**Calhoun County Public Schools**

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

**St. Matthews K-8 School/Live Stream**

**May 16, 2022**

**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 Mrs. Tucker, 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 April 25, 2022 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

**Presentation to the District:** Dr. Tullock, Superintendent, said that Calhoun County Public School District recently entered a partnership with MUSC Boeing. Dr. Tullock asked Mr. Whittaker Williams, Food Service Director, to come forward along with Mrs. Maclain Borish, and Mrs. Kerrie Hollifield, MUSC Boeing Center for Children’s Wellness to make a presentation to the district and schools. Mrs. Borish said each of the three schools participated in a Wellness Checklist to earn points by doing various evidence based wellness strategies. She said each school received over one hundred points and each school will receive $1,000.00. Mrs. Borish said that out of the three schools, Calhoun County High School had the most points and will receive an additional $1,000.00.

**Student Recognition:** Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, recognized Kristin Pondexter for being the 2022 Technology Champion and the Honoree for the 2022 SC STEM Signing Day presented by Boeing.

**Staff Recognition**: Dr. Cinthia Wolfe, Deputy Superintendent and Mrs. Murdaugh asked Dr. Tullock and Board Members to come forward. Dr. Wolfe asked Mrs. Vicki Ladd, State School Nurse Consultant for the Division of Children’s Health and Pre-Natal Services at the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, to come forward to assist with the presentation. Mrs. Ladd recognized Mrs. Mellissa Mack, Sandy Run School Nurse, for receiving the South Carolina School Nurse R.N. of the Year.

Mrs. Murdaugh recognized the Calhoun County Public School’s Custodial Staff, Bus Driver Staff and the Food Service Staff for the extraordinary job they performed in supporting the students during the recent pandemic. Mrs. Murdaugh asked each one to come forward and receive an award and be honored for a job well done.

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**Chairperson's Report**: none

**Financial Report**: Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the April 2022 Monthly Financial Report and March 2022 Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in April 2022, the District received 79% of the General Fund Budgeted Revenue, expended 72% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 17% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures, with a total of 89% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures. Mrs. Strickland said as of March 31st, the district has collected 5.3 million dollars in current taxes which is 95% of the budget, and collected $359,000.00 in delinquent taxes which is 90% of the budget. Mrs. Strickland added that she has not received the April tax information from the County and will present that information at the June board meeting.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for April 2022. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland presented the FY 2022-2023 Calhoun County Public School’s Budget for Second Reading. She said this budget is reflecting what the Senate has requested. Mrs. Strickland shared with the Board the following expenses:

$2,000 has been added to the minimum teacher salary schedule.

Maintained the 8% local supplement.

All eligible teachers receive a step for a year of experience, up to the max years.

All eligible staff receive a step of experience up to the max years.

Bus Drivers required 5% raise.

All classified staff receive 5% raise.

Not replacing eight positions.

Health insurance, employer side, increases 18.1% for the year, 9.05% for FY 22/23 budget.

Retirement, employer side, increases 1%

Cost of goods increasing

Mrs. Strickland asked the board to approve the Second Reading of the Calhoun County Public Schools FY 2022-2023 Budget in **title only**.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the Second Reading of the Calhoun County Public Schools FY 2022-2023 Budget in **title only**. Passed unanimously.

**Superintendent's Report**: Mr. Kiernan, Chief of Human Resources and Operations, shared with the Board the May Facility Updates. He said the bleacher inspection is complete and he is waiting on the final report. Mr. Kiernan shared with the board the chairs that will be purchased for the first through third grade classrooms. Mr. Kiernan added that work is currently being done on the summer repairs.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy CCA – Organizational Chart for 1st reading and amendment.

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Mr. Nelson had some concerns over the placement of positions on the organizational chart and after board discussion, it was decided to bring back Policy CCA – Organizational Chart for approval and amendment at the June Board Meeting.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy KB and AR KB-R – Parent and Family Engagement in Education for 1st reading. Mr. Kiernan informed the Board that this is a new policy and administrative rule.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy KB and AR KB-R – Parent and Family Engagement in Education for 1st reading. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Wolfe shared with the Board information on the Seals of Distinction. She said students have the opportunity to earn graduation seals of distinction within each high school’s diplomas pathway that identifies a particular area of focus. Dr. Wolfe reported that within the Class of 2022, the school has seven students graduating with a College Ready Seal, eighteen students with a Career Seal, and one student with a Specialization Seal.

