

**St. John's Constituent District 9 Board**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 5:30 p.m.**

**St. John's High School – Room A-118, 1518 Main Road, Johns Island, SC**

**Board Members Present:** Board Chair – Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, Pat Cline, Dr. Karen Simmons-Palmer, Jeff Fine, Monica Smith, JeRai Green, Esq., Leon Green

**Proceedings:**

**I. Call to Order, Moment of Silence, & Pledge of Allegiance:**

The board meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford.

**II. Adoption of Agenda:**

Monica Smith moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 7-0.

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

A. August 20, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Pat Cline moved, with a second by Monica Smith, to approve the meeting minutes with corrections. The motion passed 7-0.

**IV. Public Comments:**

Jeff Fine – Spoke for five minutes about several issues and concerns he has about D9 and CCSD.

**V. Executive Session:**

Pat Cline moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Discipline Hearings

9.1.25 Infraction: (650) Intimidation (written)

9.2.25 Infraction: (510) Aggravated Assault, (650) Intimidation, (250) Gang Activity

**VI. Open Session Reconvened**

Gertie Smalls-Ford moved, with a second by Monica Smith, to move into Open Session. The motion passed 7-0.

**VII. Vote on Executive Session Items (Action)**

A. Discipline Hearings

9.1.25 – JeRai Green moved, with a second by Monica Smith, to return the student to school on probation for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. The motion passed 7-0.

9.2.25 – Pat Cline moved, with a second by Monica Smith, to return the student to the IEP team for placement consideration and place on board probation for the remainder of the school year. The motion passed 7-0.

**VIII. Constituent Board Report:**

A. Updates from Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, District 9 Constituent Board Chair –  
Regional Meet & Greet with Superintendent Huggins at St. John's High 9.19.24 at 5:30 pm. Coffee Talk with the Superintendent at Gold Star Coffee was held on 8.21.24. St. John's Alliance Homecoming Parade Committee held a meeting on 8.29.24. Rev. Smalls-Ford attended the Quarterly Chair Meeting with Superintendent Huggins on 8.22.24. Mr. Borowry shared that the St. John's Field House was not a line item in the \$460 million dollar budget, but it is an item on the list.

**IX. Constituent Board School Liaison Report**

**St. John's** – There are efforts to bring business courses to St. John's in the near future where students are able to obtain an associate degree. Weekly 70s and below reports show that 89% of classes taken by students are above passing levels. All teacher positions are filled. The football field and stadium construction is set to be completed before homecoming but is contingent on the construction team's timeline. The school wants volunteers for homecoming on 10.18.24. Juice with Joyner 9.25.24 from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

**Frierson** – Enrollment has grown from 67 to 117 which gives them the ability via the district to add two more classrooms. Frierson PTA Open House and Welcome was on 9.11.24. SIC is on Zoom. No student has to pay for the after-school program because a grant was received. They are looking for men to volunteer.

**Mt. Zion** – PTA/SIC dinner meeting was held at Zeppelin's on 9.11.24. Donuts with Grownups is 10.4.24 followed by Title 1 Meeting. Pinnacle Bank on John's Island contributed school supplies for students at Mt. Zion. The new covered entryway at the front of the school is almost completed. Title I meeting 9.25.24 at 4:00 pm. Kaleidoscope students now have to pay. SIC nominations 10.9.24.

**Haut Gap** – Progress reports distributed 9.9.24. Quarterly PTO & SIC Meeting 9.25.24. The counseling department is partnering with Bridges of Hope, a local nonprofit that provides free grief support programs for children, teens, and their families. Students go to Fort Moultrie on 9.16.24. Data conferences will be 9.20.24.

**Angel Oak** – Forward a letter to Mr. McBride regarding the sidewalk.

**X. District Updates:**

Superintendent Designee, April Butler gave district updates. Family Data conferences 9.20.24. Early Release 10.4.24. The first quarter ends 10.11.24.

**XI. Old Business:**

Constituent Board Trainings –  
9.12.24  
9.20.24 via Zoom at 9-10  
9.20.24 at 75 Calhoun at 12:30-1:30  
9.24.24 via Zoom 6:15 to 7:15

PDPs were distributed. No bell schedule meetings.

**XII. New Business:**

Superintendent Meet and Greet at St. John's 9.19.24 at 5:30.  
Concerns about discipline cases with weapon charges can opt to have Zoom meetings.

**XIII. Announcements:**

Mr. Jeff Fine's last meeting is November 17th. Elections are coming up.

**XIV. Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.