

.Minutes of the Marion County Board of Education Meeting was held July 17, 2018 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
Rev. Cynthia V. Brown
Mrs. Patricia Atkinson
Mr. Charles E. White

Board Members Absent:

Mrs. Linda Neal
Mrs. Ogleretta White

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 July 17, 2018 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, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mr. White).

Approval of Minutes: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the regular minutes for June 14, 2018 and the minutes for the Called Meeting on June 28, 2018. Vice-Chairperson Davis moved, seconded by Rev. Brown to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Atkinson and Mr. White).

SCSBA FY2017-2018 Boardmanship Institute Recognition: Mr. Charles White was recognized by the South Carolina School Board Association for reaching Level 1. He was presented this award during their regular meeting July 17, 2018. Chairperson Legette, along with Superintendent Bethea thanked him for his services in helping education the children of Marion County.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Finance: Finance Report June 2018: Mr. Causey stated that the year to date revenue was \$35,878,650 and the year to date expenditures were \$35,688,172. The amount of revenue over the expenditures is (\$190,478). Our IDEAL remaining balance is now at 0%. He gave a quick review of some of the other financial expenses and the tax revenue. Mr. Causey stated that they were winding down with purchases to close out the books for this fiscal year.

Budget Hearing: Mr. Causey stated that the budget hearing was held on June 2, 2018. It was advertised in our local paper for at least 4 weeks after being first presented to the Board for review. There was no one from the community present at the time of the hearing. We had about four staff members to sit in on the meeting.

1st Reading 2018 – 2019 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget: Mr. Causey presented the Budget report for the Board's review. He stated that the report reflects the increases and decreases in revenue and expenditure funds to arrive at a balanced Proposed Budget for FY 18 -19. This budget was increased by \$500,000 in anticipation that the State will fund it. A 1% STEP increase has been given to all employees and the base student cost will remain the same as last year's. At the time of the budget preparation, we had not received any approved allocations from the State Department of Education. This proposal is based on projections from the State Department of Education and estimates made by our finance staff from historical revenue and expense transactions. At this present time, we're not clear on the amount that we will be receiving, but will know more by the next Board meeting. After the financial presentation, the Board thanked Mr. Causey for his report. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to give 1st Reading Approve to the 2018-2019 Proposed Fiscal Year Budget. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. White to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. White, Mr. White and Mrs. Neal). There was a brief discussion about the dead line for the second reading approval of the budget. Mr. Causey stated that the budget had to be approved by July 1, 2018, but we need to hold off until the figures come from the State Department have been approved. Chairperson Legette stated that the Board is tentatively looking at having a called meeting on June 28, 2018. Mr. Causey stated that the State Department of Education will be voting on June 27, 2018 and hopefully we can meet before July 1, 2018 for second reading Approval.

Facilities/Operations Report: Mr. Sturkey gave a brief review of the Facilities / Operations report.

Paint Bid: Purchase orders were issued to each vendor. Taylor Made Paint from Camden was selected and will be in the district on June 6th, but will begin work on June 11th at Mullins High School and Johnakin Middle School.

Janitorial Bid for FYI 2018-2019: Qualified bids were received from Smith and Jones Janitorial Supply, Southeastern Paper Group, and Supplyworks and opened on June 6th at 2:00 pm.

Lawn Maintenance: We received prices from four lawn maintenance companies to contractual lawn maintenance at schools in area two and area seven. The companies provided prices for weekly mowing, trimming, and edging sidewalks. Prices were provided for pruning shrubs and refreshing pine straw twice annually.

MCSD Board Policy Update Code ADC Tobacco-Free Schools: Mr. Sturkey stated that in order to be in compliance with the comprehensive tobacco-free model policy, the Marion County School District's Tobacco-Free policy needs to be updated. At this time, Policy is no longer in compliance with the 100% comprehensive tobacco-free model policy due to not including the prohibition of alternative nicotine products (i.e. e-cigarettes). Currently the Marion County Schools board policy under procedures reads:

staff and visitors. The recommended change reads as follows: Prohibit the use and/or possession of all tobacco products or paraphernalia including, but not limited to, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco and snuff by all students, staff and visitors. Issued 7/12. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to give first reading approval to the updated policy (ADC) for Tobacco Free Schools. Motion by Rev. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. C. White, Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mrs. Atkinson).

Human Resources Report / Updates - Mrs. Paula Grant: Mrs. Paula Grant gave a brief update. Dr. Bethea asked that personnel action be discussed in executive session.

Student Services Report/Updates – 1st Reading , Policy JICDA, Administrative Rule JICDA-R: Mrs. Martina Rush presented policy JICDA, Administrative Rule JICDA-R for first reading approval. She stated that the State Superintendent of Education established the Safe Schools Task Force in November of 2015 recommending amendments to regulation 43-279, Minimum Standards of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Enforcement to be implemented by local school districts. Proposed changes were designed to promote more consistent discipline practices statewide by reducing the amount of subjectivity involved in discipline decisions. The regulation was amended to align educational terms with law enforcement jargon and to encourage the use of intervention options such as counseling, behavioral contracts, and service learning projects. The revised regulation included changes in the levels of misconduct, acts of misconduct, disciplinary enforcement procedures, and possible consequences. Districts are encouraged to expand on the minimum requirements. Dr. Bethea is recommending that the Board give 1st reading approval to Policy JICDA and Administrative Rule JICDA-R. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the recommendation from Dr. Bethea. Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Mr. C. White to give 1st reading approval to Policy JICDA, Administrative Rule JICDA-R; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. O. White and Mrs. Atkinson).

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

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

Review and Action: Out-of-State Travel: Dr. Bethea presented the following Out-of-District State travel request for approval. She stated that it would be an incentive field trip for students and the number of chaperones needed were also listed as required.

- (1) Out –of - County Travel: Mullins High School Camp Carolina – JROTC Columbia, South Carolina, June 10 – 16, 2018.

The Board reviewed the request for travel and Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Mr. Charles White, seconded by Mrs. Linda Neal to approve the Out-of-State travel request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve (Mrs. Atkinson, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Rev. C. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Public Participation: None.

Dates to Remember - Conference / meeting Reminders: Chairperson Legette reminded the Board of the upcoming events and meetings. Board members voiced their concerns about previous issues that needed to be addressed and concerns brought to them by others.

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

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

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

South Carolina School Board Association Proposal Deadline: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to give permission to Rev. Brown to proceed with the proposal for changes to the SCSBA Constitution for the Marion County Board of Education and School District due by June 22, 2018. Mr. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. White, Mr. White and Mrs. Neal).

Motion by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Mrs. O. White to accept the lowest bid for Janitorial Supplies as previously discussed in executive session and recommended as outlined by Dr. Bethea; and the Board voted unanimously to approve (Mrs. Atkinson, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Rev. C. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Motion made by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson to accept the Superintendent's personnel recommendations and addendum a as discussed; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Neal Chairperson Legette and Mr. C. White

Adjournment: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Mr. C. White, seconded by Mrs. O. White; and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. (Rev. Brown, Mrs. Atkinson, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White, and Chairperson Legette). Adjourned at 8:39 p.m.