

**Calhoun County Public Schools**  
**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**  
**May 20, 2024**  
**St. Matthews K-8 School**  
**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. 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:** Dr. Tullock asked that under the Superintendent's Report, Policy JFABC Transfer Students, be tabled until the next Board Meeting in order to do a little more research on the Policy. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick and Mrs. Tucker, to approve the agenda with the requested change. Passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of April 15, 2024 and May 6, 2024 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

**Student Recognition:** Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief of Academics, asked Dr. Tullock, along with Board Members and Principals to come forward and recognize the students receiving awards for the following:

- Color the Concepts Art Contest Winner - Nayeli Vergara
- Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College Graduates – Yaneekah Hart, Yareli Casillas, Jatoria McFadden, Jeremy Fields, Jolene Fludd, Kanvas Benjamin, and Evan Jenkins.

Dr. Treda Keith-Nelson, Chief of Accountability, recognized the Calhoun County High School Career and Technology Educational Students and Staff. She said this year, there were 64 students that completed their pathway programs with 100% passage rate. Dr. Keith-Nelson said this year 39 out of the 64 students were credentialed in two areas, 8 students completed 3 programs and 1 student completed 4 programs. Dr. Keith-Nelson said additionally, there were completers from Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College that completed programs in Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Automotive, and Law Enforcement.

Dr. Tullock congratulated the Class of 2024 which consists of 81 graduates. He said graduation ceremonies will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at Calhoun County High School. Dr. Tullock asked the Board members to come forward, and as a part of South Carolina School Boards Recognition of the 2024 graduates, take a picture that will be shared on the District's website to support the Class of 2024 in their efforts.

**Chairperson's Report:** Mr. Porth congratulated all of the students, teachers and staff for their accomplishments this past school year. Mr. Porth said he has a lot of pride to see the District's students doing such an amazing job.

**Finance:** Mr. Rusty Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the March and April 2024 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mr. Brunson informed the Board that in the March and April report, the District received 16.3 % for the two months and year to date 82% of the General Fund Budgeted Revenue. He said for the two months, 15.5% was expended and year to date was 75% of the General Fund Expenditures. Mr. Brunson said Year to Date Encumbered is 20% for the first nine months of the fiscal year.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for March and April 2024. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Brunson presented the Second Reading for the FY 2024-2025 Budget. Mr. Brunson said Senate Finance Revenue projections for 2024-2025 are \$7,979,287.20; an increase of \$457,908.60 over the previous fiscal year period. Mr. Brunson said the total County, State and other projections for the 2024-2025 fiscal period is \$21,458,429.23 which is a \$1,979,198.11 increase over the 2023-2024 period. He said this is a \$106,210.92 increase over the first reading of the budget. Mr. Brunson said the budget is balanced at this time. In closing, Mr. Brunson thanked the finance staff for their assistance in preparing the budget. Mr. Brunson asked for Board approval for Second Reading for the Budget for FY 2024-2025.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Calhoun County Public School's Budget for FY 2024-2025 for Second reading. Passed unanimously.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Whittaker Williams, Food Service Director, asked Ms. Chelsea LeFebvre, MUSC Boeing Center for Children's Wellness, to come forward to make a presentation to the district and schools. Ms. LeFebvre 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. Ms. LeFebvre said that out of the three schools, Calhoun County High School had the most points and will receive an additional \$1,000.00.

Mr. Williams introduced representatives from MUSC Health Hospital in Orangeburg. He said MUSC Health will be working and partnering with the Calhoun County School District to provide students with support in health. Mr. Williams thanked the Food Service staff in the schools for the great job they did in making the awards possible.

Dr. Melissa Peeples, Principal of St. Matthews K-8 School, shared a video presentation that was produced by the Media Class students taught by Mrs. Susan Morris, Media Center Specialist, that highlighted St. Matthews K-8 School.

Mrs. Murdaugh presented Curriculum Updates to the Board. Mrs. Murdaugh said the bulk of testing is now complete and presently the students are in the process of doing makeup testing.

Mrs. Murdaugh extended a thank you to the School Test Coordinators, IT Team, led by Mr. Parker, teachers, student, parents and most of all to the support the students received from the Administrators.

Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations and Communications, presented a revised AR JICDA-R – Student Code of Conduct for information.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the following Facility Updates:

- A new commercial dryer was installed at Calhoun County High School.
- New waste-water pumps were installed at Sandy Run K-8 School.
- New classroom furniture purchased for the Special Education class at St. Matthews K-8 School.
- Three new HVAC units are scheduled to be installed at Calhoun County High School.
- Carpets will be professionally cleaned at St. Matthews and Sandy Run K-8 Schools.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board information regarding an upcoming Field Trip to Winthrop University. He said Mr. John Sawvell, Art Instructor, along with another chaperone, will be taking four students that have qualified for the Winthrop University's Art Bridge Program to the University. Mr. Kiernan said the trip is scheduled for June 9-15, 2024. He said all expenses will be provided by Winthrop University.

Mr. Mark Parker, Technology Director, shared Technology Updates with the Board. Mr. Parker shared the official Calhoun County School District You Tube Channel.

Mr. Parker also demonstrated a new online enrollment process for the upcoming school year. He added the State is pushing a new interface with Power School that will change some of the applications that we currently use. Mr. Parker said one application is the phone blast to parents. He said as of June 1, 2024, the contract will be terminated and the District will be required to use a different company. Mr. Parker said the new company will be Power School Messenger.

Dr. Tullock shared the Superintendent's Updates with the Board. Dr. Tullock said he would like to thank all of the parents and guardians for ensuring that young people made it to school on time and ready for testing over the last few weeks. He said testing ends on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 with End of Course Field testing in English II writing.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that because of testing, there will be no Early Release Tuesdays during the month of May.

Dr. Tullock said everyone is invited to attend the Calhoun County High School Completers' Program on Monday, May 20, 2024 at Calhoun County High School. He said St. Matthews K-8 School will hold its 5K Promotion Program on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at Calhoun County High School and Sandy Run K-8 School will hold its 5K Promotion Program at Sandy Run K-8 School.

Dr. Tullock said the Montessori Bridging Ceremonies will take place on Thursday, May 23, 2024.

Dr. Tullock said the eighth-grade promotion programs will take place in the gymnasium at Calhoun County High School on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 for St. Matthews K-8 School and Wednesday, May 22, 2024 for Sandy Run K-8 School.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that there will be no school on Monday, May 27, 2024 in observance of Memorial Day. He said May 31, 2024 is the last day of school for students. Dr. Tullock said May 30 and 31 are half days. He said K8 students will dismiss at 12:15 P.M. and high school students will dismiss at 12:30 P.M.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone to refer to the school’s websites for additional posting of events taking place over the upcoming weeks.

**Public Participation:** None

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

**Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Passed unanimously.

*Delia Brown*  
Board of Trustees Secretary

6-10-24  
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Kennedy  
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent