

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

September 11, 2023

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, September 11 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Woodruff High School. Agenda notice was distributed to Spartanburg Herald Journal, Woodruff Times, and listed on the District website at spartanburg4.org/do/agenda.

Chairman Tony Davis called the meeting to order. Minutes of the August 7, 2023, were approved as submitted.

Dr. Liston recognized board members for reaching a new level of service points by the South Carolina School Boards Association. Points are received by participating in conferences and legislative sessions sponsored by the South Carolina School Boards Association. The following were recognized:

Morgan Smith- Certificate Level 1
Jay Phillips- Certificate Level 1
Ted Harrison, Jr. – Certificate Level 1
Gary Lee- Certificate Level 1
Sandy Norman- Silver Pen Level 2
Gordon Godfrey- Gold Pen Level 3
Rick Sloan- Gold Pen Level 3

The following reports were given:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for September 2023 is attached.
2. Beginning of the year assessments are being finalized.
 - a. 4K- GOLD (ongoing)
 - b. 5K – iReady Reading and Math
 - c. 1st – iReady Reading and Math
 - d. 2nd – iReady Reading and Math
 - e. Teachers will continue to administer the following:
 - i. 4K – DIAL-4
 - ii. 5K – KRA
 - iii. 1st - Fountas and Pinnell Reading Benchmark Assessments
 - iv. 2nd - Fountas and Pinnell Reading Benchmark Assessments
3. WPS is working with Emily Vanderlip from iReady in multiple professional development sessions to implement this new diagnostic assessment and available teaching tools.
4. WPS is hosting a student teacher from USC Upstate. Haley Farner is completing her work in second grade with Ms. Brian.
5. WPS will hold its first School Improvement Council meeting on October 3rd. The election of parent representatives is in progress.
6. Mrs. Dover is registered to attend local teacher recruitment fairs at Anderson University and USC Upstate this fall.

September 2023

4 – Labor Day

11 – Charleston Wrap Fundraiser Begins

13 – Interims Issued

25 – Charleston Wrap Fundraiser Ends

29 – School Family Celebration

Enrollment- As of 9/5

September, 2023					
Grade Level	# on Roll		# in PS	Difference	Why
1/2 day 3K	32		36	-4	4- Moon (Special Education)
4k	137		142	-5	5– Martell (Special Education)
5K	189		193	-4	3 –Martell (Special Education) 1- McT
1st	189		196	-7	1 – McT 1- CDC 5 –Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	201		209	-8	5 – Humerez (Special Education) 3- McT
TOTAL	748		776	-28	10 – Humerez, 8– Martell, 4 – Moon 6- McCarthy Teszler & CDC

Woodruff Elementary School

Mrs. Parris gave the following report:

1. Students began i-ready testing on August 22nd.
2. A parent letter was sent home to students on September 5th regarding the positive opening of school and a few school reminders.
3. Chromebooks have been distributed to students. The librarian has been implementing lessons with students regarding digital citizenship and taking care of Chromebooks.
4. Congratulations to the following students for their recent MAX out scores 😊 -
 - a. Math: Zachery Ball, Britton Duncan, Naythan Gomez, Carson Calhoun, Cowen Graves, Zoey Jayne Lawson, Giuliana Parris, Reylene Smith
 - b. Science: Jerrod Lyman, Aubrey Shealy, Konnor Simmons
5. Watershed Program will be at WES September 21-22nd. This program is called "Mystery Jar"- USC Upstate Science Enrichment Lessons for students.
6. Good News Club starts September 14th.
7. Professional Development:
 - Joy Mitchell and one Special Education teacher will be attending the Upstate Consortium on Thursday, September 28th.
 - Mrs. Guker will attend the 2023 South Carolina i-Ready Educator Summit
 - Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Watson are attending the Fall 2023 State Department Science Regional Series.

