

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees
District Office/Live Stream
July 7, 2020
7:30 P.M.

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. Kevin Jenkins, Vice 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, as amended, Section 30-4-80-(E), 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, requested that Academic Calendars under the Superintendent's Report be moved to Executive Session for discussion and brought back to Regular Session, so the public can be informed and then receive Board action. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the agenda with the changes requested by Dr. Wilson. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Mrs. Tucker moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2020, Board Meeting, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)
5. **Chairperson's Report:** No Formal Report.
6. **Finance Report:** No Report for June.
7. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, informed the Board of the Facility Updates. He said the custodial staff at each school is doing a great job and on schedule. He added that the camera system at SMK8 and SRK8 have been upgraded and CCHS is in the process of being completed.

Dr. Wilson spoke to the Board about School Reopening and Considerations. He said that it is very close to the time that schools would normally start and, he would like to bring to the Board considerations and discuss options during the meeting before making a recommendation to the Board on how students will be brought back.

Mr. Kiernan presented DHEC Guidance Reports regarding Covid-19 to the Board. He said that this past spring, State Superintendent, Molly Spearman, formed a task force of educators and administrators representing all aspects of the K-12 public education system. She asked the group to come up with recommendations on how schools could re-open during the Covid-19 pandemic. This group was named the Accelerate ED Task Force. This group came up with recommended models for re-opening schools: Model 1: Based on low or no spread of Covid-19 in the area and no positive cases, Model 2: Hybrid Scheduling: allows a portion of the staff and

students to report to a physical building, and Model 3: Full Distance Learning – Students and staff are unable to return to a physical school building due to high spread of Covid-19 in the area and a high number of positive cases in the school. He shared that the latest report for Calhoun County as of July 5, 2020 is a High Percent Positive and Incidents Rate, Low in Trend in Incidence Rate. This places Calhoun County in the High category.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, informed the Board of the Food Service plan options for 2020-2021 for students. She said that if the students are virtual, the busses will deliver the meals as was done at the beginning of the pandemic. When the students start Hybrid Learning, the meals will be delivered to the classrooms. The students at home with E-Learning, will have three days of meals delivered on Fridays.

Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief of Academic Affairs, updated the Board on the Summer Programs for students. She said that due to the high Covid-19 numbers, the Academic Recovery Camp, ESY Program and the Gear Up Program have been cancelled. The Virtual Summer Reading Camp was completed.

Mrs. Murdaugh informed the Board that, the State will reimburse the District for five additional days for K-8 grade students (LEAP days). She said students will have 185 days of instruction. She added this does not cover grades 9-12. Mrs. Murdaugh said at the present time, the State is only reimbursing the LEAP days if the students have face to face instruction. This is currently being discussed with the Superintendent and his executive cabinet on how this will be done.

Mrs. Cinthia Wolfe, Chief of Accountability and Administration, updated the Board about OCtech and Orangeburg District CATE Program. She said that she has been in constant contact with OCtech and Orangeburg 5 District and they are ready to provide instruction based on whenever the Districts decide on how the students return. She added that our students will graduate on time and be College and Career ready.

Mr. Mark Parker discussed the Stakeholder Survey Compilations with the Board. The surveys were received from parents, students and staff regarding the model on how to re-open school for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Parker said the District received 624 responses from parents electronically and 2 from paper copies. He added that the District received 280 student responses and 199 staff responses.

8. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s), Academic Calendars and then return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

Upon return from Executive Session, Mr. Porth announced that the Board was back in open session.

9. **Board Actions:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the E-Learning and Hybrid E-Learning Calendar for 2020-2021 with a start date of August 3, 2020 for teachers, August 10, 2020 for LEAP students and August 17, 2020 for all students.
10. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to adjourn at 9:15p.m. Passed unanimously.

Board Secretary

Date of Approval