

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

March 1, 2021

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, March 1, 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 February 1, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

The following reports were given:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for March 2021 is attached.
2. The SC Department of Education will conduct a CERDEP monitoring visit on March 12, 2021. They will visit one or two four-year-old classrooms and provide feedback.
3. WPS students and staff have collected over 500 items for Agape Care Center of Woodruff. WPS staff members and the Willow Creek Community are huge supporters in our projects. Second graders initiated our community outreach project for March. We will collect items for the Spartanburg Humane Society.
4. WPS Science Fair was held February 16th and 17th. Forty, first and second graders entered projects. Any student who placed first, second, or third place in their category is eligible to enter the Piedmont Region III Science Fair at USC Upstate. The regional fair will be held virtually.
5. Preschool (3K and 4K) and Kindergarten (New 5K) enrollment will be held on Thursday, March 18th from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. 3K screenings will be held March 24 - 26, 2021 at WPS. 4K screenings will be held closer to the end of the school year at WPS.
6. Dr. Laura Reynolds, Dean for the School of Education, Human Performance, and Health and Mrs. Marsha Clark, Director of Field Experiences and School Partnerships, Teaching Fellows, and Teacher Cadets, both from USC Upstate, requested to visit WPS. WPS is hosting several clinical students and student teachers this semester. They will visit on March 10th at 11:30.
7. Casey Dover, Giada Parris, Victoria Hinson, Nicole Sheffield, and Tobey Rhodes are members of the leadership group for the upcoming Cognia review. Teachers being interviewed are Laura Turner, Allison Duckett, Nicole Moon, Jennifer Arrington, Betsy Alexander, Ebony Robinson, Kim Fowler, Christa Baynes, Jessica Humerez, and Lynn Teague. Fran Carden will serve as an alternate. Parents who've agreed to represent WPS are Dana Dickard and Sarah Dees.
8. Second graders who qualified to take the Performance Task Assessment, in order to qualify for the gifted and talented program in third grade, began that assessment on Tuesday, February 23rd. Results will be received later in the spring.

March

- 1–31 – Music in Our Schools Month; Youth Art Month
- 2 – National Read Across America Day
- 2 - WPS Papa John's Fundraiser
- 2 - WPS Cognia Leadership, Teacher, and Parent Interviews
- 4 – Spring Pics
- 14 – Daylight Saving Time Begins (Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour)
- 17- St. Patrick's Day
- 17 – Report Cards Issued – (PreK–2nd Grade)
- 18 – Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment
- 24 – Kindergarten Cap and Gown Pictures
- 26 – WPS Spirit Day

Enrollment

February 24, 2021					
Grade Level	# on Roll	Face to Face / Virtual	# in PS	Difference	Why
Early Head Start	11	11/0	0	11	Included in 3K Grade Level Count
1/2 day 3K	32	38/0	50	-18	6 – Moon (Special Education) 11- Early Head Start 1 – Special Services
4k	102	101/6	110	-8	1 –Special Services, 2 - CDC & 5 –Spivey (Special Education)
5K	165	159/8	168	-3	1 - Special Services & 2 - Humerez (Special Education)
1st	186	181/9	190	-4	4 – Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	184	170/18	189	-5	1 – McCarthy Teszler & 4 – Humerez (Special Education)
TOTAL		701	707	-6	3 - Special Services, 1 - McCarthy Teszler & 2 - CDC

Woodruff Elementary School

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

- Mrs. Newton and Mrs. Gilbert have administered WIDA Access Testing to our ELL students during the month of February. The WIDA consortium has stated on its website that ELL linguistic development is likely to have been negatively affected due to the pandemic. All factors will be considered as scores are reported.
- The WES Science Fair was held on February 17th. The list of winners is attached.

Estimated Enrollment for WES as of 11/05/20:

	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Face-to-Face	202	179	201
Virtual	14	15	14
Total	216	194	215

March 2021 Calendar

1 – Cognia interviews

- 12:00 – Leadership Team
- 1:00 – Student Interviews
- 3:00 – Teacher Interviews

2 – STAR Testing (8 – 11:30)

4 – STAR Testing (8 – 11:30)

17 – Report Cards go home

23 – Stone Soup Storytelling Institute (virtual)

Woodruff Middle School

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

Current enrollment figures: 6th – 224 7th – 209 8th – 213

- Report cards for 3rd nine weeks will be sent home March 17.
- The awards program for basketball was held February 23. The boys' basketball team finished 7-3 in the regular season and reached the semifinals of the tournament. The girls' basketball team finished 13-0 winning their division and the Foothills tournament. Winter

all-conference selections include Sadie Burnette, Taylor Lambert, Rihanna Wallace, Kara West, Hunter West and Lake Smith.