Estimated Enrollment for WES as of 9/05/23

3 rd Grade	192
4 th Grade	206
5 th Grade	217

Woodruff Middle School

Mr. Lawson gave the following report:

1. Current enrollment figures: 6th – 237 7th – 221 8th – 241
2. Interims will be sent home with students on September 13.
3. MAP testing is on-going.
4. Gifted Art, FCA, and Maroon on a Mission have each started their fall meeting schedule.
5. Fishing club will begin meeting September 14.
6. WMS volleyball season began with winning the silver division in a perseason tournament at the Upward center.
7. Football began Thursday, September 7.

Calendar of Events:

September 11	WMS volleyball vs Campobello 5pm
September 13	1 st quarter interim reports/WMS volleyball at Jonesville SPED meets 330
September 14	WMS football vs Clifdale 5pm
September 15	MAP last day for fall window
September 18	WMS vb at Chesnee
September 20	WMS vb at Sims/WMS football at Sims
September 25	WMS vb vs Mabry 5pm/Spirit week kicks off
September 27	WMS vb vs High Point 5pm/See You at the Pole
September 28	WMS football at Jonesville

Woodruff High School

Mrs. Christine Morris reported the following:

- Thursday, August 10, WHS held Open House from 5-7 pm. We might have had our largest crowd. A Senior Parent Meeting was also held and information about the college application process was presented. The Marching Cadets hosted a Meet the Wolverines event from 7-9 pm in the stadium. There were food trucks, the introduction of fall sports teams, and the Marching Cadets previewed their show "Summer of Love".
- During the first week of school students attended many class meetings and they met with advisors to review school policies and procedures covered in the handbook. A handbook test was given on August 18
- Monday, August 21, WHS held the Ring Ceremony followed by refreshments. There were about 40 students to receive class rings.
- WHS students participated in a Code Red drill.
- Two security teams have been trained to use Opengate, our metal detector system. We are currently using it as students and visitors enter the building.
- Students have been issued IDs. They are expected to wear them in a visible manner every day.

WHS GOOD NEWS

*WHS led the county in US News and World Report rankings.

Date	Event
9-13	Interims
9-14	Lunch and Learn
9-15	Unity in the Community
9-18,19	Drive to Zero (C&C/W101)
9-19	Beta Club Induction
9-20	Education Op Day
9-27	See You at the Pole
9-27	SEL Lesson (Advisory Schedule)
9-29	Homecoming (Pep Rally)

10-6	College Application Day
10-7	SAT
10-17	PSAT/ASVAB
10-18	SEL Lesson (Advisory Schedule)
10-18	Report Cards
10-20	Jostens Senior Meeting
10-26	Lunch and Learn
11-1	Career Ready Testing
11-4	SAT
11-6	Teacher Workday
11-7	No School – Election Day
11-9	The Wall that Heals (AP field trip)
11-10	Veterans Day Program
11-12	Empty Bowls
11-15	SEL Lesson (Advisory Schedule)
11-15	Interims
11-16	Lunch and Learn
11-22,23,24	Thanksgiving
12-4	Chorus Rehearsal
12-5,6	Band Concert Nights
12-7	Chorus Concert
12-14	Lunch and Learn
12-15	Begins 1 st Semester Exams
12-21	Begins Christmas Break

Instructional Reports

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. Teachers are evaluated under the Expanded ADEPT system. Teachers and principals access and sign evaluation forms in SC LEAD. This system requires a specified number of meetings to discuss progress toward Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) and feedback on classroom observations. Principals provided orientations for induction, annual, and continuing contract teachers at the beginning of the school year. They are currently meeting with staff to discuss and establish SLOs. These meetings must be completed by September 28
2. Principals are evaluated under the PADEPP system. They are required to set goals related to student achievement and/or the needs assessment in the School Renewal Plans. In addition, principals are evaluated on the nine PADEPP standards every three years. They are evaluated on two of the nine PADEPP standards every year, which are Instructional Leadership and Principal's Professional Development. The deadline for their orientation and goal-setting conferences is September 15.
3. Fifty-one teachers have professional licenses that will expire on June 30, 2024. Three of those teachers have already submitted the 120 credits required for certificate renewal.
4. The Read to Succeed Literacy Plans are due to the SC Department of Education in October. School literacy teams will meet to review ELA data, self-assess on practices listed in the Read to Succeed Exemplary Literacy Reflection Tool, and set goals for the upcoming school year.
5. The first Induction class will meet on September 18. 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, and Student Learning Objectives (SLOs).
6. Interim reports will be issued on Wednesday, September 13.

