

**REGULAR BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. TWO
DISTRICT OFFICE
February 27, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Florence County School District No. Two was held in the Media Center of Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School on Monday, February 27, 2017.

Those present: **Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr.**
 Mrs. Angela P. Keith
 Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston
 Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr.
 Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins
 Mr. Bradford C. Poston
 Mr. Robert B. Singletary

Call to Order

Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. by welcoming visitors and staff. Mrs. Angela P. Keith served as secretary.

Declaration of FOIA

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-89 (d), as amended, local news media and public were notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of the meeting.

Recognition and Awards

Coach Jamie Johnson presented certificates to Class A 2016 All State Football recipients Myron Jones, offensive lineman, and Carson Gibbs, specialist, who was not in attendance due to a baseball event.

Mr. Neal Vincent introduced Ms. Diane Welsh, President, Help 4 Kids Florence. Ms. Welsh explained that Help 4 Kids is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization with a mission of filling the weekend hunger gap for the children in Florence County elementary schools who receive free or reduced breakfast/lunch during the week and who are identified as being “food insecure” on the weekend.

Ms. Welsh stated that Help 4 Kids wanted to touch base with schools in the five districts in Florence County. Help 4 Kids serves 1,959 students every week in all head starts and elementary schools in Florence County. Ms. Welsh invited any community member or church to volunteer or help with their food drive. Mr. Vincent presented a certificate of appreciation to Ms. Welsh.

Mrs. Angela Tanner, Assistant Principal, welcomed everyone to Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School. She stated that as part of School Board Appreciation Month, HPEMS students wanted to present books of their choice for each school board member to read and then place in the school's media center in honor of the board member.

Coriya Robinson – *There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie*

Capri Spires – *Pippi Longstocking*

Carly Reid – *Ava the Sunset Fairy*

Roxy Reynolds – *The Wishing Spell*

Sierra Southard – *Where the Red Fern Grows*

Ethan Schaeffer – *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

Morgan Marsh - *Fixer*

Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston to accept Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Agenda, Approval of Board Minutes, Approval of Financial Reports, Approval of the Personnel Sheet, Approval of 2017-2018 Administrative Recommendations, and the Approval of Fieldtrips. Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Participation

None

Superintendent Update

Mr. Vincent thanked the Board on behalf of the administration for their service to the district. He stated that the district received a one-time allocation of \$115,000 for student mobile connectivity. This funding will be used to put wireless routers on all the state buses. In addition, designated students will be allowed to check out mobile hotspots from the libraries. The vendor is on state contract and the project should be completed by the end of March.

Mr. Vincent reported to the Board that the state discovered errors in payments to CDEP districts and overpaid the districts. The state has requested that districts repay the funds. A proviso is going through the South Carolina House for districts to retain the funds.

Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr. stated that he and fellow board members attended the SCSBA Annual Conference. He added that we really need to lobby legislature to make sure we get adequate funding to educate our children.

Mr. Ward asked if further thought had been put into an expanded afterschool program. Mr. Vincent stated that a 21st Century grant is currently paying for the Boys and Girls Clubs afterschool program. He added that in order to expand the program, the District will have to charge some kind of tuition. Further, Mr. Vincent will solicit input from the community and explore afterschool options with other districts.

Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston stated that in a breakout session at the SCSBA Annual Conference, the topic concerned the shortage of teachers facing our state. She stated there were good ideas given as to how to encourage our students to go forward and become teachers. Mr. Vincent shared that our district is offering incentives to retain teachers. As part of recruiting and retention goals, teachers are offered paid graduate programs and critical needs stipends.

Action Items

Policy Update - IHAM - Mr. Vincent asked the Board to approve the reading of Policy IHAM. The SCSBA recommends revising the health education policy to include new requirements including CPR/AED instruction and an opt-out form for parents/legal guardians. Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt made a motion to approve Policy IHAM. Mrs. Angela P. Keith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2017-2018 Courses - Mr. Vincent presented the Board with courses that will be offered during the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Angela P. Keith made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Courses and Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2017-2018 Budget Timeline - Mr. Vincent presented the Board with the 2017-2018 Annual Budget Preparation Schedule. He reviewed the schedule with the Board and added that we needed to omit the called meeting for March 9 due to projected numbers not being available in time for this meeting. Mr. Vincent welcomed any questions or comments about the timeline. No action was taken on the 2017-2018 Annual Budget Preparation Schedule.

2017-2018 Supplements - The 2017-2018 Supplements were pulled for discussion in Executive Session.

Reports and Items for Discussion

2017-2018 Budget Update - Mr. Vincent shared the updates he received for the 2017-2018 Budget. He shared that the District was expecting \$150.00 base student cost increase and that has been reduced to \$50.00 in the proposed House budget. Included in the proposed budget was approximately \$100 million for Abbeville District for capital improvements. The House proposals also included a two percent increase for employers' contribution for retirement and the proposed budget covers one percent. In the past, the District received \$50,000 in K-12 Technology funds. As of right now, these funds have been eliminated. Mr. Vincent added that \$38 million has been taken from EIA and put towards roads. He stated that he is concerned about EIA money that has always been there. Mr. Vincent welcomed any questions from board members.

Board of Trustees Election Update - Mr. Charles Hyman presented the Board with an update of on the upcoming election. Mr. Hyman stated that the District Election Committee (DEC) will run the election again this year. The DEC members are Gerald Hicks (Chair), Cynthia Parks, and Pam Turner. The poll managers are Robbie Perry and Tish Singletary.

Capital Update - Mr. Hyman presented an athletic lighting proposal for the all athletic fields and courts. He stated that this is one priority being considered from the capital project list. The proposal includes work to be done by Bryce Electrical. The price includes all materials and installation and is a turnkey job. It will include lighting for all fields and courts including football, baseball, softball, tennis courts, and track. Mr. Hyman asked the Board to review the proposal and they can discuss it at the next meeting.

Policy Updates – DJ.R, GCIE, JFAB - Policy updates were presented by Mr. Vincent. Changes in policy DJ.R would update the District's procurement code. The district administration used a model procurement policy provided by SCSBA and reviewed by a procurement officer in a larger district. Policy GCIE has been updated to include incentives offered using rural recruiting incentive funds. Proposed revisions in Policy JFAB would allow district administrators to charge a lower tuition rate for nonresident students.

Executive Session

At 8:20 p.m., Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, contractual, and supplements. Mr. Robert B. Singletary seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

In open session, the following action was taken:

At 9:02 p.m., Mr. Bradford C. Poston made a motion to come out of Executive Session and Mrs. Angela P. Keith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vincent requested that the Board approve the 2017-2018 Athletic Supplements if funding is available. Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr. made a motion to approve the supplement amounts and Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 9:09 p.m., Mr. Bradford C. Poston made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert B. Singletary. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr.
Chairman

Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston
Secretary