

**Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
District Office
March 20, 2023
Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent**

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

Call to Order/Moment of Silence: Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff and asked everyone present to stand for a Moment of Silence and the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag".

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; The District Website and notices placed on the bulletin boards in all schools and the District Office.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent, asked that the agenda be amended to include adding a field trip request under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the amended agenda as requested by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Tucker moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the minutes of February 27, 2023 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Dominion Energy Book Presentation: Dr. Cinthia Wolfe, Deputy Superintendent, introduced Mrs. Robin Price representing Dominion Energy's Employee Resource Group. Mrs. Price said their mission is to recruit, support, and retain employees that have disabilities as well as support caregivers, leaders and peers of individuals with disabilities. Mrs. Price said a couple of years ago, she was introduced to a book, *Austin the Great*, which was written by the daughter of one of Dominion Energy's long-time employees. She said the book is about a little boy with autism. She said the committee was so impressed with the book that they decided to give a book to every elementary school library in their service area. Dr. Wolfe asked Board Members, Dr. Tullock and Principals to come forward and receive a copy of the book. Dr. Wolfe announced that Mrs. Price was kind enough to honor her request to place a book not only in the library of each school, but to place a copy in each lower grade classroom.

Employee Recognition: Dr. Tullock said last Friday night he had the pleasure to attend The Allstate Basketball Banquet. He said one of the presentations at the banquet was the induction into the Hall of Fame for Coaches. Dr. Tullock asked Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief of Academics to come forward and recognize Coach Zambolist (Zam) Fredrick. Mrs. Murdaugh asked the Board, Dr. Tullock, and Dr. Wolfe to come forward for the presentation. Mrs. Murdaugh said for over thirty-two seasons in Saint Matthews, Coach Fredrick has led the Saints to ten State Championships including last years, Class A State Title. Mrs. Murdaugh announced that last Friday, Coach Fredrick was inducted into the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Chairperson's Report: none

Financial Report: Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the February 2023 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mrs. Strickland

informed the Board that in February 2023, the District received \$13.4 million, which is 70% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended \$11 million and encumbered \$5.6 million with a total of 87% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures.

Mrs. Strickland said as of February 28, 2023, the District has collected \$5.4 million in current taxes, which is 96% of the current tax budget and collected \$117,000.00 in delinquent taxes which is 23% of the delinquent tax budget. She said the district has received \$5.5 million in current and delinquent taxes which is 90% of the budget.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for February 2023. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland presented Policy GBEA Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest for Second Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy GBEA Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. George Kiernan, HR Director and Compliance Officer, presented Policy IMDB Flag/Motto Displays for Second Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy IMDB Flag/Motto Displays for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time and AR GCLE R Unencumbered Time for First Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time and AR GCLE R Unencumbered Time for First Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying for First Reading and Amendment.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying for First Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan presented AR IJOA R Field Trips for First Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve AR IJOA - R Field Trips for First Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the following Facility Updates for the month of March:

- HVAC bids for the St. Matthews K8 school have closed. Airport Heating and Air won the bid.
- The Painting Project has closed. Mr. Kiernan said the district will have a total of three companies that will be painting the District Office, both K8 schools, and Calhoun County High School in July. Mr. Kiernan said with the help of Mr. Sawvell, the community and students will be involved with the color selection process through an online survey for the classroom and hallway colors.

- Water fountain projects are in the hands of OSF. Mr. Kiernan said he is expecting a call this week with an update.
- Mr. Kiernan said a parent accidentally drove into a portion of the black fence in front of Sandy Run K8 School. He said he is working with the parent's auto insurance company for repairs.

Dr. Tullock shared with the Board the SCSBA Officer Board Nominations, Resolutions, and Changes to the SCSBA Constitution for information. He said nominations for officers and board members, proposals for new Legislative Resolutions or amendments, and proposed changes in the SC School Board Association's Constitution, are all due by June 13, 2023.

Dr. Tullock shared with the Board information regarding the District's Bethlehem site. He said the SC Transportation Department is preparing for a major project that will impact the community with the widening of Interstate 26 and corresponding interchanges. He said there are plans for significant changes to the interchange at exit 136, re-designing the exits and on ramps, shifting of the existing road exits and on ramps as well as shifting of the existing road one lane to the west. He said the eastbound exit onto Caw Caw Road has caused great concern. Dr. Tullock said the exit is being designed to run through the current Bethlehem site. He said this exit will divide the property into two parcels, one being a little more than five acres and the other a little more than three acres. He added there will be no access to the properties from Caw Caw Road. Dr. Tullock requested of the Transportation Department that the road be moved to the edge of the property as to not disturb the integrity of the parcel by making it two smaller parcels. He said the request was denied due to the interchange being staggered. He said to fix the issue, it would require that two families would be displaced because of the acquisition of their properties to adjoin the exit and on ramps.

Dr. Tullock shared with the Board the Juul Settlement. He said the District has received the settlement documents regarding the Juul Lawsuit. He said minus attorney fees, case fees, and court ordered Common Benefit Expense assessment, the District will receive \$28,213.00. He said it is unclear as to when the settlement will be paid, and the final approval hearing is scheduled for August 9, 2023.

Dr. Tullock shared Superintendent Updates. He said the third quarter will end Thursday, March 16. He said report cards will be distributed on Friday, March 24, 2023.

Dr. Tullock extended well wishes to the District's various sports teams: Soccer, Baseball, Softball, and Track as they continue their competitive schedules. He said he would like everyone to support our Bands, middle and high school, as they travel to various concerts and assessments this Spring.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that Saturday with the Superintendent will continue Saturday, March 25th. He said to sign-up with Mrs. Kennedy or via the District's website.

Dr. Tullock invited all to attend the District's Unity Day games. He said this is a time for our SPED students to participate in fun games and activities with their nondisabled peers. He added this year's games will take place on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at Calhoun County High School's football stadium at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Tullock reminded the Board that students and staff will observe Spring Break on Friday, April 7 - 14, 2023. He said everyone will return to school on Monday, April 17th, which will also be our April Board Meeting.

Public Participation: None

Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s), and then return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

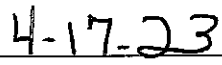
Upon returning from Executive Session, Mr. Porth announced that the Board was back in open session.

Board Action(s): Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Personnel Recommendations and Resignations as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. Passed unanimously.



Board of Trustees Secretary



Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent