

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

November 14, 2022

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, November 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office. Agenda notice was distributed to Spartanburg Herald Journal, Woodruff Times, and listed on the District website at [spartanburg4.org/do/agenda](http://spartanburg4.org/do/agenda).

Chairman Tony Davis called the meeting to order. Minutes of the October 3 meeting were approved as submitted.

The following reports were given:

## **Woodruff Primary School**

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for November 2022 is attached.
2. CogAT and Iowa tests for second graders have been completed. These assessments determine eligibility for SOAR in third grade. Students who don't qualify for the gifted program based on CogAT and Iowa may qualify to take Performance Task Assessment as an additional opportunity to become eligible for SOAR.
3. Teachers met with parents during the month of October to review students' progress. Teachers at WPS hold conferences with parents of all students.
4. Red Ribbon Week was observed October 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff participated in dress-up days that represented a positive message about keeping our bodies healthy.
5. Mrs. Dover attended the USC Upstate Educator Career Fair and the Anderson University Educator Career Fair in October.
6. Kindergarten students attended presentations by local firefighters to learn about fire safety. Trinity Fire Department provided these presentations and the smoke house for children to practice exiting a home safely while filled with simulated smoke.
7. Preschool and kindergarten students attended field trips to Stewart Farms. The farm provides an exciting experience for our little ones including a wagon ride, lessons on growing pumpkins, a trip through the corn maze, and opportunities to see a variety of farm animals.
8. First grade classes are taking a field trip to Publix. The children get to tour the store, learn about each of the departments, and see some things going on behind the scenes.
9. Allison Duckett is providing monthly sessions for teachers and support staff to learn about Conscious Discipline.
10. WPS staff and students are collecting canned goods for the Woodruff Soup Kitchen during October and November. So far, we've collected over 1,500 items.
11. Student Council representatives were elected by their peers to represent each class. The elected members are Justice Scruggs, Bonnie Bynum, Gracie Cochran, Kelvin Morton, Sienna Arrowood, Rylee Frey, Cason Shuler, Kendall Caldwell, Jose Manuel Martinez-Nesbitt, and Michaela Glenn. These students will work, as a group, throughout the year to learn about leadership, teamwork, problem solving, and other important skills. They will participate in leading community service projects and school spirit activities.

## **November 2022**

7 Teacher Inservice Day

8 Election Day, No School

11 Veterans Day

16 Interim Reports for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

First Grade Tree Planting with Trees Upstate

17 Literacy Night, Camp Read-A-Lot, 4:00 – 6:00

18 School Family Celebration

23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday  
Enrollment- As of 10/31

November 2022					
Grade Level	# on Roll		# in PS	Difference	Why
1/2 day 3K	49		56	-7	7- Moon (Special Education)
4k	140		145	-5	3 - Kakule (Special Education) 1 - McT 7- Moon (Special Education)
5K	191		194	-3	3 -Kakule (Special Education)
1st	200		207	-7	4 - CDC & McT 3 -Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	178		185	-7	7 - Humerez (Special Education)
<b>TOTAL</b>	758		787	-29	<b>10 - Humerez, 6- Kakule, 8 - Moon 3 - McCarthy Teszler &amp; 2 - CDC</b>

**Woodruff Elementary School**

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

1. We celebrated Red Ribbon Week during the week of October 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. The students especially enjoyed wearing Hawaiian clothes for "Lei Off Drugs".
2. The Veteran's Day program is at 9:00 on November 11<sup>th</sup> in the Activity Center.
3. Upstate Trees planted trees with the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on the playground closest to McEdco Road. Over the next few years, we hope to continue to work with them as they donate trees for our campus.
4. The third-grade students really enjoyed a visit from the National Theater for Children. They did a fabulous job with their presentation on conserving energy.
5. Mrs. Hodge and Mrs. Dover attended two teacher recruitment fairs in October. One was at Anderson University and the other was at USC Upstate.
6. Mrs. Thompson's class won the pumpkin decorating contest hosted by Ms. Bostdorff, our librarian. Her class will enjoy a pizza party for their creativity.

**November**

- 1 - Gifted Art
- 2 - Diamond Del Field Trip for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
UpstateTrees will plant trees with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- 3 - Good news club
- 4 - Pink Out day for Mrs. Merck
- 6 - Daylight Savings Time Ends - clocks back 1 hr.
- 7 - Workday
- 8 - Election Holiday
- 10 - Good News Club

**Enrollment for WES as of 11/02/22**

	#
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	212
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	209
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	230
	651

- School Psychologists Day
- 11 – Veterans Day Program – 9:00 (Wear red, white and blue if you can.)
- 14 – WE Singers
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade submit Woodruff Times article(s) to Mrs. Bailey
- 15 – PD – Rotations
  - Gifted Art
- 16 – Interims Issued
- 17 – Good News Club
- 23 – 25 – Thanksgiving holidays

### **Woodruff Middle School**

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

1. Current enrollment figures: 6<sup>th</sup> – 217 7<sup>th</sup> – 230 8<sup>th</sup> – 239
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks interim reports will be sent home Nov 16.
3. Congratulations to these student artists for having artwork place at the Piedmont Fair: Brittany Iglesias Juarez- 1<sup>st</sup> place overall drawing, Rae'Anna Moates – 3<sup>rd</sup> place drawing division
4. Beta Club installation was held October 25. Senator Shane martin served as guest speaker.
5. WMS basketball tryouts began October 31.
6. WMS wrestling began Monday, October 31.
7. An appreciation breakfast for veterans was held November 11.

Nov 16 Interims

Nov 21,22 Cub Classic basketball at WMS

Nov 23-25 Thanksgiving Holidays

Nov 28 WMS fall sports awards 6pm

Nov 28 winter MAP opens

Nov 30 WMS wrestling at Carver

Dec 1 WMS bball home vs Mabry/new staff drop in

Dec 3 WMS wrestling at Laurens

Dec 5 WMS bball home vs Ewing

Dec 6 WMS band concert at WHS at 5pm

Dec 7 WMS wrestling at McCracken

Dec 8 Choral concert at Activity Center/WMS bball at Sims

Dec 9 Christmas concerts at school

Dec 10 WMS wrestling at Sptg Cty

Dec 12 ENCORE exams completed/WMS bball at Clifdale

Dec 13 ELA exams

Dec 14 Math exams

Dec 15 Science and Social Studies exams/WMS wrestling at Byrnes/WMS bball at R Lake

Dec 16 Make-up exams/Winter MAP closes

### **Woodruff High School**

Mrs. Christine Morris reported the following:

1. Homecoming was the week of October 3-7. The parade and powder puff game were well attended. Students enjoyed dressing up for spirit week. Ada Epton was crowned Maid of Honor and Grace Wireman was crowned Homecoming Queen.
2. WHS students and faculty received free ice cream sundaes on October 5 for outstanding EOC scores.
3. College Application Day was held on October 7. 111 seniors completed college applications.

4. The PSAT was given on October 12. 121 students took the PSAT (97 sophomores and 24 juniors)
5. Guidance hosted a Financial Aid night on October 13. It was well attended by senior parents and students.
6. Woodruff High School scored average on the state report card. We are pleased to report that school climate scored good.
7. The WHS Marching Cadets finished 7<sup>th</sup> in upper state and 4<sup>th</sup> in music and visual. This past weekend they finished 8<sup>th</sup> in state and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in music.

### **Instructional Reports**

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. The ADEPT teacher evaluations and PADEPP principal evaluations are progressing on schedule. All evaluations are entered into the SC LEAD portal. Administrators should conclude classroom observations in November and conduct mid-year conferences on Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) and preliminary evaluation conferences in December. At these conferences, the teacher and administrator will review the data/evidence and sign the evaluation.
2. The next Induction class will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The November session will address the following topics: Relationships among Standards, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, the Gradual Release of Responsibility Model, Differentiated Instruction, and the SC Teaching Standards under the Planning Domain.
3. District trainings for teachers serving as mentors will be held in December. Experienced teachers serve as mentors to induction teachers during their initial year of service. The provision of mentors for first year teachers is a requirement of the SC ADEPT evaluation system.
4. Administrators have begun attending recruitment events in preparation of anticipated openings for the upcoming school year. With the state-wide teacher shortage and District Four's proximity to large districts, it is important for administrators to establish relationships with colleges and make contacts with education graduates early.
5. There have been significant changes in personnel at the SC Department of Education. Some employees have moved to other departments within the State Department, while other employees have accepted positions in school districts. These changes create challenges for school districts, as new relationships must be established, and the institutional knowledge of long-time employees is no longer accessible to districts.

Mrs. Britt McKinney reported the following:

1. Throughout the months of September and October I attended several meetings and conferences relating to Federal Programs. A brief update is listed beside each:
  - a. Student Services Meeting- School safety personnel for Richland presented information for administrators to look for in candy, social media applications, and toys that could be drug related or dangerous to our students.
  - b. Breakfast with Presbyterian College- PC is now offering a ESL Major instead of an add-on to a current certificate. Student teachers are allowed to student teach and be under contract at same time. Training in the program LETRS is being offered to early childhood educators enrolled in their program.
  - c. South Carolina Administrators of Title I- Family Engagement is being encouraged across the nation with research supporting the more families are involved the better experience students have with school. Various programs that include parents, grandparents, pastors, community, and businesses will be looked at to increase our engagement within the schools.

- d. Career and Technical Education- A new requirement for a half-credit in Personal Finance will begin next year. We are currently researching the best ways to implement this at Woodruff High School.
2. The Academic Recovery Plan for Spartanburg Four is due on December 15<sup>th</sup>. This plan looks at the best ways to recover the time and content lost during the pandemic and to accelerate learning for all students. These goals created by the schools will have a focus on how to increase English Language Arts and Math scores on statewide testing. Data provided by the state and our own assessments will guide the determination of which goals to choose.
3. All federal grants have been submitted for the year and we are waiting on amendment approvals or feedback on original grants.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner reported the following:

1. The required 45-day funding report has been successfully submitted to the South Carolina Department of Education for the 2022-2023 school year.
2. GOLD and KRA state mandated testing for 4K and 5K completed on October 17, 2022. GOLD (4K) will complete a mid-year screening in January as well as an end of year assessment.
3. Second grade CogAT/IA testing completed on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at Woodruff Primary School. These tests are used as identifiers for the Gifted and Talented program.
4. The PSAT was administered at Woodruff Middle School and Woodruff High School on October 12<sup>th</sup>. 212 students took part in this testing opportunity.
5. Attached you will find the November edition of the "Ed Tech Talk". This monthly newsletter highlights professional development offered from our two Educational Technology Specialists. For this first semester, 43 teachers utilized these services in request forms, emails, or face-to-face meetings.
6. The 2021-2022 South Carolina School Report Cards released on October 17<sup>th</sup> for all districts and schools. This report card marks the first time all domains and overall ratings have been restored since 2019. Spartanburg Four schools received the following ratings: Woodruff Elementary School- Excellent, Woodruff Middle School- Good, Woodruff High School- Good. While Woodruff Primary School received a report card, it is in the format of a "report to the community" and does not contain an overall rating.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

#### **1. SPED**

- a. We have partnered with Spartanburg School District 2 and District 3 for a SPED law class. We have 15 participants in the class, 3 from Spartanburg District 4. We held our third meeting of the year in District Four on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. It is going well.
- b. The directors took a tour of the new wing that was added to the McCarthy-Teszler Building on November 10<sup>th</sup>. It is beautiful and will allow the school to serve additional students with Special Needs within our County. The Directors are appreciative of the Superintendents and Board support of the funding for this project.
- c. We are currently serving 491 students under an IEP or 504 in Spartanburg School District 4. This is due to growth in our student population in addition to students requiring services under our Child-Find process and Babynet services.
- d. We recently completed a review of Indicators 4a and 4b related to student discipline and access to the school curriculum and have been found to be in compliance.
- e. School Psychologist Appreciation Day was November 10<sup>th</sup>. A small token of our appreciation and breakfast reception was held for our three School Psychologist. Our

three School Psychologist are: Dr. Jackie Babcock, Ms. Tara Nelson, and Mr. Joe Babcock. The school district is blessed by their contributions to our staff and students.

2. Mental Health Counseling
  - a. We are currently seeing a large caseload of students who require mental health services. We have utilized The Café in Spartanburg as well as transported students to the Emergency Room based on the results of a Columbia Screener. We are appreciative of the work that is being done at The Café and the feedback they provide schools after their evaluation.
3. Nursing
  - a. Spartanburg 4 recently sponsored an employee health screening event on November 4, 2022. This is a yearly event we offer for our staff. We had a large number of staff and their families covered under the state-health plan participate in the event. Staff and family members covered under the state health plan are able to receive bloodwork and vaccines at a reduced rate vs. going to their healthcare provider.
4. Art
  - a. The Art Department at WHS held their annual Empty Bowls Luncheon on Sunday, November 13, 2022. The proceeds benefit the Woodruff Area Soup Kitchen and we are appreciate the work Mrs. Doshier and the art students put into this event.

### **Facilities**

1. BAN 2022 Projects - List attached.
2. 2022 / 2023 School Year Projects – Listing attached.
3. Brewton Property closed on 10/28/22.
4. **New Trees – Trees Upstate along with The Noble Tree Foundation provided and planted (8) 15-gallon trees at WES on 11/2/22. Students participated in planting and received a lesson on the importance of trees and their proper care. TU & NTF will also donate \$250 / tree planted to the school. They are also scheduled to plant (8) trees at WPS on 11/16/22.**

### **Superintendent**

1. Spartanburg County Oversight meeting was held November 10. Chairman Davis represented District Four.
2. The SCSBA Delegate Assembly is being held December 3 and 4, 2022 in Charleston. Sandy Norman is the voting delegate. Gordon Godfrey is the alternate.
3. SCSBA annual convention will be held February 17-19, 2023.

### **Board Action**

1. Approved revisions to the following board policies: BBBB Board Member Removal from Office, IKA-R Grading/Assessment Systems, IMDB- Flag/Motto Displays, KB- Parent and Family Engagement in Education and KEC-R Public Concerns and Complaints about Instructional Resources.
2. Approved a \$6 million dollar transfer from the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund.
3. Approved the purchase of 5 acres (\$18,000 per acre) know as the Brewton property.