

**Calhoun County Public Schools**  
**Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**District Office/Live Stream**  
**November 23, 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. 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".
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, asked that COVID-19 vs. Safety Decisions under the Superintendent's Report be removed from the agenda under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the agenda with the changes requested by Dr. Wilson. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2020, Regular Board Meeting, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)
5. **Chairperson's Report:** No Report
6. **Finance Report:** Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the October 2020 Monthly Financial Report. Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in October 2020, the District received 16% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended 27% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 58% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures with a total of 85% that is expended and encumbered. She added that the current taxes collected for October 2020 was \$566,674.18 and delinquent taxes collected was \$99,452.57. Mrs. Strickland also informed the Board that the District Audit is not ready at this time.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the Monthly Financial Report for October 2020. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the October 2020 Budget Adjustments.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Budget Adjustments for October 2020. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland shared with the Board a PowerPoint explaining Enrollment vs. Funding. She said on the 2020-2021 45 day report, the EFA funding is down \$172,274.66 from the previous year's 135 day report. Mrs. Strickland said the 2020-2021 45-day enrollment is 86.27 less on the average daily membership than the previous year's 135 day report. She said the 2020-2021 budget is \$2,929,343.22 due to the Continuing Resolution. She added that the 2020-2021 EFA Revenue based on the 45 Day Report is \$2,842,001.59 with a difference of \$87,331.63 from the budgeted amount. Mrs. Strickland said she is hopeful the average daily membership will increase by the 135<sup>th</sup> day report on March 17, 2021.

7. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Wilson recognized the Board Members that were re-elected on November 3, 2020. The re-elected Board Members are Mr. Gary Porth, Mrs. Sandra Tucker and Mr. Ned Nelson.

Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, presented Policy BEDI – News Media Services at Board Meeting for amendment and approval.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve Policy BEDI – News Media Services at Board Meeting for amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. George Kiernan presented Policy BEDG – Minutes of Board Meetings for amendment and approval.

Mr. Porth questioned some of the new wording on the policy, said that it was unclear, and asked that Policy BEDG – Minutes of Board Meetings be brought back at the next Board Meeting for amendment.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the last five weeks of the COVID-19 Activity in Calhoun County. He said that Calhoun County's COVID-19 Activity as of November 19, 2020, was high.

Mr. Kiernan informed the Board of the Facility Updates. He said that the cameras on four buses are being upgraded and repairs are in the plans for the Sandy Run School parking lot.

Mr. Milton Howard, Principal, asked the Board for approval on the EOC Waiver Requirements for all 2020-2021 EOC Assessments. He said that Mrs. Molly Spearman, SC State Superintendent of Education, has requested a waiver for State testing, but at this time, it has not been granted. He said that under ACT 135 the State Superintendent is able to waive the normal 20% requirement on all EOCEP (End of Course Examination Program) taken this school year. Mr. Howard said that after receiving feedback from the high school EOC teachers, school administration and district administrators, he asked that the EOC count 10% towards the students' final average. He added that the Oversight Committee has sent a letter to make sure

Districts were made aware that the results of the exam will still be reported and calculated in the school report cards. He said the only adjustment districts are allowed to make at this time, is the percentage they count towards the student's final grade.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve that the end of year course testing percentage be 10% of the student's final grade for 2020-2021 as presented by Administration. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Cinthia Wolfe, Chief of Accountability and Administration, shared with the Board a Recap of Current eLearning-Face-To-Face and Virtual Instruction. She said School-Based eLearning-Students will participate in eLearning five days a week with their scheduled teachers. Mrs. Wolfe said on Fridays, instruction stops at 1:00 PM to allow Social and Emotional Learning for students starting at 1:30 and professional development for teachers. She said teachers will provide eLearning techniques and strategies to provide an effective and organized approach to learning, assignments, and assessments. Mrs. Wolfe said Virtual Learning students will participate in virtual learning through the Acellus program and the program is a proficiency based and personalized learning platform. She said the Face-to-Face Instruction are students physically in class in front of their teachers. She added that currently the District has Pre-K, Kindergarten and special needs participating in Face to Face instruction.

Mr. Mark Parker, Director of Technology, updated the Board on Broadband in the District. He said that the District has two telecommunication companies that serve Calhoun County. He said that Segra serves the St. Matthews area and AT&T serves the Sandy Run area. He said that AT&T has finished their circuit upgrade and Segra has only finished a portion of the circuit upgrade. He said on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, they hope to finish the upgrade. He added, when the upgrade is completed, it is up to the District to complete the upgrade. He said that the upgrade from Segra was to have already been completed, but an error on their end caused the delay. Dr. Wilson said that he would like to remind the Board that there are no guarantees that on November 30<sup>th</sup> the upgrade will be completed. This is up to the vendor to keep their word. Mr. Parker agreed and said that Segra has actually tried to complete the upgrade on two different occasions and were not able to complete due to errors from the Segra employees and company. Mr. Porth asked if there are teachers still working from home. Dr. Wilson explained that half of the teachers work two days at school on Monday and Tuesdays, and then the other half work in school on Wednesday and Thursday. All teachers work from home on Friday. Mr. Porth said that he hopes with the broadband upgrade, all of the teachers will be able to work from their classroom.

Mr. Parker updated the Board on Hotspots. He told the Board that all Districts are mandated to turn in a monthly report to The Office of Regulatory Services. He said that as of November 5<sup>th</sup> the District has 230 Hotspots issued out and as of today, the total is 236. He added that the District has enough Hotspots to issue to the students that need them.

8. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s), a Bus Incident and Property Transfer Proposal 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:** No Board Actions
10. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 10:45 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Delia Sisk  
Board of Trustees Secretary

12-14-2020  
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Kennedy  
Pamela Kennedy, Executive Administrative Assistant  
To the Superintendent