Mrs. Ann Hodge reported the following:

1. School Improvement nominations will be held at each school by October 15th. The 2023-24 SIC members will be in place by November 15th.
2. The Read to Succeed Act requires each school and the district to continuously revise and implement reading plans. Each school conducts a survey and completes a reflection tool. The 2023-24 reading plans are due to the SCDE by October 13th.
3. The Office of Federal and State Accountability will conduct a consolidated audit of Title I, Title II, Title IV and Title IX on March 6, 2024.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner reported the following:

1. Schools have issued Chromebooks for 3rd-12th grade students and iPads for Woodruff Primary School students. At present, close to 97% of Chromebooks have been issued to students in 3rd- 12th grade and 90% of iPads have been issued to students at Woodruff Primary School.
2. Mrs. Samantha Pearson will continue in the part-time role of Educational Technology Specialist for Spartanburg School District Four. Professional development opportunities for the 2023-2024 year will include topics such as AI Tools for Teachers, Creating a Canva, and additional hands-on workshops.
3. Please see the attached link to visit the September Tech Talk edition- <https://www.smores.com/ru5cj>
4. The 2022-2023 Spartanburg School District Four District and School Report Cards will be posted on October 10, 2023. All public schools in South Carolina will receive a rating ranging from Excellent to Below Average when points are calculated across domains.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

SPED

- Our numbers continue to increase with new students moving in as well as initial placements.
- We will hold our county-wide Special Education Director Meeting at McCarthy-Teszler on September 14, 2023
- I will participate in the state-wide Special Education Director Meeting on September 15, 2023 in Columbia

Nursing

- We are in the early planning stages of our Employee Health Fair to be held this fall.
- **Mental Health**
- The number of student referrals for Mental Health Services continues to increase. We continue to conduct Behavioral Threat Assessments and Columbia Screeners at an increased rate.

Multi-Lingual Learners

- I have been working with our 2 teachers who serve our multi-lingual learner population. They are learning a new system of documentation, record keeping, and resources called Ellevation. This is a state initiative that all South Carolina Districts were asked to participate in.

Facilities

1. **BAN 2023 Projects** – Board members received a list.
2. **2022 / 2023 School Year Projects** – Board members received a list.
3. **School Safety Grant** – We have applied for the following items through the SCDE Safety Grant program:

Metal Detectors for WPS (1), WES (1), and WMS (4)	\$120,000
Classroom Door Locks for WPS, WES, and WHS	\$82,800
Classroom Window Glass Replacement at WES	\$7,500

4. **Additional Houses** - We received notice of an additional 325 houses in D4 on the August Subdivision & Land Use Report from Spartanburg County.

Emory Park Phase 3	69
Reserve at Woodruff	246
Pine Hill	10

Superintendent

1. Shared that each school was off to a great start. Recognized Mrs. Casey Dover, Principal of WPS, and asked her to give a brief presentation on student achievement.
2. Presented information received from State Superintendent's meeting regarding growth, employment, and revenue throughout the state of South Carolina and the impacts on District 4.
3. Policies updates and revisions will be presented at the October meeting for first reading.

Board Action

1. Approved the easement to Duke Power to relocate an existing power pole on the new WHS property.
2. Approved the low bid of \$63,481.50 from Culinary Depot for a new dishwasher and installation at WHS.
3. Approved the guaranteed maximum price from Harper Construction for building the new WHS and phase 2 sitework for \$72,956,617.