

**Calhoun County Public Schools**  
**Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**District Office Boardroom/Live Stream**  
**May 17, 2021**

**Members Present:** Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson; Mr. Kevin Jenkins, Vice Chairperson; Mrs. Sandra Tucker, and Mr. Ned Nelson. **Absent:** Ms. Debra Fredrick, Secretary.

1. **Call to Order/Invocation:** Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff and asked everyone present to stand for the invocation and the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag".
2. **Notice to the Media:** In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80-(E), as amended, the following have been notified of this meeting: The Calhoun Times; The Times and Democrat; notices placed on the bulletin boards in all schools and the District Office.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of April 26, 2021, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)
5. **Student Recognition:** Mr. Milton Howard, Principal and Mrs. Janet Gilchrist, Early College Coordinator, asked Samantha Myrick, Calhoun County High School senior to come forward and be recognized for her outstanding academic achievement for obtaining an Associate Degree from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, while a high school student in the district.
6. **Teacher Recognition:** Dr. Treda Keith, Principal, asked Ms. Carolyn Snider, St. Matthews K-8 Teacher of the Year, to come forward and be recognized for receiving the 2021 Charles H. Dickerson Community Service Award.
7. **Public Participation:** None
8. **Chairperson's Report:** None
9. **Financial Report:** Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY 2021-2022 Calhoun County Public Schools Budget for Second Reading consideration. Mrs. Strickland told the Board there has been no action on the budget since the last Board Meeting.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the **Second Reading** of the Calhoun County Public Schools FY 2021-2022 Budget, **in title only**. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland, presented the April 2021 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in April 2021, the District received 87% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended 72% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 19% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures, with a total of 91%. She added that the current taxes collected for April 2021 was approximately 5.5 million, which is 100% of the budget and delinquent taxes collected was \$412,292.19, which is 100% of the delinquent tax budget.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for April 2021. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that as of May 14, 2021, the payout for the step level increase for all eligible District employees was completed.

10. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, shared with the Board the last three weeks of the COVID-19 Activity in Calhoun County. He said that Calhoun County's COVID-19 Activity for April 28<sup>th</sup> was reported as low, May 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, was reported as medium.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the Facility Updates. He said a fresh air makeup unit will be installed at Sandy Run K-8 in June. He said parking lot bids are closed for the project at Sandy Run K-8 School. Mr. Kiernan said that in June the entire district LED project will begin. Sandy Run K-8 School will be first and then Calhoun County High School and St. Matthews K-8 School.

Mr. Kiernan updated the Board regarding the COVID-19 Status by School. He said the District currently has one quarantined student at St. Matthews K-8 School, one quarantined student at Sandy Run K-8 School and 1 quarantined staff member at St. Matthews K-8 School.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy IA – Instructional Goals and Learning Objective for Second Reading/Amendment and approval.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy IA – Instructional Goals and Learning Objective for Second Reading/Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy IB – Academic Freedom for Second Reading/Amendment and approval.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve Policy IB – Academic Freedom for Second Reading/Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Wilson updated the Board on Coronavirus Relief ESSER I, II, and III Funds for information. He said the District had until 2022 to use the ESSER I Funds, 2023 to use ESSER II Funds. Dr. Wilson passed out information regarding the ESSER III Funds and told the Board that the requirements for these funds are more stringent. He added that the State Department is sponsoring a webinar on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> to explain the ESSER III Funds. Dr. Wilson said a budget meeting in the District is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> to plan for the use of the ESSER III Funds. Mrs. Strickland added that the District has until 2024 to use the ESSER III Funds.

Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, updated the Board about the 2021-2022 Literacy Launch. Mrs. Murdaugh told the Board that on May 27<sup>th</sup> the Literacy Team will meet to plan the First Annual Family Engagement Festival. She said the festival will engage parents of students 0 – 3 grade to work on building libraries in the homes of students and help parents to use strategies to prepare their children for school. She added the team will conduct professional development sessions for teachers and parents.

Mrs. Murdaugh spoke to the Board regarding the District's Summer Enrichment. She said Summer Enrichment is to prepare the students for next year. She said there will be approximately 325 students served this summer. She added the Summer Enrichment's time frame will be June 7 – June 30, 2021.

Dr. Wilson spoke to the Board about the 2021-2022 School Year. He said the District has received numbers from parents that would like virtual option (Acellus) for their children. He said currently the numbers are much less than last year. Dr. Wilson told the Board that the District plans to offer face-to-face as the only option at this point. Dr. Wilson said the face-to-face instruction is the best instructional program to mitigate the learning loss from the pandemic.

Mr. Ferlondo Tullock, Deputy Superintendent, spoke to the Board about Mask Opt-Out and the Governor's Executive Order. He said there are several different Governmental Entities that are giving the school districts guidance and recommendations and the district is doing a tremendous job trying to satisfy all of the entities. Mr. Tullock told the Board that at this time, the District has approximately forty students whose parents have opted for their children not to wear a mask while in school. He said everyone else will have to wear a mask, whether they are fully vaccinated or not and this includes visitors to the campus.

Dr. Wilson spoke to the Board about the Current Covid-19 District's Protocol of Mask No-Opt Out. He said all adults will be required to wear a mask. He said this includes all teachers and visitors.

Dr. Wilson updated the Board about the third and fourth Quarter Highest GPA Student Recognition. He said with everything going on at this time, he plans to recognize these students at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- 11. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel, Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s), Contractual Award and Legal: Civil Suit Recommendation, then return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Mr. Porth announced that the Board was back in open session.

- 12. **Board Action(s):** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations for employment and resignations. Mr. Jenkins abstained. Passed with 3 yes, 1 abstain.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker to approve the low bid for the parking lot project at Sandy Run K-8 School. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins moved with a second by Mr. Nelson to approve to join the Class Action Civil Law Suit against Juul Labs, Inc. (Juul). Passed unanimously.

- 13. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Delta Fuchs  
Board of Trustees Secretary

6-28-2021  
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Kennedy, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent