

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

September 14, 2020

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, September 14, 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](http://spartanburg4.org/do/agenda).

Chairman Melvin Brewton called the meeting to order. Minutes of the August 3, 2020 meeting were approved as submitted.

The following reports were given:

## **Woodruff Primary School**

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. The Calendar of Events for September 2020 is attached.
2. The state mandated 10-day assessments were completed. All 4K- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade face-to-face and virtual students completed assessments in reading and/or math.  
4K – PALS  
5K – MAP Fluency and MAP Growth K-2 Math  
1<sup>st</sup> – MAP Fluency and MAP Growth K-2 Math  
2<sup>nd</sup> – MAP Growth 2-5 Reading and Math
3. Kindergarten teachers have begun administering the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) that is required by the state in the first forty- five days of school.
4. All WPS classroom teachers will receive a laptop or a Chromebook on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> to assist in preparing lessons in Schoology for students.
5. WPS Teachers have participated in several sessions of technology training provided by Jessica Burnette, Nicole Moon, and Tobey Rhodes.
6. The WPS Custodial Staff should be commended for their extra efforts in their additional cleaning and sanitizing routines. This has been an integral part in keeping everyone healthy during this time.

## **September**

7 – Labor Day Holiday – No School

14 – Free Student Meals Begin (through December)

16 – Interim Reports Issued for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

16 – Picture Day for A Students

17 – Constitution Day

17 – Picture Day for B Students

21 – Virtual Fundraiser “Charleston Wrap” (through October 5<sup>th</sup>)

29 – WPS Spirit Day - A Students

30 – WPS Spirit Day – B Students

## **Woodruff Elementary School**

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

1. All students, including virtual students, were given the MAP assessment during the first two weeks of school to establish baseline data.
2. All fourth and fifth grade students were given the opportunity to receive a Chromebook in August. Teachers are working with the students on how to utilize the Chromebooks to access lessons and turn in work in the classroom and at home. Laptops will be distributed to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Meeting times will be 9:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. Any parent who is unable to attend one of those times can come by the office between 1:00 and

2:00 through September 25th. Any parents who cannot come any of those dates and times can call and make an appointment to pick up a laptop. Once these are distributed, all students will have had the opportunity to get a device.

## **September**

3<sup>rd</sup> – Group A pictures

9<sup>th</sup> - Group B pictures

16<sup>th</sup> – Interims sent home

17<sup>th</sup> – Parent meetings to issue laptops

	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	Total
A Schedule	92	81	37	210
B Schedule	75	70	40	185
Virtual	77	89	40	206

## **Woodruff Middle School**

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

1. Current enrollment figures: 6<sup>th</sup> – 217 7<sup>th</sup> – 202 8<sup>th</sup> – 214
2. Interims will be sent home with A day students on September 16 and with B day students September 17.
3. MAP testing was completed on Chromebooks during the first two weeks of school.
4. The Gifted Art after school program began Wednesday, September 9 for A day students and Thursday, September 10 for B day students.
5. The Gifted Music program began Wednesday, September 9.
6. Volleyball season began at Mabry on September 8. The first home match home is September 21 vs Blacksburg. WMS volleyball is playing in the WHS gym.
7. Football will begin on Thursday, October 1 at home vs. Chesnee. WMS football is playing in WL Varner stadium.

## **Calendar of Events:**

September 16 volleyball at Landrum  
 Sept. 16,17 1<sup>st</sup> quarter interims  
 September 21 School pictures for A group  
 September 21 volleyball at home vs. Blacksburg  
 September 24 School pictures for B group  
 September 28 volleyball at home vs. Cowpens  
 October 1 football at home vs. Chesnee  
 October 5 volleyball at home vs. Chesnee  
 October 7 volleyball at Jonesville

## **Woodruff High School**

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. Teachers were given an analysis of test scores, information regarding student specific services, and an overview of policies, procedures, and other requirements during in-service.
2. School and handbook orientation was held the first week of school. A handbook test was administered to all 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and new seniors. Seniors were provided information regarding the college application process.
3. The fall athletic teams are off to a great start. Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Competitive Cheer and Girls' Tennis teams have worked diligently this summer and are off to promising athletic seasons.

4. Band members have been working throughout the summer. Several instruments were purchased or refurbished. Even though SCBDA has canceled the competitive band season, The Cadets are preparing a half time show entitled "*Piano Man*."