Dr. Wolfe updated the Board information on the Honors Academy. She said for the upcoming year the district has twenty-eight students recommended for the Honors Academy.

Mr. Mark Parker, Director of Technology, updated the Board on Technology. He said he is in the process of updating the sound system at Calhoun County High School in the gym and the football field. He said he has a company that will be presenting a proposal soon. Mr. Parker said the St. Matthews K-8 gymnasium does not have a sound system. He has asked for some quotes on having a sound system installed. Mr. Parker said the digital sign at Calhoun County High School is not working. He said the company that installed the sign is no longer in business and he is in the process of securing a company that can repair the problems. Mr. Parker spoke to the Board about network assessments. He said he plans to re-design the District’s network assessment which will include outside devices that can be used by students.

Dr. Tullock shared with the Board the following important dates:

May 18, CCHS Senior Night and Completers’ Program

May 19, SRK8 Montessori Bridging Ceremony

May 20, CCHS Junior/Senior Prom

May 21, District Athletic Banquet

May 23, SMK8 Bridging Ceremony

May 24, SMK8 and SRK8 K5 Promotion Programs

May 25, SRK8 8th Grade Promotion Program

May 26, SMK8 8th Grade Promotion Program

May 27 and 31, Early Dismissal (K8 Schools - 12:15 and HS - 12:30)

May 31, Last Day for Students

June 3, Last Day for Staff

June 4, HS Graduation at 9:00 A.M.

Dr. Tullock asked the Board to consider moving the June Board Meeting from the 27th to the 13th. Dr. Tullock said he will be at a conference in Orlando the week of the 27th. He added that

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he may request a Special Called Board Meeting in June to discuss the budget, if we have the necessary information from the State. He said the June Board meeting will be held at Sandy Run K-8 School.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson to move the June Board Meeting from the 27th to the 13th.

Dr. Tullock spoke to the Board in regards to the Incident that occurred on April 26, 2022, at Calhoun County High School. He said he was informed that a weapon was found in a room at the Alternative Program building. He said the school’s administration and SRO were alerted and an investigation began immediately. Dr. Tullock said he sent a call and e-mail to all stakeholders, as he promised to be transparent with information when he took the position of Superintendent. He said he understood everyone’s concern and fears when learning of the incident. Dr. Tullock said he was not able to share details in an effort to not jeopardize an ongoing law enforcement investigation. Dr. Tullock said as an employee and parent of the District, his thoughts were quite different on the incident. He said who would dare betray the trust and safety of every student and staff member. He said there are no classes or school sanctioned clubs that manufacture nor distribute such items. He said weapons such as knives and guns, find their way into the schools and he has found that the District is not immune to such cavalier behavior. Dr. Tullock said the news lately is filled with what he labels as senseless acts that have taken many vibrant lives. He said it is time we band together as a community to end these acts and weapon carrying among our children. He said South Carolina Code 16-23-430 states that no one under 18 can possess a handgun. Dr. Tullock urged all parents and guardians to check their children’s book bags and belongings for items unauthorized for school. He urged to stop spreading blame and end this shameful behavior and for all to work together to increase the peace throughout the community. Dr. Tullock thanked the school staff and the SRO who found and safely secured the weapon for processing. He also thanked the Calhoun County Sheriff’s Office and the County for collaborating with the District in sharing the cost of an officer for each of our schools. He concluded by saying he is not infringing on anyone’s right to own a weapon but he doesn’t want the weapon to end up on our campuses to infringe upon the District’s charge to keep everyone safe.

**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 Student Code of Conduct, 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 the Superintendent’s recommendations for employment and resignations. Passed unanimously.

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**Adjournment**: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 9:59 p.m. Passed unanimously.

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Board of Trustees Secretary

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Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Kennedy, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent