

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
York School District One
1475 East Liberty Street
York, South Carolina 29745
Tuesday, January 23, 2024**

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, *The Herald*, *Charlotte Observer*, *WRHI Radio*, and *Cable News Two* were properly notified of the date, place, and time of the meeting. The regularly scheduled meeting of the York School District One Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, and began at 6:00 pm. The public was notified through the news media mentioned. An agenda for the meeting was posted on BoardDocs and the district's website.

Chair Childers called the meeting to order.

Executive Session (6:00 pm)

Motion: Betty F. Johnson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss student matters and certified personnel matters. Diane Howell seconded the motion (6:00 pm). The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Motion: Christopher Revels made a motion to return to open session (6:18 pm). Betty F. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

There was no action taken when the Board returned to open session.

Meeting Opening – General Session (6:30 pm)

Chair Childers called the public meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance. It was noted that there was no one present from the media. Pastor Brad Hanke, Liberty Church, Clover Campus, gave the invocation. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the USA flag led by Emmanuel Johnson, a York Intermediate School student. Chair Childers noted that no one submitted paperwork to speak during the public forum. A quorum was established with the following Board members present:

Scott Childers, Chair
Betty F. Johnson

Christopher Revels, Vice-Chair
David McSwain

Beth R. Faulkner, Secretary
Diane Howell

Mrs. Kelly Coxe, District Superintendent

It was noted that Wade Anderson was unable to attend.

Action: Consent Agenda

Motion: Diane Howell made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Betty F. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Recognitions**School Spotlight***York Intermediate School*

Mr. Keith McSwain, Principal, along with Kay Falls, Media Specialist and Lisa Beck, Literacy Coach, shared regarding York Intermediate School's Literacy Learning Labs. The Literacy Labs were created to increase rigor and critical thinking skills; and to foster a love for reading. Students visit the Literacy Learning Lab once a week for thirty minutes.

Student & Staff Recognitions**York Comprehensive High School**

Dr. John Tharp, Principal

All State Chorus

Ms. Lizzi Elliott, Choir Director

York Comprehensive High School students traveled to Columbia to audition for the SC All-State chorus. There were 1,672 students that auditioned for only 519 spots. The overall acceptance rate for the state was around 31%. York Comprehensive High had 19 of our 27 students accepted, which was a 70% acceptance rate! In addition, there were six students ranked in the top 10 for the state in their voice parts. The Board congratulated the following students:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ❖ Arianna Breault | ❖ Mikah Mobley |
| ❖ Megan Brewer | ❖ Cameron Neil |
| ❖ Audrey Bronson (#8 Soprano 1) | ❖ Gabi Rivera |
| ❖ Audrey Buran (#6 Soprano 2) | ❖ Ian Roorda (#8 Bass) |
| ❖ Kaylee Fowler | ❖ Silas Schumacher |
| ❖ Ricky Govea Mendoza | ❖ Harmony Strickland (#4 Alto) |
| ❖ Lindsay Heath | ❖ Emily Theilbar |
| ❖ Gracie Hinson | ❖ Harper Wade |
| ❖ Savannah Hunnicutt (#8 Soprano 1) | ❖ JD Waxman (#7 Bass) |
| ❖ Molly Lindell | |

Southern Region American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Honor Choir

Ms. Lizzi Elliott, Choir Director

The Southern Region American Choral Directors Association hosts an honor choir event every two years. Students from across eleven states submit recorded auditions that are judged by a panel. This

year, almost 2000 students submitted recordings. This is the first year that YCHS has ever participated in this event, and they had two students selected to represent the district and state! The students will travel to Kentucky in February to work with nationally renowned clinicians and present a concert at the end of the Southern Region conference. The Board congratulated the following students:

- ❖ Audrey Bronson
- ❖ Audrey Buran

York Intermediate School

Mr. Keith McSwain, Principal

York Electric- Bright Ideas Grant Winners

As part of York Electric's Bright Ideas grants, York Electric has awarded selected teachers across its service territory \$10,000 in wish list fulfillments. In September, their peers submitted nomination forms, describing why the teacher they nominated should receive a wish list fulfillment grant, either for \$100 or \$500. The Board applauded the following teachers:

- ❖ Beth Bridges, York Intermediate School
- ❖ Brandi Willis, York Intermediate School
- ❖ Tierney Norris, York Intermediate School

District Office

Dr. Latoya Dixon, Assistant Superintendent

District Administration Nominee for District of Distinction

- ❖ Elissa Cox

In light of York School District One's recent nomination as a finalist for the National District of Distinction Award in the Academic Acceleration category, the district recognizes the instrumental role played by Elissa Cox, Director of Secondary Education, in this prestigious achievement.

This nomination underscores York School District One's unwavering commitment to advancing educational innovation through student-centered learning experiences. Elissa Cox's leadership in supporting the district in its' journey toward student-centered learning and competency-based education has been instrumental.

Under Elissa Cox's guidance, the district has emerged as a trailblazer in the realm of forward-thinking learning experiences. Her collaboration with reDesign, the competency-based education partner, has been pivotal in highlighting the district's dedication to student-centered learning, resulting in improved academic outcomes and a redesign of professional development experiences.

As the Director of Secondary Programs, Mrs. Cox's leadership has been key to the district's recognition as one of only two in the state approved by the State Board of Education for implementing innovative and student-centered learning strategies. This recognition highlights Elissa Cox's outstanding work and leadership to make the goals of the Strategic Change Agenda actionable through her support of the work of administrators, teachers, and students.

Elissa Cox's contributions exemplify the district's core values, placing students at the heart of all educational initiatives. The recognition is a powerful testament to her dedication, as well as the collective efforts of educators, students, and the entire York School District One community.

Board of Trustees

Ms. Kelly Coxe, District Superintendent

Betty Johnson and Chris Revels were honored for achieving twenty years of school board service to York School District One.

- ❖ Betty Johnson – 20 Years of Service
- ❖ Chris Revels – 20 Years of Service

Multiplier Award

Mrs. Jennifer Bolin, Director of Human Resources

Mrs. Bolin shared the criteria for earning the Multiplier Award:

- Multipliers offer the absolute best of their thinking, creativity, and ideas.
- They give more than their job requires and volunteer their discretionary effort, energy, and resourcefulness.
- They find personal satisfaction in coming to the aid of the organization.
- Multipliers see a need and work to fill the need, without concern regarding their position or title.
- They actively search for more valuable ways to contribute and hold themselves to the highest standards.
- Multipliers are genius makers. They amplify the intelligence in others by recognizing the unique talents of each individual and providing opportunities for others to share their talent.
- Multipliers build collective intelligence and capacity at every level of the organization.
- Multipliers offer thoughtful input focused on solutions rather than simply naming problems.
 - Recommendation Process:
 - Principals, Assistant Principals, and Executive Staff Members are eligible to nominate individuals for the Multiplier Award.

The Board congratulated the following for being named Multipliers:

- ❖ Daphne McNeely, Transportation
- ❖ Andrena Figueroa, Cotton Belt Elementary
- ❖ Tina Davis, Hickory Grove / Sharon Elementary

School Board Appreciation Month Recognition

Mrs. Kelly S. Coxe, Superintendent

Mrs. Coxe thanked Board members for their service and dedication to the staff and students of York School District One. Board members were presented with a block 'Y' embroidered hand towel and handmade soaps that were packaged by students with special needs at YCHS.

Mrs. Coxe also shared that Board members will be invited to visit a school in January or February. Principals will reach out to Board members and schedule the visits.

Ethical Principals Signing

Mr. Scott Childers, Chair

It was shared that each year the Board signs an Ethical Principles pledge poster that is hung in the board room lobby. The poster states the following:

We pledge our efforts to improve public education in our community and will solemnly try to:

- *represent the interests of the entire district when making decisions and to rely on available facts and on my judgment rather than on individuals or special interest groups;*
- *understand the proper role of the board to set policies governing the district and to hire the chief administrative officer to carry out these policies;*
- *encourage an open exchange of ideas by all board members during the decision-making process;*
- *seek regular communications between the board and students, staff, and all segments of the community;*
- *attend all board meetings, to study issues facing the board and to enact policies and official actions only after full discussion at such meetings;*
- *work with other board members in a conscientious and courteous manner befitting the public trust placed in the position of school board trustee;*
- *communicate concerns and public reaction to board policies and school programs to the superintendent and other board members in a professional manner;*
- *support employment of the persons best qualified for staff positions and to ensure a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;*
- *avoid conflicts of interest and to refrain from using board positions for personal or partisan gain;*
- *encourage recognition of the achievements of students and staff and of the involvement of community residents;*
- *support legislation and funding which will improve the educational opportunities and environment for students and staff;*
- *take no individual action which would compromise the integrity of the board or administration and to respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under the Freedom of Information Act;*
- *study current educational issues and to participate in training programs such as those offered through the South Carolina School Boards Association; and*
- *make my district's educational setting the best possible to encourage all students to achieve and to love learning.*

Reports

Early Childhood Report / First Five / Count Down to Kindergarten

Mrs. Jessica Elliott, Coordinator, Parenting Partnerships & Family Resource Center, provided a presentation highlighting the programs offered through the Parenting Center.

Maintenance Update

Mr. Charlie Westbrook, Director of Maintenance, provided an update highlighting the maintenance staff and their main duties. In addition, he shared the number of workorders typically processed each year.

Office of Instruction **Mrs. Elissa Cox**

Action: 2024 School Renewal Plans Approval

Motion: Betty F. Johnson made a motion to approve the 2024 School Renewal Plans as presented by the district administration. Christopher Revels seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations **Mrs. Amy Hagner**

2024-2025 Budget Timeline

Mrs. Hagner shared dates and times of the upcoming 2024-2025 Budget Work Sessions along with other important budget dates.

2024-2025 Budget Update

Mrs. Hagner provided the Board with a brief update on the 2024-2025 Budget.

Action: Procurement Code

Motion: Christopher Revels made a motion to approve the Model Procurement Code and the list of exemptions as presented by district administration. Betty F. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

ESSER Update

Mrs. Hagner updated the Board on ESSER funds.

Agriculture Arena Update

Mrs. Hagner shared the following bulleted points regarding the Ag Arena:

- The steering committee continues to meet monthly.

- Funding secured
 - \$500,000 through Dept of Ag
 - \$750,000 through SCDE
- YSD1 Education Foundation and the Clover Leaf Foundation are working on future fundraisers.
- The district has partnered with Leitner Management Group (LMG) to assist with the project.
- A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Architectural and Engineering Services was issued in December 2023. Proposals are due January 16th. The successful firm will be notified on January 24th with a contract start date of February 1st.
- The MOU committee has been working on a Memorandum of Agreement for the following project partners: York School District, Clover School District, and York County 4-H Youth Development.
- The marketing committee has been working on a logo for the Ag Arena.
- March is Agriculture Month. The steering committee plans to unveil the logo and a possible visual representation of the arena during the month of March.

Director of Human Resources **Mrs. Jennifer Bolin**

HR Update

Mrs. Bolin shared that Letters of Intent were sent out in early December, with a return deadline of December 21st. The district received responses from 96% of the district, with only 4% undecided and 2% that will not return.

Certified Retirement

Mrs. Bolin made Board members aware of a retired teacher who is resigning. No action was needed by the Board because the teacher was a working retiree on a letter of employment (LOE).

Action: **Certified Retirements**

Motion: Betty F. Johnson made a motion to accept the certified retirements (with congratulations) as presented by the district administration. Diane Howell seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Action: **Certified Resignations & Release of 2023-2024 Contracts**

Motion: Betty F. Johnson made a motion to accept the certified resignation and release of 2023-2024 contracts, as presented by the district administration. David McSwain seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Action: Certified Resignations (End of 2023-2024)

Motion: Beth Faulkner made a motion to accept the certified resignation at the end of the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by the district administration. Betty F. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Action: Certified Recommendations (2023-2024)

Motion: Christopher Revels made a motion to approve the certified recommendations for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by the district administration. Betty F. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Action: Certified Recommendations (2024-2025)

Motion: Betty F. Johnson made a motion to approve the certified recommendations for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented by the district administration. Beth Faulkner seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Superintendent Ms. Kelly Coxe

❖ *Thank you*

Ms. Coxe noted that she attended the local Men’s Club banquet on January 20, 2024. She thanked them for the work they do in the community, such as the school supply give away, and the coat drive they do each Christmas.

▪ **Upcoming Dates**

Mrs. Coxe highlighted some of the upcoming dates listed below.

- January 23, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Executive Session, YSD1 District Office
- January 23, 2024 @ 6:30 pm - Rescheduled Meeting (1/9/24), YSD1 District Office
- January 25, 2024 @ 5:30 pm - Strategic Change Agenda Midpoint Check #1, YSD1 District Office
- January 27 & 28, 2024 – Band Fish Fry, York Middle School, Cafeteria
- February 3, 2024 @ 8:30 am - YSD1 Career Fair, YCHS
- February 12, 2024 @ 5:30 pm - Strategic Change Agenda Midpoint Check #2, YSD1 District Office
- February 13, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Executive Session, YSD1 District Office
- February 13, 2024 @ 6:30 pm - Regularly Scheduled Meeting, YSD1 District Office
- February 15-18, 2024 - SCSBA Annual Convention, Hilton Head Island
- February 19-23, 2024 - Intersession
- February 27, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Board Work Session / Called Meeting, YSD1 District Office
- March 1, 2024 @ 5:00 - 9:00 pm – Board Retreat (location TBD)
- March 2, 2024 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Board Retreat (location TBD)

- March 12, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Executive Session, YSD1 District Office
- March 12, 2024 @ 6:30 pm - Regularly Scheduled Meeting, YSD1 District Office
- March 13, 2024 @ 8:00 am – Community Connection VIP Breakfast Tour, YCHS
- March 25, 2025 @ 6:00 pm - Agriculture Arena Event, YCHS Cafeteria & Auditorium
- April 1-5, 2024 – Spring Break (District Closed)
- April 9, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - Executive Session, YSD1 District Office
- April 9, 2024 @ 6:30 pm - Regularly Scheduled Meeting, YSD1 District Office

Winter Graduation

Ms. Johnson commended York Comprehensive High on the winter graduation ceremony.

Chair Childers noted that there was not a need for an additional executive session.

Adjourn

Motion: Christopher Revels made a motion to adjourn for the evening seconded by Betty F. Johnson (8:10 pm). The motion passed by unanimous consent of the Board.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth R. Faulkner, Secretary

Renee Webb, Recorder