

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees
District Office Boardroom/Live Stream
November 15, 2021

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

1. **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".
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:** Dr. Steve Wilson, Superintendent, asked that agenda item, Policy JICI, under the Superintendent's Report be removed from the agenda and Policies GCQE, GCD, and GCC be moved to Executive Session for discussion and brought back to the Regular Session for action. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the agenda with the changes as requested by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of October 18, 2021, as submitted. Passed unanimously.
5. **Student Recognition:** Mrs. Brenda Goodwin, Curriculum Coordinator/District Ombudsmen, asked Dr. Steve Wilson, Superintendent, along with Board Members and principals to come forward and recognize the students receiving the 3rd and 4th Quarter Highest GPA Awards for 2020-2021, the highest GPA awards for the Acellus Academy and the students receiving the Superintendent's award. She said the Superintendent's Award is given to the student that has maintained the Highest GPA for all four quarters. She said that students receiving the Superintendent's Award will be presented a monetary gift. Mrs. Goodwin asked that the parents of students receiving awards to stand and be recognized while their child received an award. (List of students attached.)
6. **Public Participation:** Mrs. Rachel Swartz spoke to the Board about District issues.
7. **Chairperson's Report:** None
8. **Financial Report:** Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, introduced Mr. Bill Pouncey with J.W. Hunt and Company to the Board. Mr. Bill Pouncey, CPA, J.W. Hunt and Company, LLP, presented the Audit Report and Finding Statements of Calhoun County Public Schools, St. Matthews, South Carolina (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, for Board action. The District received an unmodified (clean) opinion from the Auditors.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the Audit of the District's Financial Records for 2020 - 2021. Passed unanimously.
9. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, shared with the Board the last four weeks of the COVID-19 Activity in Calhoun County. He said that Calhoun County's COVID-19 Activity for October 20 and 27, 2021 was reported as low and November 3 and 10, 2021 was reported as medium. Mr. Kiernan added that currently, there is one positive student, three quarantined students, and 0 positive or quarantined staff members.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the Facility Updates. He said he is in the process of working on the playground surface bids. He added that he is reviewing multiple surface options. Mr. Kiernan updated the Board on the District Time Clocks. He said kiosks have been installed at each school and the testing phase has begun. He said he plans to have all issues resolved and the time clocks fully working by January 10, 2022.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy JKE – Expulsion of Students, AR JKE-R – Expulsion of Students for 2nd reading. After Board discussion, the Board asked that the policies be revised and brought back for action at the December 2021 Board Meeting.

Dr. Wilson spoke to the Board about 2022-2023 Staffing. He said that he and the cabinet have been looking over the budget for the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Wilson said there is a decline in the student enrollment over the past year. He hopes the numbers will increase by 2024, but he and the district staff will have to make decisions on the staffing for next year based on the current numbers. He said based on the decline of enrollment, they will probably have to cut staff by attrition or positions for 2022-2023 school year. He concluded by saying he will be looking at the funds and staffing and make appropriate decisions for staffing.

- 9. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel, Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s), Catastrophic Leave Recommendation, Legal: MOU Calhoun County Recreation Department Athletics’ Recommendation, Legal Update: District/Defendant and Policy GCQE – Retirement of Professional Staff, Policy GCD – Professional Staff Vacations and Holidays and Policy GCC – Professional Staff Leaves and Absences 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.

- 10. **Board Action(s):** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to partner with the County of Calhoun Recreation Department. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation for employees. Passed unanimously.

- 11. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Delia Fredrick
Board of Trustees Secretary

12-13-2021
Date of Approval

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