3. Spring Map testing begins March 15.
4. The WMS after school program began February 22. ELA meets on Mondays and math meets on Tuesdays.
5. Mrs. Ashely Bennett recently received a surprise visit from Kathy Maness and Chuck Watson from Palmetto State Teachers Association. Bennett was one of five state finalists for SC State Teacher of the Year. The PSTA presented Bennett with two banners to display in the district, a Palmetto necklace, and gift bags for her fellow teachers.

Calendar of Events:

Mar 1	Cognia virtual interviews/after school ELA
Mar 2	after school math
Mar 8	after school ELA/college colors
Mar 9	after school math
Mar 15	after school ELA/MAP testing begins
Mar 16	after school math
Mar 17	report cards issued
Mar 22	after school ELA
Mar 23	after school math
Mar 29	after school ELA
Mar 30	Spring pictures/after school math
Apr 1	Last day for spring MAP

Woodruff High School

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. Registration for 2021-2022 continues: selection of courses, entering requests, feedback to departments, coordination between WMS/WHS, and course tallies. These are the initial phases of building our Master Schedule. This process will continue according to our timeline.
2. On February 23, third year high school students participated in statewide ACT testing. By state regulation, students could choose to participate in the ACT, SAT or neither. The SAT will be given on March 3, 2021.
3. Twelve WHS students garnered nineteen All Southern State Regional at Large Scholastic Awards. WHS is proud of their accomplishments and appreciates all the hard work of Ms. Doshier and all the Art students.

Aubrey Carroll	Two Honorable Mentions
Grace Cooper	Two Honorable Mentions
Alleah Craig	Silver Key
Rosio Gonzalez	Honorable Mention
Haley Harkins	Honorable Mention
Abigail Hiott	Honorable Mention
Corrine Padgett-Rambow	Honorable Mention
Sergalina Quijano	Honorable Mention ,Silver Key
Ximena Ramirez	Honorable Mention
Isabella Stephenson	Silver Key, Two Honorable Mentions
Sydney Stephenson	Honorable Mention ,Silver Key, Gold Key
Caitlyn Thacker	Silver Key

Instructional Reports

Dr. Kim McAbee reported the following:

1. The Cognia Accreditation Engagement Review will take place on Monday through Wednesday, March 1st – 3rd. The review will be conducted virtually due to the pandemic. Interviews with various stakeholder groups will occur on Monday and Tuesday. The

stakeholder groups include board members, district leadership team, community partners, parents, school leadership teams, teachers, and students.

2. The next induction class will be held on Tuesday, March 16th from 3:00 – 6:00pm in the Woodruff Elementary School Media Center. The District Four Teacher Forum has graciously offered to provide a meal for the induction teachers. Teachers were able to place an order from Jason's Deli.
3. The SC Department of Education will be requiring all districts to complete Academic Recovery Plans. These plans will include action plans (strategies and evaluations) to address students' learning loss in ELA and math.
4. Unless a waiver is granted by the US Department of Education to waive SC's summative assessments (SC READY, SC PASS, EOC), third grade mandatory retention will still be in place for 3rd graders who are reading substantially below grade level on SC READY. These children will have the opportunity to attend District Four's Summer Reading Camp. The US Department of Education is not expected to grant waivers for summative assessments this year.
5. The SC Department of Education has extended the deadline for the submission of the District Reading Plan from April 30th – October 15th. Administrators, literacy coaches, and reading/ELA teachers will update this plan in September 2021.
6. The 2019 Social Studies standards (K-12) will be fully implemented and assessed during the 2021-22 school year. The 2021 Science standards (K-12) should receive final approval from the State Board of Education and the Education Oversight Committee in June 2021.
7. Instruction Hub, a vast digital library, will be available to teachers to incorporate into their lessons next year. The SC Department of Education is providing this program through Safari Montage and Discovery Education.