### **Instructional Reports**

Dr. Kim McAbee reported the following:

1. The SC Department of Education has provided districts with flexibility regarding professional evaluation requirements during the 2020-21 school year. Deadlines for the PADEPP orientation and goal-setting conferences have been extended from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> for principal evaluations. Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) in Expanded ADEPT have been simplified, which should make writing them less time-consuming for teachers. Full classroom observations are not required during first semester for Induction teachers. Administrators are allowed to conduct walk-throughs first semester and conduct full observations second semester.
2. The District Strategic Plan and School Renewal Plans should be finalized by the end of September and be available for review at the October Board meeting. Following Board approval, the plans will be submitted to the SC Department of Education. The Read to Succeed School Literacy Plans will be submitted by October 15<sup>th</sup>.
3. The first Induction class will meet on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Woodruff Elementary School Media Center to allow for social distancing. The September session will address the following topics: overview of the induction program, Expanded ADEPT system, SC Teaching Standards 4.0 rubric, SC LEAD evaluation portal, data analysis, needs assessment, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), professionalism domain, and ethics for professional educators.
4. District Four has agreements with USC Upstate, Spartanburg Community College, Converse College, Wofford College, Presbyterian College, and Bob Jones University to accept their education majors in clinical placements. This semester, two students from USC Upstate have PE placements at Woodruff Elementary School and Woodruff Middle School. Three students from Bob Jones University have speech placements at Woodruff Primary School and Woodruff Middle School. Four students from Spartanburg Community College will observe in secondary math, middle level English, and elementary settings.
5. Interim reports will be issued on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Britt McKinney provided the following report:

1. Federal grants have been submitted for approval to the state department. Title I, Title II, and Title IV have been approved. Title III and Career Technology and Education are pending approval.
2. Principals, assistant principals, and district office staff have been trained in the new Title IX requirements put in place by the federal government. This online training covers the new process for investigating and making decisions regarding harassment.
3. A Health Screening and Flu Shot Clinic will be provided for all District Four employees on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Appointments can be made for various screenings and to receive a flu shot.
4. DHEC is offering flu shots to school age children after school on October 19<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner provided the following information:

1. Spartanburg Four was the recipient of a grant sponsored by the Hewlett Packard Enterprise. This grant contained six outdoor access points for the parking lots of Woodruff Middle School and Woodruff High School. Installation of these access points began on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Students will have the ability to access the internet after-school hours. This grant totaled \$22,379.
2. New Access Points were installed at Woodruff Primary School and the Spartanburg Four Learning Center.

3. Our Chromebook checkout process for grades 4-12 is complete. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will begin the checkout process September 14<sup>th</sup>. Certified staff will begin the checkout process September 16<sup>th</sup>.
4. We continue to await the arrival of iPads for student checkout at Woodruff Primary School.
5. Mrs. Jessica Burnette, Spartanburg Four's Ed Tech Specialist, has conducted 4 training sessions with 46 teachers attending districtwide. These sessions provided instruction using the Learning Management System Schoology. Nine teachers also scheduled individual sessions.
6. The 2019-2020 South Carolina Report Card has an anticipated release to the public date of November 1<sup>st</sup>. With the U. S. Department of Education approving the request to waive spring statewide assessments for the 2019-2020 school year, accountability ratings and certain reporting requirements this "report to the community" will look differently than in the past.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

1. Referrals
  - a. I will be asking teachers beginning next week to send me lists of students who were being considered for referral to SPED PRIOR to COVID so that we can communicate with those parents as well as closely monitor student progress over the next three weeks to determine if the need is still there.
2. Virtual Students who are SPED
  - a. We have had about 15 SPED students return to face-to- face instruction from the virtual program.
3. Protocols for IEP Meetings
  - a. I held training with Liaisons about ZOOM protocols related to IEP and 504 meetings. We are primarily using ZOOM to hold IEP and 504 meetings at this time. We are using this method so that we are able to meet our obligation to hold meetings while also keeping teachers and students safety a priority.
4. Mental Health Counseling
  - a. Britni Morgan has been sending emails regarding a referral process. All mental health services will be coordinated by her so that she can determine if our in District program or the Spartanburg Mental Health program is a better fit and for which students.
5. Learning Center
  - a. Information about the Learning Center can now be found on the district webpage under the Departments tab.
6. IEP/504 Meetings-
  - a. We have had roughly 490 phone conference or video conference meetings with parents within the first few weeks of school regarding contingency plans for the changes in our instructional model. We are obligated to ensure student SPED time is provided so we are working with students and teachers to ensure we are meeting this obligation.
7. Programs
  - a. SPED has purchased IXL and iReady computer programs through it's grant funding to assist some SPED teachers in progress monitoring our SPED students as well as to provide students access to additional resources should they need extra assistance on a topic they are struggling with. They were happy to receive this resource and it seems to be very helpful.

## **Facilities**

Board members received a printed update of facilities projects.

### **Superintendent**

1. Gave update on COVID policy and procedures.
2. Gave brief update on back to school plan and fielded questions.

### **Board Action**

1. Approved revision to the following policies:  
GBAA- Sexual Harassment and Retaliation, JIAA- Sexual Harassment and Retaliation (Students), GBEBB- Staff Conduct with Students, and IJNDAA- Distance, Online and Virtual Education. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Appointed Sandy Norman as Legislative Delegate.
3. Approved Jordan Hall as WMS Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.