

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

August 2, 2021

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, August 2, 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.

Chairman Melvin Brewton called the meeting to order. Minutes of the June 7 meeting, June 28 Public Hearing and Budget Meeting were approved as submitted.

The following reports were given:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

Calendar of Events for August 2021 is attached.

1. WPS Summer School was held June 7th through July 2nd. Seventy students, four-year-old preschool through second grade, completed the program. All students were also enrolled in an at-home summer reading program called Kids Read Now! Books are mailed to their home and parents can sign up for a related app. The app gives them tips to guide them through reading the books with their children.
2. Five kindergarten teachers have been participating in a summer family engagement program, Countdown to Kindergarten, funded by First Steps of Spartanburg. Teachers hold virtual learning sessions with children and their families to help prepare them for their upcoming school year. Thirty-three kindergarteners are being served.
3. Approximately 450 students have registered online. Parents can continue to register through their parent portal. They will also have the option to come in for assistance in registering on August 3rd.
4. Meet the Teacher is scheduled for Thursday, August 12th from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
5. The NAEYC Accreditation visit continues to be postponed. We've been told we'd be contacted in July to establish our new six-month visit window.
6. WPS welcomes 14 new employees for the 2021-2022 school year! Rosalind Featherman (3K Assistant), Crystal Hornick (4K Teacher), Lorry Green (Kindergarten Assistant), Meredith Dale (1st Grade Assistant), Lynne McAbee (1st Grade Assistant), Mattie Norman (1st Grade Assistant), April Clayton (1st Grade Teacher), Rakeya Brian (2nd Grade Teacher), Magan McAbee (2nd Grade Teacher), Daisy Ridge (2nd Grade Teacher), Lala Franco (Speech), Kelsey Landers (Behavior Interventionist), Maggie Renteria (Student Assistant), and Mackenzie Knighten (Nurse).
7. WPS has enrolled 67 new 5K – 2nd grade students over the summer. These are students who were not enrolled at WPS in the 2020-2021 school year. New enrollees continue to come in daily.

5K- 49 1st grade – 7 2nd grade – 11

August 2021

3 – WPS Registration 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

9- Faculty and Staff Return

12 – Meet the Teacher 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

16 – First Day of School

Enrollment

Grade Level	# on Roll	On Hold	# in PS	Difference	Why
July 28, 2021					

Early Head Start	13		0	13	Included in 3K Grade Level Count
1/2 day 3K	46	7	63	-17	3 – Moon (Special Education) 13- Early Head Start 1 – McCarthy Teszler
4k	105	18	107	-2	2 –Spivey (Special Education)
5K	151	3	158	-7	2 - CDC 5 - Spivey (Special Education)
1st	175		178	-3	3 – Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	188		193	-5	5 – Humerez (Special Education)
TOTAL	678		699	-21	8 – Humerez, 7 – Spivey, 3 – Moon 2 - Special Services, 1 - McCarthy Teszler & 2 - CDC

Woodruff Elementary School

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

1. The WES Summer Reading Camp and Academic Recovery Camp operated in June Students took the MAP assessment at the end of summer school to monitor progress.
2. ELA teachers will be receiving a plethora of new materials for their classrooms. The teacher are excited to have additional reading materials for mini-lessons, guided reading, and independent reading. Emily Rhodes, Joy Mitchell and Ann Hodge attended a webinar with Heinemann on using the new materials.
3. As of Thursday, July 29th, 350 students have been registered online. Robo calls have been made to parents reminding them that they can register from home. We have offered for parents to come in any time before August 3rd and we will be glad to help them.
4. Students can meet their teacher on August 12th, from 4:00 to 6:00. Parents can pay fees and buy tshirts and agendas.
5. Samantha Wood and Shanita Wallace will participate in mentor training on August 10th and 11th.
6. 625 are enrolled in PowerSchool as of July 29th. Since new students are still coming in to enroll and some students no longer live in the district, we will not be certain about numbers until closer to August 16th.

August

3 – Registration

9 – First day for teachers

16th - First day for students

Woodruff Middle School

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

1. **Summer School** was held from June 7– July 23.
2. **Registration** for Woodruff Middle School will be held Tuesday, August 3 from 8am-6pm.
3. Woodruff Middle School welcomes **new staff** to the building this year:
Nikki Clutter – special education
Lauren Gregory – ELA
Will Johnson – Band
James Taylor – student assistant
Katherine Janelle – Speech
4. **Open House/Meet the Teacher** will be held Thursday, August 12, 4-5:30 pm.
5. The **Band Instrument Rental** opportunity is Wednesday, August 25, 5 – 7 pm in the cafeteria at WMS.
6. As of July 29, we have 665 enrolled with 17 students pending due to records.

Calendar of Events:

August 12	Meet the Teacher/Open House, 4-5:30 pm
August 25	Band Instrumental Rental, 5-7 pm in the cafeteria at WMS
September 1	WMS football at Dawkins jamboree
September 1	WMS volleyball at High Point Academy
September 3	School pictures
September 6	Labor Day Holiday
September 2	WMS volleyball at home vs. Chesnee
September 7	WMS volleyball at Blacksburg
September 8	WMS volleyball at home vs. Cliffdale
September 13	WMS volleyball at Mabry
September 15	WMS volleyball at Rainbow Lake
September 15	1 st quarter interims reports
September 16	WMS football at Ewing

Woodruff High School

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. All student and teacher schedules were mailed in July and related instructions given. Numerous parent conferences have been held regarding course schedules.
2. Registration for the 2021-2022 school year was held on August 3, 2021.
3. There are currently 821 students with schedules at Woodruff High School. Students continue to transfer into and out of WHS in the weeks leading up to the start of school.
4. The facility has been cleaned, and the final touches are being put in place for school opening.
5. Seventy-eight students completed the extended school year program, received credits and made progress toward graduation.
6. Eight students completed their diploma requirements during the extended school year program.
7. Student athletes have been working throughout the summer and have attended various camps. A consistent group of young men and women have been conditioning in the mornings throughout the summer. This group represents players from all athletic teams at WHS.
8. Band members have been working throughout the summer and have begun band camp. Several instruments were purchased or refurbished. The competition program is entitled "*Shattered Darkness*".

Instructional Reports

Dr. Kim McAbee reported the following:

1. Orientation for new employees was held on Thursday, July 8th in the Woodruff Elementary School library. Twenty-three new employees were addressed by Dr. Liston. They completed payroll documentation and insurance paperwork with Mr. Benfield and Mrs. Skinner. Accommodations were made for new employees who were unable to attend due to vacations or other conflicts.
2. Employees will participate in trainings specific to their roles through the Vector/Safe Schools Online Training Modules. Universal trainings will include the following online videos: Bloodborne Pathogen, Sexual Harassment, and Child Abuse. Employees can view the videos at times that are convenient to them.
3. District Four has four teachers who will be evaluated at the induction level. They will be assigned mentors and participate in monthly induction classes. These classes support first year teachers, as they learn the SC Teaching Standards and the teacher evaluation instrument utilized in SC.
4. Thirteen teachers will be evaluated at the annual contract level. These teachers will participate in a formal evaluation process with a team consisting of a building administrator and peer evaluator. They will be evaluated using the SC Teaching Standards Rubric 4.0.

5. Twenty-three continuing contract teachers will renew certificates on June 30, 2022. These teachers will participate in the comprehensive formative evaluation. Teachers complete this evaluation the year in which their certificates are scheduled to expire (5-year cycle). Mrs. Denise Brown completes these evaluations for District Four.
6. District Four collaborates with many upstate colleges and universities to host student teachers and hire intern candidates. This year, we will have student teachers and teacher interns from the following universities: Anderson University, Converse University, Newberry College, and USC Upstate.
7. The Cognia Global Commission officially awarded District 4 accreditation at their meeting on June 15th. The accreditation is effective through June 2026. The Cognia global network consists of 36,000 schools and systems in 85 countries

Mrs. Britt McKinney provided the following report:

