

CORRECTED MINUTES

Minutes of the Marion County Board of Education was held April 18, 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
Mr. Charles E. White
Mrs. Linda Neal
Mrs. Ogleretta White

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

Invocation: Invocation was given by Rev. Cynthia V. 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 April 18, 2017 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. Motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve the agenda; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Vice-Chairperson Levant Davis, Mrs. Ritta Hennecey, Mr. Charles White, Rev. Cynthia V. Brown, Chairperson-Cynthia Legette, Mrs. Linda Neal and Mrs. Ogleretta White).

Approval of Minutes –Regular Meeting – March 21, 2017: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion by Rev. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Neal and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (Mrs. Ogleretta White, Vice-Chairperson Levant Davis, Rev. Cynthia V. Brown, Mrs. Ritta Hennecey, Mrs. Linda Neal, Mr. Charles White and Chairperson Cynthia H. Legette).

Student Recognition: Dr. Bethea, Chairperson Legette and Vice-Chairperson Davis presented awards to outstanding students and staff members for Youth Art month. Pictures were taken of the students, along with the Principals. As they took their Board walk, they were congratulated by Board members for their outstanding accomplishments.

Special Presentation – Health Promotion Specialists Update: Ms. Tammi Byrd stated that dental caries and periodontal diseases have historically been considered the most important global oral health burdens. There are populations whose decay needs are not adequately being met within the current oral health care delivery system. These include those in poverty conditions, vulnerable children, and the elderly who are often in long term care facilities without adequate resources or opportunities for traditional dentistry. Dental caries is still a major oral health problem in most industrialized countries, affecting 60% - 90% of school children and the vast majority of adults. In many countries, access to oral health services is limited, and teeth are often left untreated are

extracted because of pain or discomfort. According to the Healthy people initiative reports, the percentage of studied children in the united States experiencing untreated decay remained virtually unchanged from 1990-2010 at 30%. For over 100 years, dentistry has focused on surgically treating dental disease for those who can access care. Even with access, preventive measure must be prioritized; survey research indicate that only a third of practitioners deliver recommended decay preventive interventions. After Ms. Byrd gave her update and addressed questions from the Board they thanked her for the services that Health Promotion Specialist has provided. Chairperson Legette asked Dr. Bethea to contact the other Dental Services that the District uses and extend the invitation to come before the Board for an update.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Curriculum And instruction – Strategic Planning Update: Dr. Rechel Anderson presented an update on Curriculum and Instruction. She stated that Strategic/Title I updates are being made to the 5-year Strategic Plan. The next Strategic/Title I Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Central Services in the Board Room.

During the month of May, vetting of the Instructional Pacing Guides will begin and select teachers will be invited to work with the Curriculum and Instruction Department to update pacing guides for the 2017-2018 school year.

The State Department of Education has allotted additional funds for Summer Reading Camp. The additional funds will be used to afford additional students the opportunity to attend Summer Reading Camp to receive additional instructional support. High School Principals have held informational student meetings in regards to District-wide Summer School options.

Summer Professional Development sessions will be made available to faculty/staff May 2017. 4K Block Grant planning for the 2017-2018 school year is underway and a timeline is forthcoming with professional development options.

The Department of Education will provide training to districts in reference to the South Carolina's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). The KRA is a developmentally appropriate instrument that measures a child's school readiness across multiple domains. The training will kick-off with a webinar (Part 1) April 13, 2017 or April 20, 2017 and a face-to-face meeting (Part 2) April 28, 2017 in Florence, S.C. The KRA will be administered to all 5-year old kindergarten students in public schools during the first 45 days of the school year.

Curriculum And Instruction – Text Books Adoption: Dr. Rechel Anderson presented the Text Book Adoption information to the Board in Melonie's absence. The Board was provided a list of books selected by district teachers after an extensive review process. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the text book adoption. Motion by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Hennecey and the Board voted unanimously to approve the text book adoption. (Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Rev. C. V. Brown, Mrs. R. Hennecey, Mrs. L. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson C. Legette).

Facilities/Operations: Mr. Leon Sturkey presented the Operation report to the Board.

Creek Bridge Track : Mr. Sturkey stated that according to Mr. Tom Root from Precision Sports, the track will take roughly 12 weeks from start to finish.

Mullins High School Re-Roofing: The re-roofing project for Mullins High School was published for bid March 6, 2017. The bid opening will be held April 4 at 3:00 PM in the executive board room. We will need to discuss this in executive session.

