

Minutes of the Marion County Board of Education Meeting was held May 15, 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

Mrs. Linda Neal

Mr. Charles E. White

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 May 15, 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. Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Mrs. 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).

Approval of Minutes: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the regular minutes for April 17, 2018 meeting. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Davis to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. White, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. White and Mrs. Neal).

Student and Staff Recognition: Dr. Bethea, along with the Board recognized several students and staff members for their academic achievements and accomplishments. The Board stated that they were proud of them and that these accomplishments prove that there are positive things happening in Marion County School District.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Finance: Finance Report March 2018: Mr. Causey stated that the year to date revenue was \$28,559,312 and the year to date expenditures were \$26,396,627. The amount of revenue over the expenditures is (\$2,162,685). Our IDEAL remaining balance is now at 17%. He gave a quick review of some of the other financial expenses and the tax revenue. Mr. Causey presented the Board with a copy of the Budget timeline status stating that everything was pretty much on schedule. Mr. Causey talked about the bond resolution that would be needed for the upcoming school year. He stated that at

this time he was not clear on the amount that they would be receiving, but would know more at the next Board meeting.

Rev. Brown asked Mr. Causey to provide her with a copy of March's financial report.

Mr. Causey presented the Budget report for the Board's review. He stated that this report reflects the increases and decreases in revenue and expenditure funds to arrive at a balanced Proposed Budget for FY 18 -19. He stated that the budget has increased by \$500,000 and hoping that the State will fund this increase. 1% STEP increase has been given to all employees. 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. He stated that 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. After the financial presentation, the Board thanked Mr. Causey for his report. Mrs. Legette stated that Mr. Causey was on top of things. Mrs. Legette stated that she was informed that when Mr. Causey receives alerts he respond immediately.

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

Paint Bid: On June 18, 2018, painting at four locations will begin. The purchase orders have been issued to each vendor.

Security cameras and door scan cards: Exterior and Interior cameras have been installed at all locations and A3 communications and the district's technology staff are ensuring that all cameras are focused correctly.

Rev. Brown expressed her concern about making sure that the cameras are aimed at the bathroom entrances at all schools.

Janitorial Bid for FYI 2018-2019: On May 10, 2018 the request for the janitorial supplies bid for FYI 2018-2019 went to the printing press. Bids will be opened in the executive board room on June 6th at 2:00 pm, but perspective bidders have until May 31st to ask questions pertaining to the bid.

Mrs. Neal expressed her concern about looking at the possibility of a private contractor for grounds upkeep that is not cost effective.

Engineer for Generators: Meetings are being held with engineering firms to assist in selecting generators for the food services program. They will be used to provide power to the cafeterias in the case of loss of electricity. On May 15, 2018, a recommendation of a firm will be made.

VCT Flooring Project (EPS, NMP, MES): Bids are due on May 14, 2018 for VCT at Easterling Primary School, McCormick Elementary School, and North Mullins Elementary School. During our meeting on May 15th, the lowest bidder will be announced.

Adult Ed – Phase II: The State Department of Education' Office of School Facility conducted an inspection at Adult Education Phase II on May 4. There are some corrections to be made and they will return on May 18th.

Mr. Sturkey gave notification that \$330,000.00 from the fund #504 local building fund was being transferred to fund #530 Adult Education project Marion County building fund. He stated that the District received \$163,000.00 in Abbeville funds and these funds will be used to replace gym floors. Mr. Sturkey also informed the Board some of the funds remaining from 2017-2018 bond funds would be used to redo completely the gym floors at Palmetto Middle School, Mullins High School and Marion High School. Funds from fund #501 Pupil Activity Buses be used for a recent repair/replace an engine on an activity bus. There is currently \$69,971.00 in that account.

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.

Reading Recovery: Mrs. Susanne Elvington gave a brief update on the Reading Recovery Program. She informed the Board that this program was used as a supplement to good classroom teaching and will be most effective when it is available to all students who need it. This program is a short-term early intervention for first-grade students having difficulty with reading and writing. A trained Reading Recovery teacher will work one-to-one with students for only 12-20 weeks and receive daily 30 minutes

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

Review and Action: Out-of-State Travel: Dr. Bethea presented the following Out-of-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: Palmetto Middle School Distinguished Gentlemen Leadership Retreat Charleston, South Carolina, June 8 – 10, 2018.

The Board reviewed the request for travel briefly and Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Rev. Cynthia Brown, 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).

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 Mr. C. 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).

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, issues that they observed and concerns brought to them by others. The Board policies workshop

conducted by Mrs. Tiffany Richardson for June 21 was a conflict for Mrs. Atkinson due to a previous engagement. After a brief discussion among the Board, Dr. Bethea was asked to get with Mrs. Richardson for a time that she will be available and get back with the Board with another date.

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 Mrs. Atkinson 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 Mr. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson 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).

Motion by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Davis to approve Student A to return to the base school in the fall of 2018 with the stipulation that he must attend Summer School and he must continue counseling while in school; 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. O. White, seconded by Mr. C. White to accept the lowest bid for the flooring contract; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Chairperson Legette and Mr. C. White).

Motion made by Rev. Brown, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Davis to accept the Bid from Daniel Engineering Services for PE Services for the stand-by generator project for eleven (11) school refrigeration units; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal Chairperson Legette and Mr. C. White).

Motion made by Mrs. White, seconded by Rev. Brown to accept the Superintendent's personnel recommendations 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 Rev. Brown, seconded by Mrs. 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.