1. For the 2021-2022 school year, Spartanburg Four will receive funds from Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and ESSER. Each of these grants will be submitted to the state department by the end of October. Funds may be spent upon approval.
2. As the community continues to grow, we will be placing a cap on certain grade levels in order to make sure classrooms are not crowded. The goal is to have a 1:25 ratio for teacher and students in grades where there is no cap limit established by the state.
3. Spartanburg Four will be partnering with several community members and groups to provide schools supplies and other items for our students. The Great Start event will be held at the Woodruff Community Center with multiple opportunities for families to pick up basic school supplies. Other partners will be delivering items directly to the schools.
4. Spartanburg Four will be submitting the Model Safe Schools Checklist to the state department within the next week. This checklist has been reviewed by the School Safety Coordinator, Facilities Director, Director of Technology, all school principals, and the Director of Federal and State Programs. The checklist provides opportunities for departments to look at safety aspects of many areas in the schools and district.
5. Spartanburg Four will continue to partner with The Woodruff Times to offer monthly updates to events and activities pertaining to our schools. Look for this new edition entitled "Visions Plus" in the hometown paper.
6. District Teacher of the Year will be announced at the Back to School Breakfast being held at Woodruff High School. The judges were very impressed with our candidates and complimented our process in selecting our representatives.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner provided the following information:

1. Registration for all school will take place on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 from 8am- 6pm.
2. SD4's partnership with T-Mobile, will begin with the 2021-2022 school year. T-Mobile's Project 10Million will allow SD4 to provide internet connectivity to students who have no access or need help financially to connect digitally outside of the SD4 setting.
3. The most up-to-date Spartanburg School District Four assessment calendar is attached.
4. Assessment data for the 2020-2021 school year has not been received. Once all data is received, it will be calculated and compared to state averages.
5. The Annual School and District Report Card has a projected release date of September 1, 2021. This accountability system is designed to promote high levels of student achievement, equipping students with the world-class knowledge, skills, and characteristics defined in the *Profile of a South Carolina Graduate*. While this year's report card will be closer to the established model prior to the pandemic, some features such as school rating will be waived. For the 2020-2021 report card, required state assessments will populate as well as Graduation Rate, College and Career Readiness (including SAT, ACT, and Ready to Work), KRA Readiness, and English Language Learner Data.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

1. **Special Education**
 - i. Each school is now preparing schedules for Special Education Students based on IEP requirements.
2. **Mental Health Counseling.**
 - i. We have updated principals regarding staff for the 2021-2022 school year to serve students who need mental health services
 - ii. I was able to participate in a Mental Health First Aid Training last week. This certified me as a National Instructor and I hope to bring this training to our teachers this year.
3. **Assistant Positions**
 - i. We are still in need of 1 shadow and 2 assistants and are actively searching for individuals to serve our students in these roles.
 - ii. If you know someone interested that could also drive a school bus, this is a requirement for the position.
4. **Changes to Whitlock**
 - i. There is a new principal at Whitlock Flexible Learning Center.
5. **EAP for Staff**
 - i. We have been able to secure an EAP agreement for a variety of services including Mental Health for our staff and their families this year. We are very proud to offer this support and plan to share the program and how to access it with faculty at beginning of the school year meetings. The program is free to all employees and their immediate families.

Facilities

1. **BAN 2021 Projects** –List attached.
2. **2020 / 2021 School Year Projects** – Listing attached.
3. **Varner Road Properties** –
 - a. **49 Acre site** – Under contract for \$500,000. We are in the 2nd and final extension period which expires 8/17/21.
4. **PPE** – List of available PPE attached.
5. **Energy Reports for 2020 – 2021** - Attached

Superintendent

1. Thank you to all the administrators for their hard work to get schools ready for the 21-22 year.
2. Provided 2021-2022 meeting schedule.
3. Announced each school would host a back to school breakfast.

Board Action

1. Approved Crystal Hornick as Woodruff Primary School Teacher.
2. Approved Adam Knighten as Woodruff Middle School Assistant Principal.
3. Approved 30.67 acres known as the Theo property and 29.82 acres known as the Siatkowski property for \$18,000 per acre from the \$3,000,000 BOND proceeds.