Mrs. Britt McKinney provided the following information:

1. Title I, Title II, and Title IV Federal Programs will be audited the week of March 15th. Administrators are preparing and submitting documentation for the requests from the state department. This involves each school, the technology department, and the finance department.
2. Information was sent to each employee in the district regarding how to sign up for the COVID vaccine. DHEC, Spartanburg Regional, and the SCDOE are working to simplify the procedures for doing giving the vaccine. A survey was submitted to the SCDOE with information specific to Spartanburg Four.
3. COVID testing is still being offered at the District Office after hours during the week and most Sundays. Every effort is being made for children to return to our buildings in a safe and timely manner. Parents and guardians have been very pleased and complimentary of the easy, free process for COVID testing.
4. Current COVID data will be presented at the meeting.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner provided the following information:

1. Spartanburg School District Four holds the honor of being the first district in South Carolina to partner with T-Mobile's Project 10Million. T-Mobile began this initiative with the goal of providing internet assistance to 10 million students nationwide to assist in completing homework. T-Mobile recently revised this initiative and now uses Project 10Million as a platform to provide internet services to students with no connectivity and participate in the free/reduced lunch program.
2. On February 22nd, all schools began an after-school program that will conclude on May 20th. Students will receive additional standards-based instruction in a small group setting in math, Language Arts, or both. At present, approximately 180 students are enrolled district-wide.

3. Schools, along with district staff, continue to review testing procedures and guidelines. Several upcoming webinars and workshops are scheduled as we prepare for SCReady, SCPass, EOCEP, and Ready to Work.
4. Performance Task Assessments will be given from February 22nd- March 26th to select students.
5. The WIDA Access test for Multi-Lingual learners will end on April 30th.
6. Woodruff Middle School is scheduled to begin MAP testing on Monday, March 15th and conclude April 1st.

Mrs. Rachel Traynham provided the following information:

1. Vocational Rehab

- a. We have several students who are currently being served in our vocational rehab program. We have had glowing reviews from management at Food Lion about our students and some of them have even been offered full-time positions after they finish school. This is exciting especially considering that many of our neighboring districts are not allowing VR students to travel outside of school for work. Special thank you to Daniel O'Brian, Nathan Craig, as well as Lola and James McBeth for the work they are doing with this program.

2. SPED Law Conference

- a. I was able to attend a SPED Law Conference in February. I am appreciative to Dr. Liston for the opportunity to attend. Much of what I learned has practical implication specifically to issues that have arisen due to the pandemic as well as Title IV as it related to IDEA.

3. 504 Training

- a. District Administrators, School Principals, Assistant Principals, Guidance Counselors, SPED Liaisons, and School Psychologist are currently taking part in SAFE School Training as it relates to 504 Plans. They will conclude the short PD series in March.

4. Howell Art Purchase Awards

- a. We have begun planning for the Howell Art Purchase Awards and have artwork coming in for that important event. I would like to ask that you plan to come to the District Office for a socially distanced viewing of the artwork the week of March 22-26, 2020 to place your votes. I will collect the winners' artwork and have it framed in April. The winners will be guests at the May 3, 2021 Board Meeting where they will receive recognition as well as a check for the purchase of their artwork.

Facilities

Board members received a printed update of facilities projects

Superintendent

1. Displayed a banner recognizing Ashley Bennett for being a finalist for SC TOY.
2. A brief video was presented to board members containing clips of students and staff from all schools as a way of thanking board members for their service.
3. Provided 2021-2022 Personnel timeline.
4. Provided a copy of the non-certified employee intent form.
5. Provided reminder about Ethics filing.
6. Discussed possible teacher step increase for the 20-21 school year.
7. Cognia Accreditation review process has begun. Thanks to Dr. Kim McAbee and staff for all of the hard work that has been done in order to prepare for this process.

Board Action

1. Approved policy updates: GCC-R(2) COVID-19 Related Leave (Professional Staff) and GDC-R(2) COVID-19 Related Leave (Support Staff).
2. Approved \$1,200,000 Bond Anticipation Note Resolution.
3. Approved \$3,000,000 General Obligation Bond Resolution.
4. Approved Rakeya Brian as WPS Teacher and Michael Darnell as WES Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.
5. Approved the District to sign a contract to pursue the steps in purchasing property.