

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
January 27, 2025
District Office
Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent

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. 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 the Board to amend the agenda with the addition of a Field Trip Request under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the agenda with the addition of Field Trip Request under the Superintendent's Report. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024 and January 13, 2025 as submitted. Passed unanimously.

School Board of Trustees Recognition: Dr. Tullock asked Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Interim Deputy Superintendent, to come forward and assist in recognizing the Board Members of Calhoun County Public Schools.

Mr. Floyd Dinkins, Principal, presented gifts to the Board Members from the staff and students of Sandy Run K-8 School.

Dr. Melissa Peeples, Principal, presented gifts to the Board Members from the staff and students of St. Matthews K-8 School.

Mr. Milton Howard, Principal, presented gifts to the Board Members from the staff and students of Calhoun County High School.

Gifts to the Board Members were also presented from the District Office Staff.

Mrs. Murdaugh read aloud the South Carolina Governor's Proclamation for School Board Recognition Month. A framed copy of the Proclamation will be displayed in the Board of Trustees Executive Board Room.

Mrs. Murdaugh recognized Mr. Jenkins for fifteen years of School Board Service with Calhoun County Public Schools. She said this award is given by the South Carolina School Board Association. Mr. Jenkins received a fifteen-year service pin.

Mrs. Murdaugh read aloud the South Carolina School Board Member's Ethical Principles and asked fellow Board members to sign a poster that included the Board Principles. The signed poster will be displayed in the Board Room.

Student Recognition: Mrs. Murdaugh, asked Dr. Tullock, along with Board Members and Principals to come forward and recognize the students receiving the Second Quarter Highest GPA Awards for the 2024-25 school year. Each student was given a Certificate of Award and a Calhoun County Public School's Honor Student Yard Sign to be placed at their residence.

Employee Recognition: Mrs. Murdaugh presented the 2024-2025 Second Quarter District's Shining Star Awards to Phalya Donaldson, Regina Simon, Jacqueline Myrick and Somer Williams. Each employee received a Certificate of Award and a gift card sponsored by Tri-County Electric Co-op.

Chairperson's Report: No Report

Finance: Mr. Rusty Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the November/December 2024 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration. Mr. Brunson informed the Board that the District received 17.6% of the Projected Revenue and Year-to Date, 31% of the projected General Fund Budgeted Revenue, expended 16.9% for the month and 47% for the year to date. He said Year-Date Encumbrances was 39% 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/December 2024. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Frances Keller, Director of Human Resources, presented the following Board Policies to the Board for amendment and approval.

Policy DA Fiscal Management Goals/Priority Objectives

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick to approve Policy DA Fiscal Management Goals/Priority Objectives for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DB Annual Budget

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve Policy DB Annual Budget for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DBD Determination of Budget Priorities

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy DBD Determination of Budget Priorities for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DBJ Budget Transfers

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve Policy DBJ Budget Transfers for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DC Taxing and Borrowing

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy DC Taxing and Borrowing for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DD Funding Proposals, Grants and Special Projects

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to approve Policy DD Funding Proposals, Grants and Special Projects for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DFG Tuition Income

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy DFG Tuition Income for First Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DGA Authorized Signatures

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy DGA Authorized Signatures for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DH Bonded Employees and Officers

Mr. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve Policy DH Bonded Employees and Officers for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy DI Fiscal Accounting and Reporting

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy DI Fiscal Accounting and Reporting for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy EA Support Services Goals/Priority Objectives

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy EA Support Services Goals/Priority Objectives for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy IDCE Advanced College Placement Programs.

Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the deletion of Policy IDCE Advanced College Placement Programs. Passed unanimously.

Policy IDDG Vocational Planning and Appeals

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the deletion of Policy IDDG Vocational Planning and Appeals for Second Reading. Passed unanimously.

Policy IHAI Career and Technical Education

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy IHAI Career and Technical Education for Second Reading and amendment. Passed unanimously.

Policy IHAK Character Education

Mr. Diaz moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to table Policy IHAK Character Education until the next Board Meeting. Passed unanimously.

Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations and Communications, presented a Field Trip Request to the Board for approval. Mr. Kiernan said the DECA class is requesting to go to the Association Development Conference in North Charleston on February 24-February 26, 2025.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Diaz to approve the DECA Field Trip to North Charleston on February 24-February 26, 2025. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Tullock shared Superintendent's Updates with the Board. Dr. Tullock thanked everyone for their patience and understanding while dealing with the schedule changes due to the inclement weather the District recently experienced. He said that Districts across the State are afforded five e-Learning days to use in the event of inclement weather, water main breaks, or other unforeseen interruptions in the operations of the schools. Dr. Tullock said Calhoun County School District has reached the limit with last week's weather event. He said on January 23, 2025, the District was closed and the day must be made-up on Monday, February 17, 2025. Dr. Tullock said the District will observe the Mid-Winter Break on Friday, February 14th. Dr. Tullock said the changes will affect the third quarter by one day. He said originally, Interim Reports were to go home on February 6th and that date has now changed to February 7th. Dr. Tullock said the end of the third quarter remains the same on March 12, 2025.

Dr. Tullock thanked everyone, particularly students and staff, who has been affected by the new cell phone policy. He said the Principals have reported minimal instances of having to address people regarding cell phone violations. Dr. Tullock reported students are using the office phone much more than in the past. He said he received an email from a teacher stating that her students are more focused now. He said he appreciates everyone's efforts to comply with the new law and adjustment to the policy.

Dr. Tullock said recently the District conducted a Report Card pickup and Parent/Teacher conferences for the second quarter. He thanked everyone who came out in support of the students. Dr. Tullock said the third quarter date for conferences is Tuesday, April 1, 2025. He said the times will be from 1:45 – 6:00 P.M. He said the intent is to hold three conferences each year to promote parent engagement. Dr. Tullock said that would be one conference after the First, Second, and Third Nine weeks.

Dr. Tullock reminded everyone that Interim Reports will be distributed to student on Friday, February 7, 2025.

Dr. Tullock asked that everyone continue to support the Boys and Girls Basketball and Cheerleading teams as they continue their seasons. He congratulated the eSports team as they have gotten their season underway. Dr. Tullock said he was able to view a few of their tournaments via the web a week ago. He said the District will soon be starting the season for Track and Field, Soccer, Baseball, and

Softball. Dr. Tullock thanked the student athletes and coaches for representing the District with pride and class.

Public Participation: None

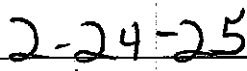
Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s), the Superintendent's Evaluation, and then return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

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

Board Action(s): None

Adjournment: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Passed unanimously.


Board of Trustees Secretary


Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent