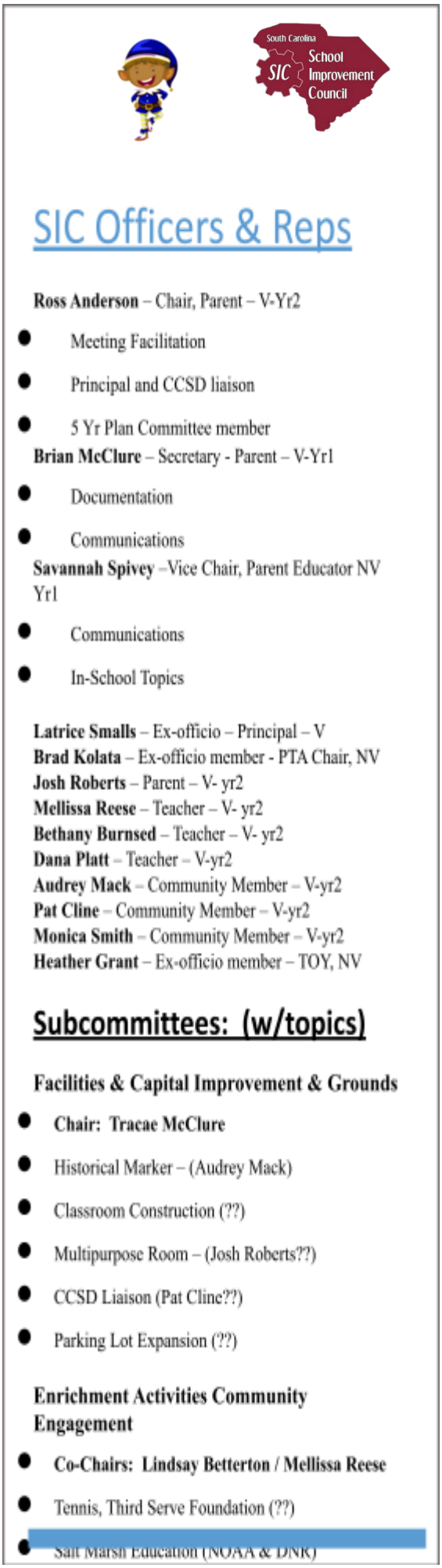
Edith L. Frierson Elementary
School Improvement Council
MEETING MINUTES
Meeting held virtual via Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, Oct 14, 2025 - 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome & Introductions – Members and Guests**
   - Chairperson Anderson officially called the meeting to order at 6:13pm.
   - Attendees: Principal Smalls, Christine Larson, Ross Anderson, Brad Kalota, Nicole Barnes, Taylor Bensinger, Tanesha Simmons, Melissa Reese, Judge Leroy Linen, Audrey Mack, Sophia Humes, Deanna Commodore, Katherine Simmons, Brian McClure.
   - Ross welcomed everyone back, thanked outgoing members and acknowledged first time guests.
   - Ross also provided overview of SIC, its functions, and priorities for previous (2024-2025) academic year.

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
   - Virtual Web Recording Link
   - Josh made a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Brian and unanimously approved.

3. **Principal's Report**
   - Began by thanking current and outgoing SIC members.
   - Noted that the first nine weeks of school are done.
   - Shared the school held its monthly fire drill (on 10/14) and there was "some miscommunication" as fire trucks from St. Johns showed up despite there only being a drill.
   - The school held a successful appreciation day.
   - Shared there are eleven to seventeen kids in the middle school grades and three (male) teachers with one just starting.
   - Announced the start of two new programs: Girl Code + Bow Kings.
   - Shared that the student council is going strong and that students recently launched a can drive.
   - Academic report cards are coming out soon but flagged that the school did not experience the same level of growth on average.
   - Shared top three academic priorities in response to anticipated slower growth, should be: 1) math; 2) reading and literacy; and 3) closing statistically significant gaps between male student of color and their peers.

4. **Seating of New SIC members for SY - 25/26**



SIC Officers & Reps

Ross Anderson – Chair, Parent – V-Yr2
- Meeting Facilitation
- Principal and CCSD liaison
- 5 Yr Plan Committee member

Brian McClure – Secretary - Parent – V-Yr1
- Documentation
- Communications

Savannah Spivey –Vice Chair, Parent Educator NV Yr1
- Communications
- In-School Topics

Latrice Smalls – Ex-officio – Principal – V
Brad Kolata – Ex-officio member - PTA Chair, NV
Josh Roberts – Parent – V- yr2
Mellissa Reese – Teacher – V- yr2
Bethany Burnsed – Teacher – V- yr2
Dana Platt – Teacher – V-yr2
Audrey Mack – Community Member – V-yr2
Pat Cline – Community Member – V-yr2
Monica Smith – Community Member – V-yr2
Heather Grant – Ex-officio member – TOY, NV

Subcommittees: (w/topics)

Facilities & Capital Improvement & Grounds
- **Chair: Tracae McClure**
- Historical Marker – (Audrey Mack)
- Classroom Construction (??)
- Multipurpose Room – (Josh Roberts??)
- CCSD Liaison (Pat Cline??)
- Parking Lot Expansion (??)

Enrichment Activities Community Engagement
- **Co-Chairs: Lindsay Betterton / Mellissa Reese**
- Tennis, Third Serve Foundation (??)
- Salt Marsh Education (NOAA & DNR)

- Ross went over new reps/officers. A slate as noted below was presented by and moved and unanimously approved.

Parent Reps: Brian McClure, Josh Roberts, Tanesha Simmons
Teacher Reps: Jae Schmitts, Nicole Barnes, Melissa Reese
Community Reps: Judge Linen, Pat Cline, Deanna Commodore
Ex-Officio Members: Taylor Bensinger (TOY), Brad Kolata (PTA), Principal Smalls

5. <u>Committees Overview:</u>

- After highlighting 2024-2025 subcommittees, SIC members agreed to prioritize discussing and assigning sub-committee assignments at the November 11 meeting.

<u>2024-2025 Sub-committees</u>
Policy Monitoring and Resource Advocacy
Facilities & Cap Improvement & Grounds
Enrichment Activities Community Engagement
Enrollment & D9 Feeder Pattern & Middle School Growth

6. PTA Updates – Brad Kolata

- Brad (PTA president) shared a reminder was shared for Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 22, 2025

7. Public Comment

- Book fair announced for week of October 20, 2025
- Red Ribbon week announced for the week of October 26, 2025
- Ross asked attendees to think about having food at future SIC meetings. He also asked the group to consider whether start times should be adjusted.
- Judge Linen shared update on "Men of Wadmalaw Island" group.

8. Announcements

- Reminder that schools will be closed on November 3 (data conferences) and November 4 (Election Day)
- Reminder to support "duty free" lunch

9. Review assignments and agenda for next meeting

- Brian to complete meeting minutes and share out subcommittees for review.

10. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made and properly seconded