

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

October 2, 2023

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, October 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office. 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 Tony Davis called the meeting to order. Minutes of the September 11, 2023, were approved as submitted.

The following reports were given:

## **Woodruff Primary School**

Mrs. Dover gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for October 2023 is attached.
2. WPS will hold its first School Improvement Council meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our current School Improvement Council Chairman is Kelsey Landers. Brittany Collins was elected WPS School Improvement Council Vice Chairman.
3. Mrs. Dover will attend the Anderson University Educator Recruitment Fair on October 16<sup>th</sup> and the University of South Carolina Upstate Educator Recruitment Fair on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
4. Allison Duckett will attend a South Carolina Department of Education Professional Learning Opportunity on October 18-19 in Spartanburg. She will learn about implementing new English Language Arts Standards in the 24-25 school year.
5. Hannah Deahl and Erin Gambrell plan to attend the Learning Forward South Carolina Conference on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Julia Lindsey, an expert on foundational literacy, and Mark Bernstein, an expert in the area of implementing rigorous curriculum, will be presenting at the conference.
6. WPS custodians will be recognized on Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will each receive a small token of appreciation for all their hard work.
7. WPS students and staff will bring canned goods and non-perishable food items for our October/November community service project. The food items will be donated to the Woodruff Soup Kitchen.
8. Angie Gilbert will be presenting information about multilingual learners to WPS teachers on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **October 2023**

Parent conferences will be held in October.

2 - Custodian Appreciation Day

School Improvement Council Meeting 3:00

12- WPS Fundraiser at Scoops 2:00 – 9:00

13-20 Book Fair

17-18 Family events for book fair 7:20 – 8:00a.m.

9-11 CogAT Testing for Second Grade

16-17 Iowa Testing for Second Grade

17- 4K Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

18- Picture Day

Report Cards Issued

19- 4K Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

24- 4K Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

**Enrollment- As of 9/25**

October, 2023				
Grade Level	# on Roll	# in PS	Difference	Why
1/2 day 3K	31	36	-5	5- Moon (Special Education)
4k	138	144	-6	6- Martell (Special Education)
5K	186	190	-4	3 -Martell (Special Education) 7- McT
1st	190	197	-7	1 - McT 7- CDC 5 -Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	200	207	-7	4 - Humerez (Special Education) 2- McT; 1- CDC
<b>TOTAL</b>	745	774	-29	<b>9 - Humerez, 9- Martell, 5 - Moon 6- McCarthy Teszler &amp; CDC</b>

**Woodruff Elementary School**

Mrs. Parris gave the following report:

1. We held SYATP Wednesday, September 28th.
2. Teachers will hold conferences with parents during the month of October. Parents and teachers are given the flexibility to meet in person or hold a phone conference.
3. We have the largest group of SOAR students this year with 86 total students participating.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 22, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 19, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 45
4. We have close to 135 students attending the Good News Club this year.
5. WHS athletes will visit WES on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.
6. Teachers and students participated in Homecoming Spirit Week.
7. Professional Development:

Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Rhodes will attend the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards on October 18-19.

***Enrollment for WES as of 9/22/23:***

	2023
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	192
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	206
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	219
Total	617

**Woodruff Middle School**

Mr. Scott Lawson reported the following:

1. Current enrollment figures: 6<sup>th</sup> – 237 7<sup>th</sup> – 223 8<sup>th</sup> – 239

2. Interims were distributed September 13. First Nine Weeks Report Cards will be sent home with students on October 18.
3. Parent contacts and conferences will be held October 10- October 31.
4. The PSAT, a practice opportunity for the *Scholastic Aptitude Test*, will be administered at Woodruff Middle School October 18. Results from the PSAT help guide students and parents in course selection for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade as well as serve as qualifying criteria for Junior Scholar recognition. This will be administered digitally for the first time.
5. The first "Cubs on the Prowl" students were recognized September 29.
6. WMS observed a spirit week on September 25-29.
7. WMS has recognized Alexis Mock, Tee Glenn, Sydney Cothran and Jayden Day as athletes of the week.
8. The following students had their artwork selected to represent Woodruff Middle School at the Chapman Cultural Center: Wes Chapman, Maddy Murfin, Liam Campbell, Brittany Iglesias-Juarez, Rae'Anna Moates, Faith Jefferson, Olivia Redd, Victoria Romanov, Kelsey Hutcherson, Abbee Lynn. District Four Schools will have work on display September 24- November 12.

