Litigation Authorization. The motion carried unanimously, and the board entered Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.
9. **Reconvene in Open Session with Action if Necessary from Executive Session**– Following Executive Session, Mr. Travaglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Powell, that the board exit Executive Session and return to Open Session at 8:40 p.m. with no action taken.

Chairman Timmons gave authorization to commence with the Social Media Litigation. Mr. Richardson said because of the potentially serious mental health issues and other consequences for our students, and the negative impacts on our schools he moved that we authorize the District to proceed with litigation against the social media companies that may be causing these concerns, and that we retain the following attorneys on a contingency fee basis to represent the District in this litigation:

1. Halligan Mahoney & Williams, P.A.
2. Solomon Law Group, LLC
3. Frazer PLC

The motion was seconded by Mr. Travaglio, The motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

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10. **Adjournment** - There being no further business, Mr. Travaglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Tina Williams, Board Secretary

Minutes Approved