ORANGEBURG COUNTY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE
Called Meeting of Board of Trustees
Date: August 14, 2017
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: District Office Board Room
1654 Camden Road
Holly Hill, SC 29059

Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE
II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
IV. REPORTS
   A. Superintendent’s Report- Dr. Gibbs-Brown
   B. For Approval
      1. Policies D, G & J – Second Reading and Approval
   C. For Information
      1. Introduction of Sen. John Matthews
      2. Introduction of Representative Gilda-Cobb Hunter

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
     1. Legal Matters- Consolidation
     2. Personnel

VIII. OPEN SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mission Statement
The mission of Orangeburg County Consolidated School District Three is to provide a quality education through shared responsibility in a safe and supportive environment for all students to meet the challenges of a global society.
ORANGEBURG COUNTY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE
Called Meeting of Board of Trustees
1654 Camden Road
Holly Hill, SC 29059
August 14, 2017
6:30 PM

The Board of Trustees of Orangeburg County Consolidated School District Three met on Monday, August 14, 2017 at 6:30 PM for a called meeting with the following persons present: Board Members Barbara Butler, Vernell Goodwin, Alice Pickney, Betty Shuler, Beatrice Swett, Dennis White arrived at 6:45 PM (Catherine Shuler was absent), Superintendent Jesulon Gibbs-Brown, Associate Superintendent Gerald Wright, Director of Human Resources Joann Lawton, Attorney Imari Newborn, Recording Secretary Catherine Behr, Representatives from the Holly Hill Observer, several district administrators (including principals and assistant principals), approximately ten visitors and our special guests Senator John Matthews and Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter.

In accordance with the SC Code of Law, 1976, Sections 90-4-9 (d) as amended, notice was given to the Holly Hill Observer, Santee Striper and Times & Democrat newspapers of the time, date and place of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE
Chair Betty Shuler called the meeting to order and Alice Pickney led in a moment of silence.

AGENDA
Barbara Butler made a motion the agenda be approved with an amendment which would postpone the approval of Policies D, G. and J until the September 2017 board meeting. Alice Pickney seconded the motion and the vote was in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments.

REPORTS

Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Gibbs-Brown
Dr. Gibbs-Brown reported that Friday’s Opening of School Convocation and the new employee bus tour went well. Tomorrow there will be an open house for the four elementary schools. The Superintendent asked LMHS Principal Lemon to introduce the new administrators at Lake Marion High School. Mr. Lemon introduced Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Michael Sneed, Assistant Principal Sandra Hodges, Assistant Principal CATE Aldean Gilmore and Bryant Robinson.

For Approval

Policies D. G & J – Second Reading and Approval
This item on the agenda was postponed to the September 12, 2017 board meeting.

For Information

Introduction of Senator John Matthews
Dr. Gibbs-Brown introduced Senator Matthews and he addressed the board and visitors on Economic Development.
Senator Matthews said the community of Holly Hill will be growing in the future. The port of Charleston is what will be growing the economy. There are only five ports on the east coast with fifty-foot harbors. When the Charleston harbor is dredged to fifty-feet it will change the economy. Container ships will be bringing in goods and those container ships need a fifty-foot deep harbor. The Volvo Vehicle plant will help Holly Hill grow. There are other industries looking at property in the vicinity of Holly Hill and Santee. New people moving here will have children to attend our schools. This is critical for our schools and it is time to plan now. Senator Matthews wants to have STEM labs in all elementary schools.
To begin with, there will be STEM labs at Holly Hill Elementary School and Elloree Elementary School this year. STEM jobs grow faster and pay more. It is critical that kids are ready for jobs. Holly Hill will grow: grow with you or grow over you.
Senator Matthews was asked if the timeline for consolidation will be the same and he replied by saying the timeline may have to be adjusted. Senator Matthews was thanked for the information he shared.

Introduction of Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter
Dr. Gibbs-Brown introduced Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter and she spoke to the group on consolidation.

Rep. Cobb-Hunter stated the status of the Consolidation Bill is as follows: the Bill was passed but vetoed by the Governor. The Governor’s objection to the Bill was the approval of the budget by the Legislators during the transition period. She said when they are back in session in January they will deal with the veto. To override the veto of the Governor it must be approved by the House and the Senate. She said she is not too confident the House will override the Bill but she has in place Plan B if it is necessary. Plan B is the same as the other Bill except for who will approve the budget during the transition period. She does not think adjusting the timing of consolidation will be necessary. It is critical to get this issue behind us. She said she is not happy with Orangeburg Five’s plans to have a bond referendum for buildings. This is not the time for that and it just muddies the waters. She hopes District Five will leave that to the consolidated district.

Rep. Cobb-Hunter said rural school districts will not be able to challenge students and our students can grow with one district. Orangeburg County is getting ahead of the curve before the State demands consolidation. The final version of the Consolidation Bill took into consideration the meetings where the public addressed concerns. She said she is confident the Bill will pass and our kids will be the biggest recipients of this consolidation.

Chair Betty Shuler thanked Representative Cobb-Hunter for the information she shared and stated that our board and community will cooperate.

Superintendent Gibbs-Brown thanked Senator Matthews and Representative Cobb-Hunter for attending the meeting and said a meal was prepared for them in the kitchen, and they were presented with district paraphernalia by Mrs. Lawton.

Beatrice Swett made a motion the board go into executive session to discuss legal matters-consolidation and personnel. Alice Pickney seconded the motion and executive session began at 7:30 PM.

The visitors were excused and Gerald Wright, Joann Lawton, and Attorney Imari Newborn remained.

Vernell Goodwin made a motion the board reconvene in open session. Beatrice Swett seconded the motion and the vote was in favor.
Open session began at 8:35 PM and the following action was taken:

Barbara Butler made a motion the review of district policies continue as they have been in the past. Dennis White seconded the motion and the vote was in favor.

Beatrice Swett made a motion, seconded by Vernell Goodwin, the board approve the hiring of a Media Specialist for Elloree Elementary School. The vote was in favor.

Dennis White made a motion the board approve giving the administration permission to review requests for readmission of expelled students through September 2017. Alice Pickney seconded the motion and the vote was in favor.

Barbara Butler made a motion, seconded by Dennis White, the board approve Student A being readmitted to school on probation and enrolled at Infinity. The vote was in favor.

Beatrice Swett made a motion the meeting adjourn. Alice Pickney seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Submitted by,

Catherine Shuler, Secretary

Catherine Behr, Recording Secretary

cb