

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
October 16, 2023
District Office
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. 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: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the minutes of September 18, 2023 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Chairperson's Report: none

Finance: Mr. Rusty Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the September 2023 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mr. Brunson informed the Board that in September 2023, the District received 2% of the General Fund Budgeted Revenue, expended 8.2% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 61% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures, with a total of 80% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures.

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

Mr. Brunson shared with the Board that the District audit is underway with the team of Mauldin and Jenkins.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, gave academic updates on the iReady formative assessment for the district's pre-assessment. She shared the reading and math data by district and school. In sharing, Mrs. Murdaugh noted that from the assessment, iReady gives Personalized Learning Indicators for each student so that the teacher can work to address the specific needs of each student and help them grow towards progress. Additionally, she stated that parents will receive an individual student report to give them an understanding of what the students can do and what they need assistance in to grow toward proficiency. Mrs. Murdaugh said the next assessment window is in December and that the data will be shared for the mid-year data.

Dr. Treda Nelson, Chief Accountability Officer, shared with the Board an overview of the SC Ready/SC Pass academic percentages of the students in the District.

- Academic Achievement Rating for St Matthews K-8 Middle School, Sandy Run K-8 Middle School and Calhoun County High School were rated Average.
- Academic Progress Rating: All schools in the District were rated Average.
- St. Matthews K-8 Multilingual Learners Progress were rated Good.
- Calhoun County High School Graduation rated above the State's Average (Excellent).
- Calhoun County High School's Career Readiness rated Good.

Dr. Nelson shared the total overall rating for the schools: She said Calhoun County High School scored Average, St. Matthews K-8 Middle School and Sandy Run K-8 Middle School scored Average and St. Matthews K-8 Elementary School and Sandy Run K-8 Elementary School scored Below Average

Ms. Frances Keller, Director of Human Resources, presented Policy CBI – Evaluation of Superintendent for Second Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy CBI – Evaluation of Superintendent for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Ms. Keller presented Policy CBD – Superintendent's Contract for Second Reading and Amendment.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy CBD – Superintendent's Contract for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Ms. Keller presented Policy JKA – Corporal Punishment for Second Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve Policy JKA – Corporal Punishment for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Ms. Keller presented Policy JAA – Gavin's Law for First Reading and Amendment.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy JAA – Gavin's Law for First Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

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

- Bleacher replacement will be done at both the softball and baseball fields.
- Still waiting on the 15-ton HVAC unit for the Gymnasiums and the Kitchen area at St. Matthews K-8 School. The wait will be about 2-3 months and the current HVAC units are still working.
- St. Matthews K-8 School A-wing will have the HVAC installation completed this week.
- Mr. Kiernan shared the new signage for the District's vehicles.

Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations and Communications, introduced Tammy Graham and Rick Higginbotham with AMB, Building and Energy Solutions of South Carolina. Mr. Kiernan said this company works with school districts to help them save money through energy solutions, technology, etc. Mrs. Graham and Mr. Higginbotham both shared information and material for the Board to review.

Mr. Mark Parker, Technology Director, shared Technology Updates with the Board. Mr. Parker said the WIFI upgrade has been completed at all schools and shared with the Board some of the processes it

involves. Mr. Porth asked Mr. Parker if the WIFI problems at Sandy Run K-8 School had been resolved. Mr. Parker said with the upgrade to the system now complete, the problems have been corrected.

Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent, introduced Ms. Pamela Banks, Manager, with the South Carolina Tennis Association. Dr. Tullock said that Ms. Banks has offered to all three of our schools the opportunity to apply for a grant to receive tennis equipment to allow the students to learn the sport of tennis. Ms. Banks shared with the Board an overview of the program and how it offers grants, equipment, scholarships, and training for students.

Dr. Tullock shared Superintendent Updates with the Board. Dr. Tullock said that today was the last day of the first quarter. He said report cards will be distributed this Wednesday and Thursday and report card conferences will be held Wednesday, October 18, 2023 from 3:30 – 7:00 P.M. and Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 noon. Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that there will be no school for students Thursday, Friday and Monday in observance of Fall Break. Students will return to School on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

Dr. Tullock shared that the District received notification of waiver acceptance from the South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Health and Nutrition. He said there is a milk shortage that could impact the receipt of milk for student meals. Dr. Tullock said this waiver allows the Food Service Department to serve an alternative to milk such as canned or powdered milk. Dr. Tullock said that the District currently has on-hand shelf stable milk as an alternative. Dr. Tullock added, that the waiver ends on October 31, 2023.

Dr. Tullock said he is happy to announce that Sandy Run K-8 School Band has been selected to play at the South Carolina School Board Association's Annual Convention on February 18, 2024 in Hilton Head, SC.

Dr. Tullock thanked the New Mount Zion Church of Orangeburg for the hospitality shown to he and Mrs. Tullock during his visit.

Dr. Tullock recognized the Veterans for their service to our Country. He invited the community to attend the District's Community Health Fair on November 11, 2023 from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Calhoun County High School. Dr. Tullock said the Health Fair will include a number of health screenings, the Mammography mobile unit, food trucks, and fun for all ages.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that the November Board Meeting will be held on November 27, 2023 at the District Office.

Public Participation: None

Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s), and the Superintendent's Evaluation, 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 Mr. Nelson, to approve the Personnel Recommendations as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Della Tucker
Board of Trustees Secretary

11-27-23
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent