

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

December 6, 2021

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. at Woodruff Elementary School. Agenda notice was distributed to Spartanburg Herald Journal, Woodruff Times, and listed on the District website at spartanburg4.org/do/agenda.

Senator Shane Martin administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Tony Davis, Mr. Ted Harrison, Jr., Mr. Gary Lee, Mr. Jay Phillips, and Mr. Morgan Smith

Superintendent Dr. Rallie Liston called the meeting to order. Minutes of the November 8 meeting were approved as submitted.

Dr. Liston presided over the election of Board Chairperson. Tony Davis was elected as Board Chairman.

Randy Grant was elected to serve as Vice Chairman and Sandy Norman was elected to serve as Secretary.

The following members were selected to serve on the hearing committee: Rick Sloan, Sandy Norman, Morgan Smith, and Gary Lee as an alternate.

Randy Grant and Rick Sloan will serve on the Board of R. D. Anderson Applied Technology Center.

Audit Report:

Mr. Chris Benfield reported that after reviewing financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2021, Spartanburg District Four received a “clean” audit from the accounting firm of Cherry Bekaert. District Four again qualifies as a “low-risk” audit.

The following reports were given:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for December 2021 is attached.
2. WPS students and staff donated more than 4,000 items to The Woodruff Soup Kitchen.
3. WPS, in partnership with Papa John's Pizza of Woodruff, is hosting monthly fundraising events. A portion of all sales will be donated to the school. The first event will be held on Monday, December 6th.
4. MAP Testing for kindergarten, first, and second grade students will begin on December 6th.
5. Students participated in an outdoor story walk on Friday, November 19th. They walked through the pages of the book, The Night Before Thanksgiving, by Natasha Wing, as their teacher read to them. Thanks to Tobey Rhodes, Librarian, for organizing this event.
6. Sharon Fatheree and Robin Malcom, NAEYC Assessors, visited WPS on November 23rd and 24th. They observed 10 classrooms for 1 hour each. Evidence for meeting the accreditation standards was provided digitally by the school and was assessed off site. All facilities that our youngest children access were evaluated for safety. These spaces included playgrounds, cafeteria, library, activity center, and special area classrooms. There were no safety concerns noted in our closing meeting with assessors. The final accreditation decision will be made within 3 months. Staff members were recognized for all their extra efforts in preparing for this visit at a reception on December 3rd.
7. Students are being challenged to meet a reading goal in December. If they reach the goal, Mrs. Dover and other staff members will get “pied” at our School Family Celebration on December 17th!

December 2021

- 6 – Mid-Year Assessments Begin
- Lion's Club Vision Screening
- Papa John's Night
- 17 – North Pole Day

Enrollment

November 30, 2021					
Grade Level	# on Roll		# in PS	Difference	Why
Early Head Start	15		0	15	Included in 3K Grade Level Count
1/2 day 3K	51		70	-19	3 – Moon (Special Education) 15- Early Head Start 1 – McCarthy Teszler
4k	132		134	-2	2 –Moon (Special Education)
5K	187		193	-6	2 – CDC 1 –McCarthy Teszler 3 - Spivey (Special Education)
1st	184		190	-6	1 - Spivey (Special Education) 5 – Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	199		203	-4	4 – Humerez (Special Education)
TOTAL	768		790	-22	9 – Humerez, 4– Spivey, 5 – Moon 2 - McCarthy Teszler & 2 - CDC

Woodruff Elementary School

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

1. We began MAP testing on November 29th. We hope to complete testing by December 10th.
2. We will hold our annual Spelling Bee in the media center on December 13th. These class winners will participate:

4th Grade:

Brannon: Winner – Alanna Bivings	Alternate – Sandy Jamison
Littlejohn: Winner – Madeline Murfin	Alternate – Mykel Brown
Montjoy: Winner – Dallas Reeder	Alternate – Carson Calhoun
Watson: Winner – Raegan Tumblin	Alternate – Guiliana Parris
Stonesifer: Winner – Aalayah Gist	Alternate – Kaydon Hawkins
Harrison: Winner – Ruby Lambert	Alternate – Kahlan Burlikowski
Wallace: Winner – Mia Johnson	Alternate – S’Ria Hunter
Young: Winner – Makensley Ross	Alternate – Madison Mitchell

5th Grade:

Darnell: Winner - Trustin Ross	Alternate – Phoneix King
Burnette: Winner – Kaelyn Young	Alternate – Jedidiah Conway
Gaffney: Winner – Eden Smoak	Alternate – Aleeiah Yeargin
Wood: Winner – Benjamin Taylor	Alternate – Juliette Bingman
Harris: Winner – Brenna Sullivan	Alternate – Kagan Finley
Patterson: Winner – Hayden Bean	Alternate – Henry Zheng
Thompson: Winner- Eli Varner	Alternate – Brent Ludwig
Goforth: Winner – Cam Varner	Alternate - Madison Lane

3. The WE Singers did a fantastic job performing on Veterans' Day. We were pleased with the turnout of family members and guests.
4. During the month of December, students and staff members can participate in some fun and festive activities. We will have an ugly Christmas sweater day, festive hat day, red and white day (candy canes), and a red and green day for the December 17th holiday program. Parents will be invited to attend the program in the activity center. Teachers can participate in some fun competitive activities as we have a "Charcuterie Showdown" and a door decorating contest.

November

29 – 5th Grade MAP Reading

December

1 – 5th Grade MAP Math

2 – 4th Grade MAP Reading

6– 4th Grade MAP Math

7– 3rd Grade MAP Reading

8– 3rd Grade MAP Math

17 – Christmas Program – Activity center – 9:00

Estimated Enrollment for WES as of 11/29/21:

3 rd Grade	207
4 th Grade	231
5 th Grade	210

Woodruff Middle School

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

1. Current enrollment figures:

6th – 233 7th – 237 8th – 216

2. 2nd Nine Weeks report cards will be issued January 5.
3. Maroon on a mission sponsored a rivalry contest to support the Woodruff Soup Kitchen and AGAPE men's shelter with donations of bottled water.
4. WMS basketball began December 2. Wrestling began December 4.
5. Over 100 students were recognized as WMS students on the PROWL first semester. Post cards were mailed home for each student.
6. The rising 9th grade registration process begins December 8 with WHS meeting with 8th grade teachers. Parent night for rising 9th graders will be held January 11.

Calendar of Events:

Dec. 6	6 th /7 th band concert 6pm at WMS/WMS basketball at Ewing
Dec. 7	Choral concert
Dec. 8	WHS with 8 th grade teachers 9:45/WMS wrestling at home at WHS 5pm
Dec. 9	WMS basketball at home vs. Sims 5pm
Dec. 10	ice cream sales/WMS wrestling at WHS 5pm
Dec. 11	WMS wrestling at Powdersville
Dec. 13	ENCORE exams completed/school concert 2pm/home bball vs. Clifdale
Dec. 14	ELA exams
Dec. 15	Math exams
Dec. 16	science and social studies exams/WMS basketball at Rainbow Lake
Dec. 17	Exam make-up
Dec. 20-31	Christmas Holidays
Dec. 21	WMS wrestling at WHS vs. Chesnee 4pm
Jan. 3	Teacher In-service/workday
Jan. 4	Students return

Jan. 5 report cards issued

Jan. 6 8th grade tours WHS AM and PM group/WMS bball vs. Mabry at home

Woodruff High School

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. The registration process for the 2022-2023 school year is already underway. Pre-registration packets are under development with pre-registration to begin in January.
2. On November 11, WHS held a Veteran's Day Program. The WHS Band and Girls' Ensemble each performed patriotic songs. Drew Goin, the guest speaker, encouraged students to think about brotherhood and how they can serve their country and fellow man.
3. Interim progress reports were distributed on November 10, 2021.
4. The Band Concert was held on December 2, 2021 at 6:00 pm at Woodruff High School. Additionally, the band will march in the Woodruff Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 12 and the Spartanburg Christmas parade on Tuesday, December 14.
5. The Chorus Winter Concert will be held on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the District Four Activity Center.
6. The WHS Band, Chorus and Girl's Ensemble will all perform on December 14, 2021 at Woodruff High School for the school's Christmas Program.
7. Semester Exams have been scheduled for December 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Instructional Reports

Dr. Kim McAbee reported the following:

1. Administrators attended the USC Upstate Recruitment Event on November 10th. They plan to attend the Newberry Job Fair on February 25th. The Newberry event will include education graduates from the following colleges/universities: Newberry College, Presbyterian College, Lander University, University of South Carolina – Aiken, Columbia College, and Limestone College.
2. Principals are holding mid-year conferences with teachers to discuss progress toward Student Learning Objectives and/or Professional Development Plans. They will conduct the preliminary evaluation conferences and enter results into SC LEAD by December 17th.
3. The next Induction class will meet on December 14th. The December session will address the following topics: Effective Teacher Research; Professionalism; Ethics for Professional Educators; Instruction Domain.
4. VirtualSC offers courses for renewal credits that educators can use to renew their licenses. These online courses are provided at reduced rates. Certain courses through VirtualSC are approved to meet the Read to Succeed requirements. Registration for Spring 2022 courses opens on December 13th. Classes begin on February 28th.
5. Spartanburg District Four received notification from Dr. Annette Melton, Senior Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region of Cognia, that the district was being recognized with a **2021 Cognia System of Distinction Award**. The award is based on the results of the 2020-21 Accreditation Engagement Review with Cognia. The Schools of Distinction program recognizes schools and systems that exemplify excellence in education, as demonstrated in meeting the Cognia Performance Standards.

Ms. Britt McKinney reported the following:

1. All federal grants for the FY22 school year have been submitted and approved by the state department. Amendments and updates will be made in the next few months to ensure all funds are spent in a timely manner.
2. Eighth grade students named as Junior Scholars for Woodruff Middle School will be recognized within in the district this year instead of the large program normally done county-wide. Woodruff Middle School proudly boasts 15 students in this class qualified in Math or Evidence-Based Reading and Writing.

3. The Civil Rights Data Collection required by the federal government will open its portal December 13th. Information is being collected, organized, and analyzed in the federal programs department.
4. COVID numbers are continuing to be minimal for both staff and students. We are aware of the new variant and will continue to monitor daily for concerns or updates.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner reported the following:

1. Schools are completing the midyear MAP formative assessment with students. MAP assists teachers in identifying student strengths and weaknesses as well as enables the targeting of instruction. MAP also provides a predictability model that gives the probability of a student meeting or exceeding state standards on SC Ready in May. For the 2021-2022 school year, the South Carolina Department of Education has been directed under the Interim Assessment Proviso 1.96 to create a report on student performance statewide. This report sent will contain student fall, midyear, and spring assessment information for all students in grades 1-9.
2. The 2021-2022 early precode process has begun for SCReady, SCPASS, and EOCEP. These assessments will take place during the last twenty calendar days of the 2021-2022 school year. Details on the new career readiness assessment will be forthcoming from the South Carolina Department of Education. The testing window for the career readiness assessment will be March 21-April 15.
3. A revised assessment schedule for the 2021-2022 school year is attached. In January, the process to prepare for upcoming assessment windows will begin for all schools. This process will include district and school meetings as well as numerous trainings to ensure each testing environment meets the requirements set forth by the South Carolina Department of Education.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

1. **Mental Health Counseling**
 - a. 19 Columbia Rating Scales
 - b. We are keeping a detailed log of student referrals for Mental Health
2. **SPED News**
 - a. Teachers at the Elementary and Primary School are participating in Vector Dyslexia Trainings
 - b. We are actively holding ongoing student IEP/504 meetings
 - c. Total SPED Enrollment Number to date: **410**
 - d. Total 504 Enrollment Number to date: **72**
 - e. Students receiving interventions as part of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) process: **219**
3. **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**
 - a. The EAP can be utilized for the employee or their immediate family members for the following: family and relationship issues, resiliency and coping skills, grief and loss, stress, mental health as it relates to depression and anxiety, work-related issues, alcohol or substance use, legal and financial issues.
 - b. 5.31% or about 20 of our employees are utilizing this program as of our last report from September. Our next report will come in January.

Facilities

1. **BAN 2021 Projects** –List attached.
2. **BAN 2022 Projects** - New projects will be presented in January.
3. **2021 / 2022 School Year Projects** – Listing attached.
4. **Property** –
 - a. RTH (Theo) 31 Acres – Purchase closed on 10/21/21.

- b. Richardson 14 Acres - Purchase closed on 11/18/21.
 - c. Aranda 4 Acres - Purchase closed on 11/18/21.
 - d. Charles Theo 9 Acres - Purchase closed on 11/18/21.
 - e. Siatkowski 30 Acres - Closing scheduled for 12/31/21.
 - f. Brewton - 5Acres - TBD. (Probate)
5. **PPE** – List of available PPE attached.

Superintendent

- 1. Provided a poinsettia for each board member as a small token of appreciation.
- 2. New board members met with Dr. Liston and Chairman Brewton for an orientation meeting.
- 3. Sandy Norman and Gordon Godfrey were asked to speak about the SCSBA Delegate Assembly.
- 4. Provided copies of the 22-23 personnel timeline, and certified letter of intent.
- 5. Discussed the article that was shared regarding the tragedy at Oxford High School.

Board Action

- 1. Approved policy update BBB- Board Membership- Elections.
- 2. Approved annexation of a strip of land (10) feet shown as parcel number 4-33-00-042.00. The said 10-foot-wide strip runs along the southwestern boundary line of property