

Minutes of the Marion County Board of Education was held April 20, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Marion School District Conference Room.

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Cynthia H. Legette, Chairperson
Mr. Levant Davis, Vice-Chairperson
Rev. Cynthia V. Brown
Mrs. Ritta Hennecey
Mrs. Linda Neal
Mrs. Ogleretta White
Mr. Charles E. White

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

Invocation: Rev. Cynthia V. Brown gave the Invocation.

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, 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 April 20, 2017 Budget Workshop.

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

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

2017-2018 Proposed Budget Workshop: Mr. Causey presented the 2017 – 2018 Proposed Budget to the Board for information purposes. He stated that the budget was not balanced at this point due to not receiving all of the financial information from the State Department of Education. The Proposed Budget for 2017-2018 is **\$36,550,242.65** compared to last year's **\$35,893,934.79**. The base student cost for 2017-2018 is \$2,435, compared to \$2,350 for last year. We are presently at 168 mills for Marion County School District. As the Board reviewed the Budget report, presented by Mr. Causey, several questions were presented that needed to be addressed. All retirees will remain at 85% this upcoming year. There has been an increase in Employer Health Insurance and Dental premiums. We are looking at contracts, companies for pest control and supplies to see where we can cut funding. Questions concerning bus transportation, college courses while in High

School, field trips, college credit library funds and whether there will be any step increases. After the question and answer session, the Board was asked to send any other questions that they might have to Mr. Causey before the next meeting. Chairperson Legette stated that we need to also revisit the contracts for the Attorney and Architect and look at a policy for every two years. Mr. Causey was asked to provide the Board with a list of companies that are contracted with the District. Rev. Brown gave a briefing on a testing site in Columbia, South Carolina called Irlen Syndrome that has shown some reading improvements in students due to the color of paper that writing might be printed on. She asked Dr. Bethea to look into this and bring back some information. The District was also asked to contact the news media or TV when there are positive things going on. They seem to only want to report negative situations.

Dr. Bethea presented the travel request to the Board for their approval.

OUT-OF- STATE TRAVEL: Mullins High School (ACT Incentive Education Day) @ Carowinds in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 28, 2017.

OUT-OF- STATE TRAVEL: Creek Bridge High School (JAG) in Charlotte, North Carolina on May 5, 2017.

The Board reviewed the request for travel briefly and Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Rev. Brown, seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the Out-of-state travel. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. O. White, Rev. Brown, Mr. C. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis and Mrs. Hennecy).

The Board voiced their concerns about a grant writer for the District, and also concerns pertaining to State Championship rings. Dr. Bethea was asked to check on these issues by the next Board meeting.

Adjournment: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Mrs. White; and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. 5 p.m. (Mrs. White, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Hennecy, Rev. Brown, Mr. White, Vice-Chairperson Levant Davis, and Chairperson Legette).