### **Calendar of Events:**

October 2	WMS vb vs Clifdale 5pm
October 4	WMS fb at Chesnee/WMS vb at Landrum
October 6	School pictures
October 18	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter report cards/PSAT
October 20	Balance due on all technology protection plans
October 24	Beta induction 6pm
November 1	SIC 3:30
November 6, 7	No school for students
November 15	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter interim progress reports
November 20	Cub Classic basketball
November 21	Cub Classic basketball
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Holidays

### **Woodruff High School**

Mrs. Christine Morris reported the following:

- WHS students took the SEL survey on Friday, September 1, and we have also completed the first SEL lesson for the first quarter.
- Guidance held their first Lunch and Learn. It was on suicide prevention being that September was suicide prevention month. Ms. Carrigan also sent out several informational emails to the faculty and staff. Coach Logan held a second Lunch and Learn on Interview Skills. Mrs. Thompson from Celanese spoke.
- Beta Club Induction was held Tuesday, September 19. 45 new members were inducted, there are currently 168 members total.
- Drive to Zero was on campus Monday, September 18, and Tuesday, September 19. The DRIVE to Zero Program is STP's newest Outreach and Education component that is aimed at addressing unsafe driving behaviors before they occur. The program highlights the negative consequences of distracted and impaired driving behaviors. College and Career Prep and Woodruff 101 classes participated in this program.
- Guidance held for juniors and seniors an Ed-Op Day on Wednesday, September 20. There were 71 colleges in attendance for students to gather information from and ask questions.
- Interims went out on Wednesday, September 13. An all call was made to parents encouraging them to reach out to any subject teacher if they had any questions or concerns. If they so desired, they could schedule a parent conference. Teachers are also calling home

to those students who are currently failing. Parents were reminded of required seat time and that excuses for first semester days are due by Thursday, December 21.

## **WHS GOOD NEWS**

- \*TFC held a fundraiser at Scoops on Thursday, September 7.
- \*WHS helped with the setting up of Unity in the Community, that is a wonderful partnership.
- \*FCA held a dodgeball tournament on Wednesday, September 20, with the help of Church of the Mill Woodruff. It was well attended. Students had a lot of fun, good food, and great fellowship.
- \*AP Environmental Science did a Stream Study field trip to the creek.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
10-2	Basketball Cheerleading Try Outs Begin
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
11-14	Soup Kitchen Service Project
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 <sup>st</sup> Semester Exams
12-21	Begins Christmas Break

## **Instructional Reports**

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. The Accreditation Option form must be submitted to the SC Department of Education in October. With this submission, District Four certifies that the district and schools hold Cognia accreditation. Districts must hold Cognia accreditation or utilize the accreditation services of the SCDE.
2. School literacy teams are reviewing ELA achievement data, rating their schools on literacy practices listed in the Read to Succeed Exemplary Literacy Reflection Tool, and setting goals for the upcoming school year. The Read to Succeed Literacy Plans are due to the SC Department of Education in October.
3. The next Induction class will meet on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The October session will address the following topics: Trauma informed practices, adverse childhood experiences, skills of resilience, classroom management, and SC Teaching Standards under the Environment domain.

4. Administrators will be attending the USC Upstate Recruitment Fair on October 10<sup>th</sup>. With the teacher shortage, it is important to recruit early, particularly at the local colleges and universities.
5. Teachers will be conducting parent conferences throughout the month of October to discuss student progress. Conferences may be scheduled in person, online, or over the phone. Teachers will maintain a log of these conferences.

Mrs. Ann Hodge reported the following:

1. In addition to selecting and appointing representatives for their School Improvement Councils, we are in the process of updating their SIC bylaws. The school bylaws will follow the state law requirements and will mimic Sample SIC Bylaws.
2. The FY24 Title I Grant has been approved by the State Department. *Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards.* Funds can only be used to supplement, not supplant what we are already doing.
3. The FY24 Title II Grant has also been approved by the State Department.  
*The purpose of the Title II, Part A grant is:*
  - *to increase student achievement consistent with challenging State academic standards,*
  - *to improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders,*
  - *to increase the number of teachers, principals and other school leaders who are effective in improving student academic achievement in schools, and*
  - *to provide low-income and minority student greater access to effective teachers, principals and other school leaders.*
4. The FY24 Title III Grant is due on October 13<sup>th</sup>.  
*Title III is responsible for the oversight of the language instruction of MLs and immigrant children and youth. This is accomplished by:*
  - *administering grant programs that help children develop proficiency in English and achieve grade-level content standards.*
  - *recommending policies and promoting best practices for meeting the needs of MLs.*
  - *strengthening collaboration and coordination among federal, state, and local programs serving MLs, monitoring funded programs, and providing technical assistance that addresses outcomes and accountability.*
5. The FY24 Title IV Grant has been submitted and is awaiting approval.  
*The Title IV, Part A the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) program is intended to ensure all children graduate from high school ready to thrive in college and careers by increasing the capacity of State education agencies (SEAs), local education agencies (LEAs), schools, and local communities to:*
  - *Provide all students with access to a well-rounded education*
  - *Improve school conditions for student learning*
  - *Improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students*
6. Each year, all districts must prepare a comprehensive annual reading proficiency plan for prekindergarten through twelfth grade by responding to questions from the Read to Succeed Office at the SCDE. We are also required to monitor our plan and use data to make improvements. Once all the school reflection tools are complete, I will complete a district literacy plan based on the school plans. New SMART goals will be developed based on progress regarding the SMART goals from the previous year.
7. Staff members must complete McKinney-Vento training each year. The district provides a short video training option for employees.