ACT Phase II: The ACT Phase II renovations, have to be reapproved the SC Department of Education Office of School Facilities because the original approval was given over six months ago.

Gregg Street Property: On March 12, 2017, the District received the deed to the Gregg Street property and can now begin to maintain the property.

Facilities Committee Report: Mr. Sturkey stated that the facilities committee met Wednesday March 8, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss timelines for painting, replacing carpet with tile and replacing existing HVAC units throughout the district. A copy of the report is attached. Also, attached is a list of items for each school when visits were made by the facilities committee.

Facilities Committee Report: Schedule for repairs

Year one :

Continued mold abatement

Security systems updates

Painting: Mullins High School, Johnakin Middle School, McCormick Elementary School

Covered walk way for Britton's Neck Elementary

Year two:

Painting: Britton's Neck, Palmetto Middle, Easterling Primary

Replace carpet with tile: CBHS, Mullins Early Childhood Center, Marion Intermediate School

Year three:

Painting: North Mullins Primary, Mullins Early Childhood Center

Replace carpet with tile: Mullins High, Marion High, Easterling Primary, Britton's Neck Elementary

Year four:

Painting: Marion High School, SAPEC, ACT

Replace carpet with tile: ACT, Marion Intermediate School, Annex

Year five:

Painting: Creek Bridge, Annex, MIS

Replace carpet with tile: Johnakin Middle School, Palmetto Middle School.

Other major repairs to be considered

Creek Bridge track

Palmetto gym floor
Mullins High School gym floor
Multi-purpose buildings for Mullins elementary and primary schools
Gym floor Easterling primary
Mullins High School track

Finance: Finance Report March 2017: Mr. Russell Causey gave a brief update on the Finance Report for March 2017 by stating that the year to date revenue for March 2017 was \$27,612,103 and the year to date expenditures were \$23,569,328. The amount of revenue under the expenditures are (\$4,042,806). Mr. Causey stated that they are still working on the budget for the upcoming school year. The Finance Department has met with several Departments on preparing our budget. Mr. Causey presented a budget scheduled outline to the Board for their review. Chairperson Legette reminded the Board of their budget workshop on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Human Resources Personnel Action: Personnel actions were delayed for executive session.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Bethea gave a brief update on the events and meetings that will be taking place during the month.

Early Learning Proposal: A key component of our district's transformation efforts is to improve early learning. Please note that over the past several months, we have conducted various Early Learning site visits and have met with 4K teachers across the district to gather information for the development of this plan.

Teacher Resignations and Retirements: Through conversations with principals, it appears that we have 20 + teachers that will be retiring or resigning. This type of turnover has been very consistent over the past couple of years and as a result, I feel must be an area of priority in order to have a stable academic program. The Human Resources Department will begin reviewing resignations and retirement submissions immediately when we return from Spring Break.

Teacher turnover and teacher shortages have become a statewide issues. To shed light on how significant the problem is becoming, I have provided two documents for your review:

- 2014-15 to 2016-17 Supply and Demand Report
- 2015-16 South Carolina Teacher Turnover Rates, by District

AdvancED Report: The final AdvancED report has been received and I am in the process of color coding the improvement areas in order to help provide clarity in the document. Each board member will receive an electronic copy for review.

Curriculum and Instruction:

1. Vetting of the Instructional Pacing Guides will begin during the month of May. Select teachers will be invited to work with the Curriculum and Instruction Department to update pacing guides for the 2017-2018 school year.
2. Additional funds have been allotted for Summer Reading Camp by the State Department. The additional funds will be used to afford additional students the opportunity to attend Summer Reading Camp to receive additional instructional support.
3. Strategic/Title I updates are being made to the 5-year Strategic Plan. The next Strategic/Title I Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Central Services in the Board Room.

4. High School Principals have held informational student meetings in regards to District-wide Summer School options.
5. Summer Professional Development sessions will be made available to faculty/staff May 2017.
6. 4K Block Grant planning for the 2017-2018 school year is underway and a timeline is forthcoming with professional development options.
7. The Department of Education will provide training to districts in reference to the South Carolina's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). The training will kick-off with a webinar (Part 1) April 13, 2017 or April 20, 2017 and a face-to-face meeting (Part 2) April 28, 2017 in Florence, S.C. The KRA will be administered to all 5-year old kindergarten students in public schools during the first 45 days of the school year. The KRA is a developmentally appropriate instrument that measures a child's school readiness across multiple domains.

Special Services:

1. Laptops have arrived for Teacher and have been disbursed to special services teachers.
2. The special services department is making plans for IEP boot camp this summer to prepare our new teachers for developing IEPs.
3. The special services department is also in the process of updating our departmental procedures so they are more streamlined and easier to understand.
4. The Director of Special Services, Amanda Dale, and Mrs. Stacye Drose, teacher at Marion Intermediate, were selected by the State Department of Education for textbook adoption last month. Only 10 educators in the state of South Carolina were asked to be part of this committee. Both Mrs. Dale and Mrs. Drose have been asked to return in June to prioritize mathematics and reading standards and Mrs. Dale has been asked to be on a special task force to develop guidelines for an occupational credential.

Public Relations & Special Projects: Public Relations is working with Technology to find another website that is more user friendly for end users and adaptable to our current programs such as mass call-out communication and PowerSchool. Data from the 135th day has been submitted to the state department. The Teacher and School Leader (TSL) grant has been submitted and we are working on an Education Innovation and Research (EIR) companion grant. Our local and state delegations along with our local leadership and constituents have shown their support by writing letters to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. We should hear about the TSL grant by mid to late May. The deadline for the EIR grant is April 13th.

Student Services: Attendance: On March 29th, a meeting was held with all attendance clerks to discuss attendance issues and truancy. Each clerk collaboratively developed a plan with their principal regarding actions they can take to increase student attendance to 95% or better for their school.

School Climate: PBIS Coaches from Easterling Primary School, Johnakin Middle School, Marion High School, North Mullins Primary School, McCormick Elementary School and Mullins High School will be attending a conference in Myrtle Beach April 27th and 28th in regards to behavior management.

Anti-Bullying: On March 14th and 15th, Elementary and Middle Schools participated in an Anti-

Bullying Assembly.

Technology: 510 student laptops will be arriving at the end of April. They will be distributed to each of the k-12 schools with testing schools receiving multiple carts. ERATE filing window closes in May. We are reviewing ERATE RFPs for hosted Voice Over IP (VOIP) phone systems to replace expiring contract. We are also researching CIPA compliance solutions to possible replace the current systems we have in place. CIPA is the Child Internet Protection Act that requires us to filter access to the internet children.

Early Learning Center: Dr. Bethea presented a proposal implementation plan and timeline for 2017-2018 for Early Learning Center to the Board for approval. This plan will provide a safe and nurturing learning environment that serves 4 year-old kindergarten students from all three attendance areas utilizing the Mullins Early Childhood Center facility. Currently, Marion County School District has eleven 4K Child Development Education Program (CDEP) state funded classrooms scattered across the district. Other neighboring districts have utilized a similar model where the preschool students are grouped together. An abundance of research has made it clear – the healthy development of young children benefits all of the society by providing a solid foundation for economic productivity and responsible citizenship. If every child starts school fully prepared, he or she has a greater chance of graduation from high school, going to college and having a healthier, more productive adult life. Currently, there are 358 five-year olds in our school district. Based on this year's data, 69% of all five year olds started kindergarten with an achievement advantage. There are seven vacant rooms and some additional empty space in the current propose facility. It would hold all of Marion County eligible four year old students along with some three or five year olds participating in the Montessori programs or preschool with disability classes. The Marion County Early learning Center would be leading the way in educating our youngest and most needy students with a highly trained and developed staff. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the proposal presented by Dr. Bethea. Motion was approved by consensus. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Hennecy and Mr. C. White).

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

Conference / meeting Reminders: Chairperson Legette reminded Board members of upcoming meetings

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

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

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

Mrs. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to not hear the employee grievance as discussed in executive session; and the Board voted unanimously to approved the recommendation from Dr. Bethea (Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White, Rev. C. Brown and Chairperson Legette).

Mrs. White moved, seconded by Rev. Brown to accept the lower bid for Mullins High School roofing project; and the Board voted unanimously to approved (Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. Charles White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Ogleretta White, Rev. C. Brown and Chairperson Legette).

Vice-Chairperson Davis moved, seconded by Mr. White to accept the bid of FBI for the Phase II Building B Education @ ACT; and the vote passed 6 for and 1 nay (Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. C. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Neal, Rev. Brown and Chairperson Legette). **Nay – Mrs. O. White.**

Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by **Mr. White** to approve the personnel recommendation as discussed in executive session; and the Board voted unanimously to approved (Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White, Rev. C. Brown and Chairperson Legette).

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