

St. John's Constituent District 9 Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

St. John's High School – Room A-118, 1518 Main Road, Johns Island, SC

Board Members Present: Board Chair – Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, Pat Cline, Dr. Karen Simmons-Palmer, Jeff Fine, Monica Smith, JeRai Green, Esq.

Board Member Absent: Leon Green

Proceedings:

I. Call to Order, Moment of Silence, & Pledge of Allegiance:

The board meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford.

II. Adoption of Agenda:

Monica Smith moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 4-0.

III. Approval of Minutes:

A. June 18, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Gertie Smalls-Ford moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to approve the meeting minutes with corrections. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Visitors/Public Comments: Community Members: Claudia Brown and Cedric Solomon

Dr. Kimberly LaBoard –

- Concerns that no football coach has been hired and school is getting ready to start. Is there a football team this year?
- Is there enough English and Math teachers to start school?
- AD & principal not allowing volunteers to come in and help, there is always pushback.

V. Executive Session:

Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by Pat Cline, to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 6-0.

A. Discipline Hearings

9.32.24 Infraction 520: Assault, Simple

9.33.24 Infraction 520: Assault, Simple

B. Re-Admit

9.23.24

C. Student Transfers (6)

VI. Open Session Reconvened

Monica Smith moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to move into Open Session. The motion passed 6-0.

VII. Vote on Executive Session Items (Action)

A. Discipline Hearings

9.32.24 – Pat Cline moved, with a second by Monica Smith, to return the student to school on probation for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. The motion passed 6-0.

9.33.24 – Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by Pat Cline, to return the student to school on probation for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. The motion passed 6-0.

Monica Smith left the meeting.

B. Re-Admit
9.23.24 – Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by Pat Cline, to readmit the student to school. The motion passed 5-0.

C. Student Transfers
Angel Oak
100 – Does Not Meet
Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by JeRai’ Green, to deny transfer 100. The motion passed 4-1, Gertie Smalls-Ford opposed.

101 – Meets

102 – Meets

103 – Meets

Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by JeRai’ Green, to approve transfers 101-103. The motion passed 5-0.

Mt. Zion

200 – Meets

Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by JeRai’ Green, to approve transfer 200. The motion passed 4-0-1, Pat Cline abstained.

201 – Meets

Karen Simmons-Palmer moved, with a second by JeRai’ Green, to approve transfer 201. The motion passed 5-0.

VIII. Constituent Board Report:

A. Updates from Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, District 9 Constituent Board Chair –
Board of Trustees passed a budget that included an increase in teacher pay, and a cost-of-living raise for employees. The First Day Festival is August 11 at the Gaillard. St. John’s had interviews and is still looking to fill positions. Constituent Board chairs persons met with Supt. Vanessa Denney, Dr. Shavonna Coakley, and others. There will be a Q&A for D9 at a later date. Rev. Ford spoke CCSD attorney regard board issues and ethics. Payment for Constituent Boards will go before the Board of Trustees. There will be an update to the PDP. The bell schedule will be realigned with the rest of the district.

IX. Constituent Board School Liaison Report

X. District Updates:

Superintendent Designee, April Butler gave district updates. Teachers return on August 6, and students return on August 13.

XI. Old Business:

XII. New Business:

Pat Cline questioned why and what three documents Haut Gap is requesting from magnet parents to update registration and enrollment for the magnet program. Dr. Simmons-Palmer to follow up.

XIII. Announcements:

Back-to-school giveaway, free haircuts, and uniforms in Hollywood on August 11 by a nonprofit. August 3 is Hands of Christ back-to-school at Mt. Zion.

XIV. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.