

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
June 10, 2024
Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent

A Public Hearing for the FY 2024-2025 Calhoun County Public School Budget was held prior to the regularly scheduled Board Meeting at the District Office.

Members Present: Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson; Mr. Kevin Jenkins, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Debra Fredrick, Secretary; Mrs. Sandra Tucker; and Mr. Ned Nelson.

Call to Order/Moment of Silence: Mr. Porth 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: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of May 20, 2024 with the correction of the Board Meeting Location. Passed unanimously.

Student Recognition: Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, asked Dr. Ferlondo Tullock, Superintendent, along with Board Members and Principals, to come forward and recognize the students receiving the Fourth Quarter Highest GPA Awards for the 2023-24 school year. Each student was given a certificate of award and a Calhoun County Public School Honor Student Yard Sign to be placed at their residence.

Mrs. Murdaugh asked the recipients of the Superintendent's Award to come forward and receive a certificate of award as well as a monetary gift. Mrs. Murdaugh said the Superintendent's Award is given to the student that has maintained the Highest GPA for all four quarters in the school year.

Employee Recognition: Mrs. Murdaugh presented the 2023-2024 Fourth Quarter District's Shining Star Awards to Mr. Sumesh Nair, Mrs. Anita Fersner, Mrs. Juanita Johnson, and Dr. Treda Keith Nelson. Each employee received a certificate of award and a gift card sponsored by Tri-County Electric Co-op.

Mrs. Murdaugh asked the principals to come forward and recognize the Volunteers that work in the District and with the students. Each Volunteer received a certificate of award. Mrs. Murdaugh said over sixty volunteers were being recognized tonight.

Chairperson's Report: None

Finance: Mr. Rusty Brunson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Third Reading of the FY 2024-2025 Budget. Mr. Brunson said the budget for the 2024-2025 FY total revenue is \$21, 573,086.46 and the total expenses is \$21, 573,086.46. He said this is a balanced budget using no fund balance and no milage increase for the coming fiscal year. Mr. Brunson asked for Board approval for Third Reading of the Calhoun County Public School's Budget for FY 2024-2025.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Third Reading of the Calhoun County Public School's Budget for FY 2024-2025. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Tullock thanked Mr. Brunson and his staff for their hard work on this year's budget.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Murdaugh, shared Curriculum Updates with the Board. Mrs. Murdaugh said the Summer Program has started in the schools. She said at this time, there are 416 students that are taking part of the summer program.

Mrs. Murdaugh said on June 17, 2024, the District will host the 1890 South Carolina State University's 4H Club at St. Matthews K-8 School. She said there will be 15 students from Sandy Run K-8 School and 15 students from St. Matthews K-8 School that will take part of this program during the week.

Mr. George Kiernan, Chief of Operations and Communications, shared with the Board the following Facility Updates:

- The summer cleaning has begun. The schools are on schedule and are working around the summer enrichment programs.
- 3 new HVAC units at CCHS will be installed this week.
- There is a leak in a classroom on A hall at SRK8. Repairs will begin this week.
- Plans to replace the floor in the Marketing room at CCHS.
- New countertops and sinks in four restrooms at CCHS are scheduled to be installed July 10th.
- Professional Carpet cleaning at both K8 school will begin the 2nd week of July.

The custodians and administration are working hard to get the classrooms done, so that teachers can work on setting their rooms up the week of July 22nd.

Mr. Mark Parker, Technology Director, shared Technology Updates with the Board. Mr. Parker shared with the Board the plans to begin online student enrollment. He said this will be available as soon as he receives the okay from PowerSchool.

Mr. Parker updated the Board regarding the COPS Grant. He said earlier today a walk-thru was done in the schools to see what materials need to be ordered. He thanked Dr. Tullock and Ms. Mary Currie for their role in helping with this project. Mr. Parker shared with the Board information about the new keyless safety locks that will be installed in the schools.

Mr. Parker said Network updating begins this month as well as updating all of the interactive boards.

