

**Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
September 15, 2025
District Office
Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent**

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

Call to Order/Moment of Silence: Mr. Jenkins, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff, and asked everyone to stand for a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Tullock asked those present to remember Mrs. Carol Aiken (loss of her husband), Ms. Carolyn Snider (loss of her nephew), and Mr. Barry Hunter (loss of his mother).

Notice to the Media: In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(E), as amended, the following were notified of this meeting: *The Calhoun Times*, *The Times and Democrat*, the District website, and notices posted on bulletin boards in all schools and the District Office.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Tullock requested to amend the agenda to include the Cognia Midcycle Report following the Facilities Update under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the amended agenda. *Passed unanimously.*

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the minutes of August 18, 2025, and September 8, 2025, as submitted. *Passed unanimously.*

Mr. Jenkins turned the meeting over to Mr. Porth, Chairperson.

Employee Recognition: Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Interim Deputy Superintendent, recognized Mr. Fred Mack. She reported that the South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Leadership Effectiveness, awarded Mr. Mack for completing the Institute of District Administrators.

Chairperson's Report: No Report.

Finance: Mr. Rusty Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the August 2025 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mr. Brunson informed the Board that the District received 3% of the Projected Revenue and Year-to-Date, 6% of the General Fund Budgeted Revenue. Expenditures were 12% for the month and 17% year-to-date, with Encumbrances at 51% for the twelve-month Fiscal Period.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for August 2025. *Passed unanimously.*

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Frances Keller, Director of Human Resources, presented the following Policies for Second Reading, amendment, and approval:

- Policy BBBE Unexpired Term Fulfillment/Vacancies
- Policy BC Board Member Conduct
- Policy BCA Board Member Code of Ethics
- Policy BD Organization of the School Board
- Policy BDB Board Officers
- Policy BDD Board - Superintendent Relationship
- Policy BDE Board Committees
- Policy DJGA Sales Calls and Demonstrations
- Policy DK Payment Procedures
- Policy DKA Payroll Procedures/Schedules
- Policy DKB Salary Deductions
- Policy DKC Expense Authorization/Reimbursement
- Policy DM Cash In School Buildings
- Policy DN School Properties Disposition
- Policy EBC Emergencies
- Policy EBCB Safety Drills/Assessment
- Policy EBCD School Closings and Cancellations
- Policy ECA Security
- Policy ECAC Vandalism
- Policy ECB Buildings and Grounds Maintenance
- Policy EDE Waste Management and Recycling
- Policy EEA Student Transportation

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Policies as presented by Ms. Keller for Second Reading, amendment, and approval. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Mark Parker, Director of Technology, reported that Microsoft Windows 10 support ends October 14, 2025, and urged users to upgrade to Windows 11 or enroll in extended updates.

He also reported that E-Sports at Sandy Run K-8 is 90% complete. Twenty-nine students have signed up for the South Carolina E-Sports Tournament, which will be held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

Additionally, Mr. Parker announced that videos of all District Board Meetings will be posted online.

Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations and Communications, reported upgrades and repairs to the Calhoun County High School football scoreboard and bleachers, installation of a new HVAC unit at St. Matthews K-8 School Media Center, and sink/vanity upgrades at the District Office and high school gym restrooms. He also noted that the first *Say No to Vaping* class was held in September.

Cognia Midcycle Report: Dr. Treda Nelson, Chief Accountability Officer, provided the Board with a summary of the District's Midcycle Report. She said the report highlights the District's progress in three interconnected priorities.

- **Evaluating programs and practices** – Systematic evaluation with data, classroom observations, and feedback; MTSS Coordinator, instructional coaches, Family Coordinator, restructured classrooms, expanded Early College, updated resources; noted increases in SC READY, ACCESS, and Algebra scores.
- **Monitoring instruction with a focus on high expectations** – Use of ELEOT, university partnerships, district learning walks, and targeted PD; strengthened differentiation and collaboration through Visible Learning, PBL, and structured sessions.
- **Using data analysis to drive student achievement** – Benchmark testing, data walls, progress celebrations; improved attendance and discipline interventions; both St. Matthews K-8 and Calhoun County High were recognized by the State Department for exceeding academic progress.

Dr. Tullock shared Superintendent Updates with the Board. Dr. Tullock said the school year is a little more than halfway through the first marking period. He said young people should have brought home their interim reports. He said if parents still desire a copy of the report, they should make contact with their child's school. Dr. Tullock said the quarter will end on October 8, 2025, and report cards will be distributed on Wednesday and Thursday, October 15 – 16, 2025. He said there will be no school for students on October 16 and 17, 2025.

Dr. Tullock said he will be meeting with the Community Communicators group on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. He said this group is comprised of parents and concerned citizens from across the County. He added that just before this meeting, he will be appearing before the County Council on behalf of the Athletic Department.

Dr. Tullock reminded parents and guardians to make sure that their young people keep their devices in their cases to protect the devices and to comply with warranty requirements.

Dr. Tullock said the Board's next policy meeting will be held on October 13, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the District Office, and the Regular October Meeting will be held on October 20, 2025 at 7:30 P.M. at the District Office.

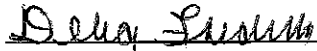
Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s), and then return to open session after discussions. Passed unanimously.

Public Participation: None

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

Board Action(s): No Action Taken.

Adjournment: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to adjourn at 8:58 P.M. Passed unanimously.


Board of Trustees Secretary

10-20-25
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent