

**Calhoun County Public Schools**  
**Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**District Office Boardroom/Live Stream**  
**August 9, 2021**

**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, Section 30-4-80-(E), as amended, 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:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the minutes of July 19, 2021, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)
5. **Public Participation:** Mrs. Eartha Mosley, President of the Calhoun County Branch NAACP, presented a check to each school principal to be used to support students in need with their digital device fees. The check will cover thirty students in the Calhoun County Public Schools for the upcoming year. Mr. Porth said on behalf of the Calhoun County Board of Trustees, he would like to extend his appreciation to the Calhoun County Branch NAACP for the award.
6. **Chairperson's Report:** Mr. Porth read a plaque sponsored by the South Carolina School Board Association. He said the plaque is a message from the Board of Trustees welcoming students and staff back to school. Mr. Porth asked that a plaque be placed at each school.
7. **Financial Report:** No Report
8. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, shared with the Board the last three weeks of the COVID-19 Activity in Calhoun County. He said that Calhoun County's COVID-19 Activity for July 21, 2021 was reported as medium, July 28, 2021, and August 4, 2021 were reported as high.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the Facility Updates. He said the parking lot at Sandy Run K-8 School was completed on August 6, 2021. He added a final walkthrough of the project will be held on August 11, 2021. Mr. Kiernan said the LED light project is approximately 95% complete at each school. He said the cafeteria at Sandy Run K-8, the Media Center at St. Matthews K-8 and the Atrium at Calhoun County High School are the areas to be completed. Mr. Kiernan said once the work is completed, a final walkthrough will be scheduled. Mr. Kiernan said Mr. Barry Hunter from the maintenance department is working on five HVAC units in the district.

Mr. Kiernan updated the Board on the 2021-2022 Safety Equipment and Required Protocols in the District, as well as the 2021-2022 Teacher/Student Quarantine Procedures and Safety Protocols in a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy GBK – Staff Concerns/Complaints/Grievances for 1st Reading/Amendment and approval.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy GBK – Staff Concerns/Complaints/Grievances for 1st Reading/Amendment and approval. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, spoke to the Board about the 2021-2022 Instructional Delivery for Quarantined students. She said teachers will work with the students that are isolated with Covid. Mrs. Murdaugh said that once the students return back to school, they will be given a reasonable amount of time to complete their assignments. Mrs. Murdaugh said the students that are quarantined due to Covid will need their parents to contact the school counselor. The counselor will then contact the teacher to put a packet together for the student to work on his/her assignments while in quarantine. Mrs. Murdaugh said after students receive their digital devices, teachers will prepare two weeks of work for students to download on the student's computer. She said students will be able to work off line. Mrs. Murdaugh said this work will be updated as the teachers progress through their quarterly standards.

Dr. Cinthia Wolfe, Chief of Accountability and Administration, shared with the Board the 2021-2022 School Arrival Window for Students. She said schools will accept students at 7:30 A.M. These students include: Honor's Academy students, Early College students and the Career and Technical Students. The students will be able to get to campus in time to receive breakfast, then travel on the bus to the various sites. She added that the 7:30 A.M. start time will assist parents in getting to their places of employment on time while their children are safe and supervised.

Dr. Wolfe updated the Board on the Honor's Academy. She said that the District has seventy-five students enrolled in the Honor's Academy. Dr. Wolfe said there are 45 students enrolled at Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College. She said these students are working on college courses and will receive college credit as well as high school credit.

Mr. Ferlondo Tullock, Deputy Superintendent, shared with the Board the recent and future Vaccination Clinics for Adults and Students in the District. He said the District will soon partner with two new agencies that will provide all three of the vaccines, Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson's Janssen to the community and students. He said parents will be allowed to be with their children when they receive the vaccine. Each student must be 12 years old and have their parent's approval. Mr. Nelson asked how the information would be given to the public. Mr. Tullock said flyers will be sent with permission forms to the students on the District website, as well as phone blasts to the parents.

Mrs. Brenda Goodwin, Curriculum Coordinator/District Ombudsmen, shared with the Board School Registrations and First Day back for Staff. She said all schools had a successful registration. Mrs. Goodwin shared that Calhoun County First Steps hosted Count Down to Kindergarten for the Districts four year olds this summer. She said SMK-8 school had 35 students and SRK-8 school had two students complete the program. Mrs. Goodwin added that teachers and staff returned to schools today and you could feel the excitement. She said principals at each school met with their faculty and staff. Mrs. Goodwin said the Back to School Meeting for all faculty and staff will be held on August 10, 2021 at CCHS.

Mr. Mark Parker, Director of Technology, shared with the Board the 2021-2022 Refresh & New Digital Devices. He said the District will receive 1200 devices for the students. He said the devices are presently being processed in Greenville, SC. The devices are scheduled to arrive this week. Mr. Parker said that this year the District will be very vigilant in not just handing out the new devices every time a student damages a device. He said the devices are purchased with ESSER funds and have to be tracked closely and reports sent to the SC State Department of Education. He said if the device is intentionally damaged by a student, the student will be given an older Chromebook device and if this is intentionally damaged, they will receive paper copies of work. Mr. Parker said the team will periodically go in the schools and inspect the devices.

Dr. Wilson talked to the Board about Responsible Leadership for Schools during a Pandemic. Dr. Wilson shared his ideas on keeping everyone safe. He said the reason he asked the Board to change the date of this month's Board meeting to an earlier date, was so everybody can be aware of what the District is trying to do despite the mandates to keep everyone safe. Dr. Wilson said, it is his number one priority to protect the students and staff.

9. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel, Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s); Superintendent's Departure 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.

10. **Board Action(s):** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment and resignations. Passed unanimously.
11. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. Passed unanimously.

---

Board of Trustees Secretary

---

Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Kennedy, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent