

## **Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting**

**July 17, 2025, 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC**

### **MINUTES**

**Meeting also offered through Teleconference Option:**

**Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code: 6521665**

**advertised on the School Website as well.**

**Call to Order** -Call to order made by Chairman Lee @ 5:33 pm

**Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present** - Board members present were: Chairman Tony Lee, Chris Weathersby, Sherri Cartwright, Erwin Thomas, Patricia Goodman called in.. School Leader Ginger Almon and CFO Lori Wilson were present.

**Approval of June Minutes** - Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor.

**Approval of July Agenda** - Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor.

**Recite the current SGSC Mission Statement**

- SGSC will provide distinguished and integrated instruction in an environment that cultivates respect, is inclusive of all, and lays the foundation for excellence and life-long learning.

**Public Comment** - None

**School Liaison (Ms. Fincher)** - None

### **School Leader's Report - Information Items**

- **Upcoming Events** - Information Item  
We will have a New Staff Orientation on July 23rd for all new staff to come in and tour the campus, eat lunch, and have an orientation to the school. We will have all staff returning on July 28th where we will attend Team Building exercises at the Springer Opera House before heading to CSU campus for lunch. Pre-Planning will be the remainder of the week until Thursday. Open House will be Tuesday evening from 5:30 - 7:00. Board members will cook hamburgers and hot dogs for the families that attend. Board members are also invited to attend the Faculty Meeting on Thursday to provide a message to the staff before beginning the school year with students on Friday, August 1st.
- **Enrollment Summary** - Information Item  
We cannot provide a true enrollment summary at this time because students are still enrolling and many are withdrawing. The withdrawals are not due to unhappiness with SGSC (per parent conversations), but the fact that many are moving or other issues involved. We will provide a current enrollment summary at the August Board meeting.

### **Academic - Information Items**

- **New Information/Initiatives for the 25-26 School Year** - Information Item  
We will not require weekly lesson plan submissions from the teachers at this time. When visiting classrooms, if we feel that a teacher is not prepared - that individual teacher may be required to begin lesson plan submission again (not the whole staff). We will require that they complete a Curriculum Map/Pacing Guide that will be updated periodically during Collaborative Planning meetings with the Instructional Coach. K-8th grade reading and math teachers will submit weekly Small Group lessons - they will have another person in the room with them to implement the small groups. We are looking for a more in-depth data review to plan this differentiated instruction for students. We will also be requiring grades in the areas of reading and math for the Kindergarten students this year. Previously, we haven't taken grades, but school records indicate that many schools in our area are and the Kindergarten teachers think this would be beneficial as well. We will also not require a numerical Social Studies and Science grade for students in grades 1st - 4th. Instead, they will receive a P (pass) or F (fail) on their report cards. All teachers are in agreement with this decision as these grades are often participation in project grades and create the perception that students are making exceptional grades in these areas, but may be struggling in other areas. Social studies and science times will be deeply embedded with reading and math skills as well.

### **Finance - Action Items and Information Items**

- **Approval of June Financial Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - all in favor. The General fund reports ending in June 2025 were reviewed. The school is 100.00% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues total at 99.89%. Expenditures total at 94%. The total fund equity for June 2025 is \$2,151,937.17. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund. Fund equity has decreased for the month of June.
  - Cash Flow- The monthly cash flow variance for June 2025 reflects an increased amount of actual revenue and a decreased amount in actual expenditures compared to the budget.
- **Approval of the June School Food Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - all in favor. The school nutrition fund for June 2025 was reviewed. The revenues total to 91.00%. The expenditures total at 91.00%. The fund equity increased by \$25,118.11 when compared to May financials.
- **CPF Point Calculation at this time** - Information Item- The Comprehensive Performance Frameworks Score Prediction was reviewed. Based on the SCSC monitoring results, the CPF score is a 85 due to enrollment variance. SGSC is deducted 15 points. There were no major changes in any of the CPF calculations for the month of June.
- **Approval of FY26 Budget** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - all in favor. The board adopted the FY 2026 Budget.
- **Human Resources Policy Update**- Action Item- Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - all in favor. The board approved the amended policy to include HB235.
- **Finance Policy Update** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - all in favor. The board approved the amended policy to increase the credit card limit to \$15K.

## **Governance - Action and Information Items**

- **FY25 Governance Training** - Information Item  
The SCSC put out information related to the 25-26 required Board Trainings. The dates are as follows: November 5-6: Middle Georgia State University, Macon OR February 11-12: Loudermilk Conference Center, Atlanta
- **Orchard Next Steps** - Information Item  
We continue to wait to receive word before we can begin the planning for the Athletic complex addition to see the final outcome of the testing. Lori will follow up and provide an update at the August Board meeting.
- **Allowance and Pricing for Dirt Purchase** - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor. The board approved to sell dirt from the pecan orchard by the dumptruck load. The price will be \$50 per load.
- **Approval of Subcommittee Meetings and Board Meetings Schedules** - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - All in Favor.  
All members were in agreement of the 25-26 Board and Committee meeting dates and times
- **New Hire Approvals** - Action Item - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - All in Favor.  
Katha Scott Middle and High Art                      Sujette Lunsford Middle School ELA  
Madi Stull Kindergarten Paraprofessional                      Magan Hernandez SPED Paraprofessional
- **Handbook Update** - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - All in Favor.  
Board members approved the Student and Family Handbook for the 25-26 School Year
- **Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES** - Information Item  
Standard 6: Teacher and Staff Evaluation - The leader fairly and consistently evaluates school personnel in accordance with state and district guidelines and provides them with timely and constructive feedback focused on improved student learning. The Board feels Mrs. Almon is currently adhering to the requirements of this standard.

**Adjourn Meeting -** 6:32 pm Chairman Lee motioned for adjournment, - Motion to adjourn approved by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - all in favor.