Mr. Parker said Dr. Tullock has asked that starting next school year, all graduating seniors will leave with their laptop computer. Mr. Parker said this will also alleviate some of the hardship on the budget when it comes time to do a refresh. He said every year there will be a refresh for the ninth-grade students and the laptop they have used will be the one that they are issued when they graduate. Mr. Parker is hoping that this will help the students take better care of their laptops.

Dr. Tullock shared the Superintendent's Updates with the Board. Dr. Tullock said last Saturday everyone was blessed with beautiful weather for the commencement ceremony for the eighty-one graduates from Calhoun County High School. He thanked everyone for coming out for the graduation ceremony and congratulated the young people and their families for reaching this academic milestone. Dr. Tullock wished them well as they embark on new journeys in post-secondary education pursuits, the world of work, and military service. He said next year, the District will be able to give the students their laptops and for those going off to college, this will alleviate one burden parents have to face in purchasing a laptop. He thanked Mr. Parker and Mr. Brunson for helping to make this possible.

Dr. Tullock said Summer Enrichment programs are in the second week. He said summer sessions began on Monday, June 3, 2024 for Summer Reading Camp and SPED Extended School Year programs. Dr. Tullock said all programs will operate Monday through Thursday from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. through June 27, 2024. He said the District is also operating the summer feeding programs at all three school sites and the County Library. Dr. Tullock said breakfast and lunch are being served at each school and lunch only at the Library. He said the program will end on June 27, 2024. He said this year the food is a prepared hot meal and will be served in meal containers.

Dr. Tullock said the District will be closed on Fridays throughout the summer beginning June 7th and ending on July 26, 2024. He said the District Office and schools will be open from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday.

Dr. Tullock said the District will closed on Thursday, July 4, 2024 in observance of Independence Day. He said the District will reopen on Monday, July 8, 2024. He said the next Board Meeting will take place on Monday, July 15, 2024 at Calhoun County High School.

Dr. Tullock said the Back-to-School Bash is planned for Saturday, July 27, 2024 from 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. He said the event is planned for outdoors on the football field. He said should there be inclement weather, the Bash will be moved indoors in the gymnasium at Calhoun County High School.

Dr. Tullock said as the District is preparing to return to school, Mr. Parker has talked about the online registration process that should reduce wait times to register as well as create opportunities to update phone numbers and addresses. He said the District is working to distribute student technology devices prior to the start of school to every student who has paid for his or her fees and completed the acceptable use form. Dr. Tullock said this will ensure that every student will have his or her device on the first day of school as not to create any delays in

instruction. He encouraged everyone to take advantage of the online registration and the early device pickup times. He said the pickup times are:

- Sandy Run K-8 School Thursday, July 18, 2024 - 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Monday, July 22, 2024 - 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
- St. Matthews K-8 School Monday, July 22, 2024 - 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Tuesday, July 23, 2024 - 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- Calhoun County High School Wednesday, July 24, 2024 - 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Thursday, July 25, 2024 - 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Dr. Tullock said last week that he along with the Cabinet, Mr. Dinkins, Mr. Mack, and Mr. Howard were a part of a contingency that represented the District at the Darden Executive Education and Lifelong Learning at the University of Virginia. He said through the partnership with Life2, they were able to take part in one of the most rewarding professional and personal learning experiences. Dr. Tullock said the group took part in meaningful classroom discussions followed by team-building and execution exercises. He said the highlight of the experience was the rowing exercise where each person was pushed to face challenges and fears in an eight-man rowing boat. He said the experience is one that certainly will be remembered for some time to come. He said certificates were presented to the successful completers. Dr. Tullock asked Mrs. Murdaugh to come forward and present each participant a certificate.

Public Participation: None

Executive Session: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel Recommendation(s) and Resignation[s] and a Student Expulsion Appeal 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):

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to uphold the Expulsion Committee decision as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Personnel Recommendations and Resignations as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to adjourn at 9:57 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Della Lamm
Board of Trustees Secretary

7-15-24
Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent