

**Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
District Office
April 17, 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: 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 Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023, as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Student Recognition: Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief of Academics, asked Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent, Dr. Cinthia Wolfe, Deputy Superintendent, along with Board Members and Principals to come forward and recognize the students receiving the Third Quarter Highest GPA Awards for the 2022-2023 school year. Each student received a certificate and a Calhoun County Public School Honor Student Yard Sign to be placed at their residence.

Employee Recognition: Mrs. Murdaugh presented the Districts' Shining Star Awards to Ms. Dorothy Michael, Ms. Marietta Kenly, Mr. John Sawvell and Mrs. Pam Kennedy. This award is given through the district's partnership with Tri-County Electric Co-Op. Each employee received a gift card.

Chairperson's Report: none

Financial Report: Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the March 2023 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in March 2023, the District received \$14.5 million which is 76% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended \$12.5 million and encumbered \$4.4 million with a total of 89% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures. Mrs. Strickland added that the County did not have the March tax information when the reports were prepared. She said she will include the March Tax Information in the report next month.

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

Mrs. Strickland presented the FY 2023-2024 Calhoun County Public School's Budget for first reading. Mrs. Strickland highlighted the following:

- Suggested requesting an increase of 11.5 mills to make up the difference of the solar fees the County withheld from the District.
- Student enrollment is decreasing per ten-year enrollment trend.
- Salaries and fringes make up 83% of General Fund Budget.
- Increase teacher salaries by \$2,500 and maintain 8% local supplement.
- Steps were added to twenty-four in the Teacher Salary Schedule.
- 5% salary increase to classified staff.
- Bus Drivers salary increase of 25% on State Minimum Salary Schedule.
- Step increase for eligible employees.

Mrs. Strickland asked the board for approval in **title only**.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the first Reading of the Calhoun County Public Schools FY 2023-2024 Budget in **title only**. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Cinthia Wolfe, Deputy Superintendent, shared with the Board a JAG Field Trip Request for approval. She said on April 19-23, 2023, Mr. Justin Farmer, JAG Instructor, is requesting to take four students to Orlando, Florida for the NCA National Career Development Conference. Dr. Wolfe added the entire trip will be paid out of grant funds.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the JAG Field Trip request for April 19-23, 2023 to the NCA National Conference in Orlando, Florida. Passed unanimously.

Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resource Director, presented Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time and AR GCLE R Unencumbered Time for Second Reading and Amendment.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time and AR GCLE R Unencumbered Time for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying for Second Reading and Amendment. Passed unanimously.

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

- Painting will be done at all of the schools and the District Office in July.
- New desks and chairs will arrive this summer for fourth grade, fifth grade and special education classrooms.
- In the process of receiving OSF approval for the water fountain upgrades
- HVAC bids have closed for both K-8 Gyms and SMK8 Cafeteria. The bids are currently being reviewed.
- The schools have been inspected and have identified areas that require attention by our maintenance department.

Dr. Tullock and Mrs. Murdaugh, shared with the Board the Federal Programs Audit results. Dr. Tullock said several weeks ago, he received a letter from the Office of Federal Accountability of the S.C. State Department that oversees programs such as Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV and Title V. The District received an All Clear Rating with no incidence of non-compliances from any area or concerns. Mrs. Murdaugh said the audit was held on March 1, 2023. She said the standards that were covered for the monitoring visit were student identification, coordination of services, program needs assessment, services and evaluation, family and community engagement, report card accountability, equity for private schools, school improvement, teachers, and paraprofessionals qualifications. She said the next audit for all federal programs will be held in four years.

Mrs. Murdaugh shared with the Board the State Wide Assessment Calendar for 2022-2023.

Dr. Wolfe spoke to the Board regarding the District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) visit. Dr. Wolfe said Calhoun County School District was selected by the SC Department of Education to undergo a Civil Rights on Sight review of the District's Career and Education Program. She said the visit will take place on May 10, 2023 at Calhoun County High School.

Dr. Tullock shared the following Superintendent Updates with the Board.

- Dr. Tullock recognized several students with the St. Matthews K-8 School STEM program who participated in the Clemson's 4H Engineering STEAM Challenge in February. He said the program was directed by Mr. Keith Scott and Mrs. Tameka Fordham.
- Certified contracts will be issued tomorrow, April 18, 2023 to staff members upon Board Approval.
- Dr. Tullock wished the JAG staff and students safe travels as they travel to Orlando for the National Competition on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. He thanked the Board for their approval for the students to be allowed to attend.
- Dr. Tullock said Saturday with the Superintendent will be held on April 22nd from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. He said those wanting to secure a time may sign up on the District's website or by calling Mrs. Kennedy at the District Office.
- The Purple Martin Festival will be held on April 22, 2023 at the County Complex.
- Dr. Tullock said a Faculty Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.
- Interim Reports will be sent home on April 26, 2023.
- May 2, 2023 will be the last Early Release Day of the school year.
- May 9, 2023 the Completers' Program will be held at Calhoun County High School.
- May 14, 2023 is Mother's Day.
- The May Board Meeting will take place on Monday, May 15, 2023 at the St. Matthews K-8 School at 7:30 p.m.
- May 25-26, 2023 the last two days of school will be half days for students. He said the dismissal times will be 12:15 for the two K-8 Schools and 12:30 for Calhoun County High School.
- Graduation Ceremony will be on May 27, 2023 at Calhoun County High School at 9:00 A.M.
- Dr. Tullock reminded everyone to continue to support the students that participate in Baseball, Softball, and Soccer Teams as well as the Bands as they continue with their competition seasons.

Public Participation: None

Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, 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 Mr. Nelson, to approve Personnel Recommendations and Resignations as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins moved with a second by Ms. Fredrick to approve Certified Contracts for the 23-24 School year as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 10:57 p.m. Passed unanimously.


Board of Trustees Secretary


Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent