

**Calhoun County Public Schools**  
**Minutes of Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**District Office Boardroom**  
**January 29, 2026**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**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 called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff, and asked everyone present to stand for a Moment of Silence and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Dr. Tullock asked everyone to remember the Tyler family during the moment of silence. Mr. Tyler was the father-in-law of Mrs. Vanetta Tyler and grandfather to Ms. Diamond Tyler.

**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 Ms. Fredrick, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2025 and January 12, 2026 minutes, as submitted. Passed unanimously.

**School Board of Trustees Recognition:** Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Interim Deputy Superintendent, asked the Board of Trustees to come forward to receive their gifts. Mr. Floyd Dinkins and Mrs. Krystal Zeigler presented for Sandy Run K-8 School; Dr. Melissa Peeples presented for St. Matthews K-8; Mr. Milton Howard and Ms. Sophia Brown presented for Calhoun County High School; Dr. Treda Keith-Nelson and Mrs. Murdaugh presented for the District Office.

Mrs. Murdaugh read the Governor's Proclamation from Governor Henry D. McMaster, Governor of South Carolina, which proclaims January 2026 as School Board Recognition Month.

Mrs. Murdaugh presented the South Carolina School Board Ethical Principles. All board members signed the principles.

Mrs. Murdaugh asked Mr. Gary Porth to come forward and presented him with a certificate of achievement. Mr. Porth will be honored by the South Carolina School Board Association in February for achieving Level 6, the highest level in the Boardmanship Institute.

**Finance:** Mr. Stanley Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the December 2025 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mr. Brunson informed the Board that the district received 18% of the projected revenue year-to-date, 32% of the General Fund Budgeted Revenue. Expenditures were 16.7% for the month and 54% year-to-date, with encumbrances at 45% for the twelve-month fiscal period.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Monthly Financial report and Budget Adjustments for November and December 2025. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Brunson stated that the auditors will be present for the February meeting to present the 2025 audit. He also stated that meetings have been scheduled to discuss the 2026-2027 budget.

**Board Policies:** Ms. Frances Keller, Director of Human Resources, presented the following Board Policies to the Board for Second Reading, amendment, and approval:

- Policy BEA Livestreaming of Board Meetings
- Policy BIA/BIB New Member Orientation/Board Member Development Opportunities
- Policy BJ School Board Legislative Program
- Policy BK School Board Memberships in Professional Associations
- Policy JJE Student Fund-Raising Activities
- AR JJE-R Student Fund-Raising Activities
- Policy JJF Student Activities Funds
- Policy JQ Student Fees, Fines and Charges
- Policy BID Board Member Compensation and Expenses
- Policy GA Personnel Goals
- Policy GBED Tobacco-Free Schools/Staff
- Policy GCCAAA Sick Leave Bank
- Policy GCF Professional Staff Hiring
- Policy JG Assignment of Students to Classes
- Policy JICA Student Dress
- Policy JICDA Code of Conduct
- Policy JICH Drug and Alcohol Use by Students
- Policy JJG Contests for Students
- Policy JK Student Discipline
- Policy JLCE First Aid and Emergency Care
- File JLCE-E School Health Program Accident Report

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve 19 Policies, 1 Administrative Rule and 1 File as presented by Ms. Keller for Second reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

**Field Trip:** Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations, presented 3 overnight field trips.

- St. Matthews K-8: Mrs. Ellen Heatley requested approval to take 14 students and 4 adults to The Leadership Games in Charleston, SC on March 13-15, 2026. Students will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express, which is 2.9 miles from R.B. Stall High School.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Diaz, to approve the Leadership Games trip to Charleston, SC. Passed unanimously.

- Sandy Run K-8: Mr. Gore and Ms. Jang requested approval to take 50 band and chorus students and 10 adults to the Southern Star Music Festival at Six Flags Over Georgia on April 24-25, 2026.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Southern Star Music Festival at Six Flags Over Georgia. Passed unanimously.

- Calhoun County High: Ms. Dawn Gressette requested approval to take Deca Students to Charleston to compete at the DECA State Competition on February 26-28, 2026. They will stay at the Hilton Gardens in North Charleston.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Diaz, to approve the DECA State Competition trip to Charleston, SC. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Tullock extended his gratitude to the learning community for their cooperation during the most recent winter storm. For parents who had to alter their schedule to accommodate the delay, to the staff members who were there to receive students as well as the bus drivers, who got students to and from school safely, and the cafeteria workers who prepared meals that were sent home last Friday in the event we weren't able to attend school on this past Monday, Thank You!

Dr. Tullock thanked Mr. Mark Parker, IT Director, and the technology department for their work in the Training Room and the Board Room. He said the modernization project has updated technology usage and approved signage in both locations. He stated that Track, Soccer, and Baseball schedules are included in the board packets, and he encouraged everyone to come out to support our sports teams.

Dr. Tullock said a message was sent out informing the community that the weather conditions were being watched for the coming weekend, anticipating snow. He said that should there be an interruption in the school day schedule, messages will go out via phone blast, social media, and the district website to inform parents of school schedule changes.

Dr. Tullock wished Mr. Diaz and Mr. Porth a Happy Birthday.

**Public Participation: None**

**Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to enter Executive Session to consider Personnel: Recommendations and Resignations, the Superintendent's Evaluation, and then return to open session after discussion. Passed unanimously.

**Board Actions: No Action Taken**

**Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Passed unanimously.

  
Board of Trustees Secretary

2-16-26  
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,  
Charlene Jenkins, Executive Administrative Assistant