

REGULAR BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARION COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM

A regular meeting of the Marion County Board of Education was held May 21, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the Marion School District Conference Room.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Cynthia H. Legette, Chairperson
Mr. Levant Davis, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Charles E. White
Mrs. Patricia Atkinson
Rev. Cynthia V. Brown
Mrs. Ogleretta White
Mrs. Linda Neal

Call to Order: Chairperson Legette called the meeting to order.

Invocation: Invocation was given by Rev. Cynthia Brown.

Notification of Board Meeting: Chairperson Legette verified that in accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media were notified of the time, date and place of the meeting. Mrs. Dianne Hopper stated that the media was notified of the date, time and place of the meeting and a copy of the Agenda was also provided.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Chairperson Legette welcomed the staff and visitors to the May 21, 2019 meeting.

Establishment of Quorum: Chairperson Legette verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mr. C. White).

Approval of Minutes: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting April 9, 2019. Mr. White moved, seconded by Rev. Brown to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve the Minutes (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mrs. Neal).

Resolution (Reverend Dr. Michael Fogan): Chairperson Legette, along with the Board presented Dr. Fogan's wife along with the family a framed resolution in memory of his dedicated service to the educational system.

Staff / Student Recognitions: Dr. Bethea, along with the Board recognized several students and staff during the meeting for their accomplishments. The Board thanked them as they took their Board walk.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Curriculum and Instruction: Defined Program Grades 9-12 and Local Courses and Defined Program, 1st Reading Approval if Policy IKC – Class Rankings/Grade Point Averages, 1st Reading Approval of School District Grading Policy and 1st Reading Approval of Revised Policy JLIB – Student Dismissal Precautions: Mrs. Jackson presented the local courses along with Policy IKC, Revised Policy JLIB and the School District Grading Policy for first reading approval. After a brief discussion Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the recommended request. Mrs. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted 6 for (Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. White, Chairperson Legette and Mrs. White), and I nay (Rev. Brown).

Finance: Finance Report April 2019: Mr. Causey presented the finance report. He stated that the finance report was previously sent in the board packet. Our year to date revenue was \$30,390,417 compared to last year around this time it was \$28,574,302. The year to date expenditures were \$26,167,228 compared to last year's 26,394,761. The Bond sale began on April 28, 2019 and closed on May 16, 2019. At this time our revenue is over the expenditures. After reviewing the report the Board thanked the Finance Committee for their report.

1st Reading Approval of Budget 2019 – 2020: Mr. Causey presented the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget of \$39,357,565 to the Board for first reading approval. The budget report reflects the increases and decreases in revenue and expenditures to make it a balanced budget. The base student cost is not the same as last year's. There will also be a step increase and the starting teacher's salary will be \$35,000.00. The retirees are holding at 90% at this time, but that may change. We are still waiting on information from the State before confirming budget amount for some programs. After several questions and concerns, Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve this request. Mr. C. While moved, seconded by Rev. Brown to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mr. C. White).

Facilities/Operations Report – Mr. Leon Sturkey: Mr. Sturkey presented the Operation's report. He stated that preparation is being made by Cox Mechanical Services of Marion to install generators once students are out of school.

Mr. Sturkey stated that the request for painting and the request for Qualification for Architectural services would need an executive session.

The invitation for bid for gym floors at Mullins High School, Marion High School, and Palmetto Middle School was posted on SCBO, and the district website on May 17th. Bids will be received until June 11th at 11:00 am.

Mr. Sturkey stated that the Rains Centenary School would need to be discussed in executive session.

Clear Bag Policy: Mr. Sturkey presented the clear bag policy for second reading approval. August 2019. Dr. Bethea asked for 2nd Reading approval of the Clear Bag Policy at Athletic Events. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve this

request. Mr. C. While moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mr. C. White).

Human Resources Report / Updates - Mrs. Paula Grant: Dr. Bethea stated that executive session was needed for personnel.

Student Services Updates: Mrs. Rush presented the following policies and administrative rules for first reading approval by the Board:

1st Reading Approval: Administrative Rule JICJ – Electronic Device

1st Reading Approval: Revised Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying /
Administrative Rule: JICFAA

1st Reading Approval: Administrative Rule: JH-R Student Absences and Excuses

File JH - E1 Proposed Adoption 5/2019: Parent Excuse Form

File JH - E2: Proposed Adoption 5/2019 Tardy Notice Warning

File JH - E3: Proposed Adoption 5/2019 Truancy Letter 1

File JH - E4: Proposed Adoption 5/2019 Truancy Letter 2

After Mrs. Rush's presentation, Board members briefly discussed policy changes and suggested additional recommendations. Mrs. Rush stated that any additional changes would be included during second reading presentation. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve this request. Mr. C. While moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Rev. Brown and Mr. C. White).

Superintendent's Update: *Dr. Bethea presented her monthly updates to the Board from the various Administrative Departments. See Attachment.*

Review and Action: Student Transfer and Release: Dr. Bethea presented the student transfer and release for Board approval. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the recommendation from Dr. Bethea. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve Student Transfer and Release request as presented; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Rev. Brown, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mr. C. White, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. O. White and Mrs. Atkinson).

Executive Session: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to go into executive session for Personnel and legal updates. Motion by Rev. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. C. White, Chairperson Legette and Mrs. Neal).

Out of Executive Session: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to come out of executive session back into open session. Motion by Mr. C. White, seconded by Mrs. O. White to approve this request and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Neal, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis and Mr. C. White).

Chairperson Legette stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal that we accept the Administration's recommendation with the changes to personnel actions as it relates to employment, reorganizations, retirement and transfers; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Rev. Brown, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chairperson Davis).

Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Rev. Brown to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to allow student to re-enter school for the summer session with strict stipulations to earn needed credits with the understanding that the student's attendance will be reviewed at the end of the session, and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request (Mr. C. White, Rev. Brown, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Atkinson, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mrs. Neal).

Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Davis to accept the paint project public bids from Ray Miles Painting of Columbia to paint Easterling Primary School and McCormick Elementary School and Paint Design LLC of Conway to paint Marion High School, and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request (Mr. C. White, Rev. Brown, Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Atkinson, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mrs. Neal).

Dates to Remember - Conference / Meeting Reminders/ Board Comments: Vice-Chairperson Davis reminded the Board of the request from Mr. Marvin Hemingway to use the Marion County School District's name and the Marion County Board of Education in support of the Marion County Youth Day. After a brief discussion, Dr. Bethea stated that the School District will continue to partnership since we have students enrolled in the program.

Board members discussed several School District concerns such as bus driver shortage, their funding source, more programs needed at the Academy for Career & Technology, the number of employees needed for 2019-2020 school year, the three year visitation of school uniforms and their cost and property that is not being utilized. There was a brief discussion in reference to these concerns and the Administration was asked to check.

Adjournment: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Rev. Brown, seconded by Mr. C. White; and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. (Mrs. O. White, Mr. C. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Rev. Brown, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Neal and Chairperson Legette).