8. The Federal and State audit for Spartanburg Four will be on March 6, 2024. We are required to submit documents at least 30 days prior to the audit and have documents available on-site for the visit. We are being audited on our adherence to state and federal regulations.
9. A sample board policy is in progress to address educating students and parents about Gavin's Law. Schools will be required to inform students about the law and the dangers of sexual extortion.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner reported the following:

1. As part of legislation Proviso 1.76, all districts must ensure all students in first-eighth grades are assessed using a state approved interim assessment tool for fall, winter, and spring. Spartanburg Four has completed the fall window testing requirement for this Proviso and will soon submit all data to SCDE for review. Districts are required to have a percentage rate of 85% or higher or ten percent of funding will be withheld until the data is submitted. Spartanburg Four met this requirement with a 96.8% completion rate. As in the past, these scores will continue to be used with computerized software to provide an individualized learning experience.
2. State mandated preschool and kindergarten assessments are well underway. GOLD (4K) and KRA (5K) will be completed on or before October 16<sup>th</sup>.
3. The 2023 PSAT will be given to students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade on October 18<sup>th</sup> and students in 10<sup>th</sup> grade on October 17<sup>th</sup>.
4. Seniors needing to retake the Career Readiness Test will be given this opportunity on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Rachel Traynham provided the following report:

### **SPED**

1. We will hold our county-wide Special Education Director Meeting at McCarthy-Teszler on October 5th, 2023.
2. I will participate in the state-wide Special Education Director Summit in Columbia October 12-13.

### **Nursing**

1. The Employee Health Fair will be held November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Woodruff High School Cafeteria.
2. COVID 19- We have had 30 staff members to test positive to date. We have had 67 students test positive to date.

### **Mental Health**

1. 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. We have 2 District Four Counselors and 1 Department of Mental Health Counselor serving our students. M-F each week.
2. The South Carolina Department of Education recently sent a survey to each district in the state inquiring about Mental Health Services and Direct Counseling Services available to students and staff.

### **Multi-Lingual Learners**

1. We are serving about 130 Multi-Lingual Learners. That number has increased from last year's numbers. We currently have 2 full time ML teachers.

### **Facilities**

1. **BAN 2023 Projects** – List attached.
2. **2023 / 2024 School Year Projects** – Listing attached.

3. **School Safety Grant** – We have applied for the following items through the SCDE Safety Grant program:
  - a. Metal Detectors for WPS (1), WES (1), and WMS (4) \$120,000
  - b. Classroom Door Locks for WPS, WES, and WHS \$82,800
  - c. Classroom Window Glass Replacement at WES \$7,500
4. **Generator for District Office Server Room** - We are working on a proposal for a backup generator to maintain power and air conditioning to our server room at the District Office. These servers control computers, security cameras, telephones, and data backups.

### **Superintendent**

1. The SCSBA Delegate Assembly is being held December 1-3, 2023 in Charleston. Sandy Norman is the voting delegate and Tony Davis is the alternate.
2. Monthly building update was provided earlier by email. Everything is on schedule.
3. Recognized the WHS marching band for an excellent performance over the past weekend.
4. Reminded board that current sitting board members will participate in the November 13 meeting which will be held after the upcoming election. Newly elected members will assume responsibilities at the December meeting according to current policy.
5. Asked Jennifer Turner to give a presentation regarding Career Readiness.

### **Board Action**

1. Policy updates were presented as information (first reading):
  - a. GCCAC/GCDCC Paid Parental Leave
  - b. IKF-R Graduation Requirements
  - c. JFABD-R Admission of Homeless Students
  - d. JLCDB-Use of Lifesaving Medications