

## February Minutes (moved because of budget)

**School: Esther Jackson Elementary School**

**Date: 3/6/2025**

**Time: 3:45 PM**

**Location: Esther Jackson Conference Room**

### **SGC Members:**

Ms. Nikol Boyd, Principal | Ms. Jill Vitagliano, Staff | Ms. Lisa MacMillan, Teacher | Mrs. Katelyn Bivins, Teacher | Ms. Avery Sather, Teacher | Kyle Finley, Parent | Lisette Hoschek, Parent | | Nohemi Rojas-Sanchez, Parent | Zach Vaughan, Community Member | Kenny Bittick, Community Member |

### **3:45PM Call to Order (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano called the meeting to order.*

### **3:47PM Action Item: Approve Agenda (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Bivins motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Hoschek seconded the motion. All were in favor.*

### **3:50PM Action Item: Approve January Minutes (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Finley motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Bivins seconded the motion. All were in favor.*

### **3:52PM Discussion Item: 2025 Budget presentation (Ms. Boyd)**

There was an increase in the amount that positions cost. We earned a rti/MTSS. The amount per pupil fund decreased. Enrollment has decreased. The difference between monies earned and used are due to purchasing of positions. Positions purchased included .5 BCL, .5 ESOL teacher, math coach, and CTAE teacher for specials. The major expenses of the budget were salaries and benefits. Art and Music are at .8, they will be at EJ 4 days a week. Allocations for the 25-26 School year include: 2 Pre-K, 3 Kinder, 4 first, 3 second, 4 third, 3 fourth, 3 fifth, 2 PSE, 1 KSE, 2 DHH, 5.5 ESOL, and 2 EIP.

### **4:10PM Action Item: Annual Budget Approval (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano asked for a motion to approve the budget. Mr. Finley motioned to approve the budget. Mr. Vaughan seconded the motion. All were in favor.*

### **4:15PM Information Item: Principal's Update (Ms. Boyd)**

*Our officer no longer works with the district. Ms. Boyd is currently trying to find out who is to replace him.*

*Safety assessment stated it is too dark in the bus lane and back area of school; more lighting is needed. A work order has been submitted to the district to fix it. A new camera system is also in the works due to the limitations of our current system.*

*Sending home flyers for the survey that parents will fill out upon completion with their students' house color and homeroom teacher. The winner will receive a party.*

*The 5th grade aquarium trip was a success! We will continue this trip annually for our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our students received multiple compliments for their behavior.*

*For Day Spring Celebration will stay to Vickery Mills this year on April 19<sup>th</sup>. It will include food, treats, and easter egg hunt.*

**4:35PM Discussion Item: Charter Dollar Expenditure Proposals (All Members)**

*Another estimate was for a walking track was made with a 6 ft. Wide track instead of 8 ft. Track around the perimeter. We have \$45,391 in charter monies and Home Church has donated \$10,000 in order for us to meet the cost of the track.*

**5:05PM Action Item: Approve Charter Dollar Expenditure Proposals (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano asked for a motion to approve the charter dollars to pay for the walking track. Ms. Hoschek motioned to approve. Ms. Bivins seconded. All in favor.*

**5:10PM Informational Item: Parent/Teacher SGC Elections Update (Katelyn Bivins)**

Declarations are due by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Flyers were passed out in afternoon carpool and walkers. Target letters were also sent out. We need to fill 1 teacher, 2 parents, 1 community member appointed, and 1 school appointed positions. The Outreach committee will meet again on April 3<sup>rd</sup> for SGC voting.

**5:20PM Informational Item: Superintendent Advisory Councils Updates (Zach Vaughan)**

No updates for SAC.

**5:25PM Discussion Item: Draft Next Meeting's Agenda (All Members)**

*We will keep March 20<sup>th</sup> scheduled for our next meeting. If it is deemed not necessary, it will be canceled by next week.*

**5:30PM Action Item: Meeting Adjournment (Jill Vitagliano)**

*Ms. Vitagliano asked for a motion to end the meeting. Mr. Finley motioned to adjourn. Mr. Vaughan seconded the motion. All were in favor.*

**Meeting Norms:**

Be respectful of time | Be respectful of each other's perspectives | Use individual strengths to maximize our collective work | Assume good will | Let thoughts be completed before commenting, please do not interrupt others | Maintain confidentiality

**Notes and Reminders**

**\*SGC Elections**

The declaration period for parents and teachers interested in serving on their local SGCs will run from **February 3<sup>rd</sup> to March 28<sup>th</sup>**. Click [here](#) to check how many council seats your school has open for these positions in this year's election cycle.

### \*\*\***Annual Budget Approval**

FY26 Budget development begins on **February 21<sup>st</sup>** and will **conclude on March 7<sup>th</sup> (Elementary Schools) and March 14<sup>th</sup> (Middle & High Schools)**. SGCs should schedule their March meetings prior to their budget closure date to ensure the council has time to discuss and approve FY26 fiscal allocations. Following the council's approval, each school should complete and submit the [FY26 Annual Budget Approval Form](#).

### **Updated Budget Timeline**

### \*\*\*\***Charter Dollars**

This year, schools have received **\$46,391 in Charter Dollars** to help meet their strategic goals through local innovative solutions. These funds should be used for non-personnel purchases such as supplies, registrations, communications, etc. When purchasing personnel, schools are advised to use other funding sources allowable for positions. If Charter Dollars are requested for personnel, the expenditure will require approval from the Zone Superintendent, SGC, and Executive Director of Governance and Strategy. Additionally, any materials purchased to support literacy instruction must align with [GaDOE literacy requirements](#).

Each Charter Dollar expenditure requires an SGC vote for approval, the completion of the [Charter Dollar Expenditure Form](#), and is subject to the same district guidelines that govern school cost center budgets. All Charter Dollars must be spent in the year they are received to support our current student population. We encourage SGCs to schedule discussions early in the year to plan for these expenditures, ensuring all purchases are made before end-of-year spending deadlines. See our [Charter Dollar Matrix](#) for examples of FCS-supported expenditures.

## Notes and Reminders

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### **\*\*Annual Budget Approval**

FY26 Budget development begins on February 10<sup>th</sup> and will **conclude on February 28<sup>th</sup> (Elementary Schools) and March 7<sup>th</sup> (Middle & High Schools)**. SGCs should schedule their February and March meetings prior to their budget closure date to ensure the council has time to discuss and approve FY26 fiscal allocations.

***All Dates are Subject to Change***

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