

ST. JAMES-SANTEE CONSTITUENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

of Charleston County, South Carolina

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (via Zoom)

Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Mr. Thomas Colleton, Chairperson
Ms. Dee Andria Brown
Ms. Shirley Mitchell-Collenton
Ms. Diane Geathers
Ms. Chayann Simpson
Ms. Marie Snyder-Facine

Members Absent: Rev. E. J. Milligan, Vice-Chairperson

Visitors: Mr. Donald R. Kennedy, Sr., Interim Superintendent of Schools
Rev. Dr. Eric Mack, Board of Trustees Chair
Mrs. Kate Darby, Board of Trustees
Mr. Jeffery Borowy, Chief Operations Officer

Others Present: Ms. Kimberly Foxworth, Executive Director of Early Childhood, Constituent District 1 Liaison
Ms. Buffy Roberts, Executive Director of Assessment and Evaluation, Constituent District 1 Back-up Liaison
Ms. LaCarma Brown-McMillan, Principal, St. James-Santee Elementary/Middle School
Ms. Pamela Jubar, Associate Principal, Wando High School
Ms. Kimberly Parrish, Project Specialist, Constituent District 1 Assistant

I. Meeting called to order:

Mr. Thomas Colleton, the Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

II. Welcome, Moment of Silence/Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Thomas Colleton opened the meeting with an invocation and Mr. Colleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Adoption of Agenda:

Mr. Colleton asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Diane Geathers made the motion and Ms. Shirley Mitchell-Collenton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Visitors:

Mr. Colleton recognized and welcomed the visitors to the meeting. Mr. Donald R. Kennedy, Sr., Interim Superintendent of Schools then addressed the board stating that the District is focused on having students read at grade level by grade 5.

Mrs. Kate Darby, Board of Trustees presented an update on the progress on the D1 land and subsequent planning for a school.

Mr. Colleton expressed concern that the property had been leased back to the owner. Mr. Jeffery Borowy, Chief Operations Officer stated the intent was to maintain the land to prevent it from becoming wetlands. Mr. Colleton interjected that he was confused about how the property without any current wetlands could develop wetlands. Mr. Borowy will provide the terms of the lease to the D1 board. Ms. Darby added that this will not hinder building a school.

Mr. Colleton inquired if a timeline had been set. Ms. Darby stated at this time, work will first be done to analyze the current and projected enrollment figures and then present the findings to the D1 board in August to determine the next steps. She added that she is committed to this project and will remain active in the process through the end.

Ms. Geathers voiced concerns about the disparity in student learning due to long bus travel times to Wando. Ms. Darby gave assurance that if the students need extra help, the district will provide the extra help. Mr. Borowy added that the transportation team constantly minimizes travel time and has added after-school buses.

Mr. Colleton asked if signage could be erected on the property indicating it is the home of the further school. Mr. Kennedy responded that an internal discussion would take place and a response would be given at a later time.

Mr. Colleton expressed misgivings about the District's intent to build a school and referenced a comment made at a community meeting that even if the property is purchased it will not mean that a new school will be built. Ms. Darby offered assurances and Rev. Dr. Eric Mack, Board of Trustees Chair, acknowledged hearing the frustration and said a pathway moving forward that will be satisfactory to both parties will happen.

V. Public Comments:

None

VI. Presentation & Recognition:

None

VII. Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Colleton asked for a motion for the approval of the May 24th meeting minutes. Ms. Geathers made the motion and Ms. Marie Snyder-Facine seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Discussion of New District 1 School

Discussion took place during the Visitor's portion of the meeting.

IX. Constituent District 1 Liaison Report

A. Early Childhood Program Updates - Ms. Kimberly Foxworth, Executive Director of Early Childhood, Constituent District 1 Liaison

1. Enrollment: 11 Head Start and 20 Early Head Start applications. Enrollment continues throughout the summer.
2. Anticipate being fully staffed at the beginning of the school year.
3. Extended day care - Application for vouchers to help offset costs to families has been submitted; working through licensing requirements.

B. Charleston County School District News/Updates - Ms. Kimberly Foxworth, Executive Director of Early Childhood, Constituent District 1 Liaison and Ms. Buffy Roberts, Executive Director of Assessment and Evaluation, Constituent District 1 Back-up Liaison

1. The motion to approve the FY23 budget passed.
2. Presentations were given on the FastBridge data, acceleration schools, and ESSER III initiatives.

C. St. James-Santee Elementary/Middle School - Ms. Dee Andria Brown and Ms. Marie Facine

1. Currently, 2 vacancies: CTE and ELA teachers.
2. Only 25% of the students are registered to date. Events will take place to provide extra help with the process.
3. Charleston County Parks and Recreation is seeking input from the community and the next drop-in is scheduled for July 21.
4. A food drive takes place on the 2nd Tuesday of each month with the next one being held on July 13.

D. Wando High School - Ms. Chayann Simpson and Ms. Pamela Jubar, Associate Principal, Wando High School

1. Scheduling dates are set; Fact and Fees will occur on 8/4; Freshman orientation takes place on 8/16.
2. Student discipline was discussed with D1, D2, and Dr. Sherry Eppelsheimer, Principal, Wando High School. There may be a summit with the students in the future.

X. Chairperson's Report:

None

XI. Old Business:

None

XII. New business

None

XIII. Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Colleton asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Geathers made the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Collenton. By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Approved: August 23, 2022