

Calhoun County Public Schools
Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees
District Office Boardroom/Live Stream
April 26, 2021

Members Present: Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson; Mr. Kevin Jenkins, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Debra Fredrick, Secretary; Mrs. Sandra Tucker, and Mr. Ned Nelson

1. **Call to Order/Invocation:** Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff and asked everyone present to stand for the invocation and the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag".
2. **Notice to the Media:** In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80-(E), as amended, the following have been notified of this meeting: The Calhoun Times; The Times and Democrat; notices placed on the bulletin boards in all schools and the District Office.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the minutes of March 15, 2021, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)
5. **Student Recognition:** Mrs. Christia Murdaugh, Chief Academic Officer, asked Dr. Steve Wilson, Superintendent, along with Board Members, to stand and recognize the students receiving the 1st and 2nd Quarter Highest GPA Awards as well as the highest GPA for the Acellus Academy. Mrs. Murdaugh asked that the parents of students receiving awards stand and be recognized while their child received an award. (List of students attached.)
6. **Literacy Committee Recognition:** Mrs. Murdaugh introduced to the Board the Calhoun County Public School District Literacy Launch Team. She said the team will focus on Literacy in grades 0 – 3rd in the District.
7. **Public Participation:** None
8. **Chairperson's Report:** None
9. **Financial Report:** Dr. Steve Wilson spoke to the Board about the 2021-2022 Budget Rationale. He said due to the pandemic, we have lost 100 students, which has resulted in approximately \$300,000.00 in lost revenue. Dr. Wilson said he asked Mrs. Strickland to be creative when working on the budget. He said he asked her to use ESSER 2 funds to keep staff positions. Dr. Wilson said these funds will be available for the next two years until (2023). He said he is hopeful the students the district lost due to the pandemic, will return.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY 2021-2022 Calhoun County Public Schools Budget for First Reading consideration.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the **First Reading** of the Calhoun County Public Schools FY 2021-2022 Budget, **in title only**. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Strickland, presented the February 2021 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in February 2021, the District received 70% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended 57% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 32% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures, with a total of 88%. She added that the current taxes collected for February 2021 was approximately 5.2 million, which is 95% of the budget and delinquent taxes collected was \$160,556.96, which is 40% of the delinquent tax budget.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for February 2021. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the March 2021 Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for Board consideration.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in March 2021, the District received 78% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and expended 64% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 25% of the General Fund Budgeted Expenditures, with a total of 89%. She added that the current taxes collected for March 2021 was approximately 5.4 million, which is 98% of the budget and delinquent taxes collected was approximately \$296,018.98, which is 74% of the delinquent tax budget.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Budget Adjustments for March 2021. Passed unanimously.

10. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director and Compliance Officer, shared with the Board the last six weeks of the COVID-19 Activity in Calhoun County. He said that Calhoun County's COVID-19 Activity for March 17th was reported as medium, March 24th, 31st, and April 7th, was reported as low and April 14th and 21st, was reported as medium.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the Facility Updates. He said the bid for The Sandy Run K-8 School parking lot project will close on May 11th. He said there is also a bid out for a fresh air system and exhaust for the cafeteria at Sandy Run K-8 School and the bid will close on May 7th. Mr. Kieran said he has been working with Mrs. Brenda Goodwin to ensure that each of the K-8 Schools passed inspection from the fire marshal for CERDEP certification. He concluded by saying that the LED retrofit for SMK8, CCHS and SRK8 is scheduled to begin in June.

Mr. Kiernan shared with the Board the Teacher and Staff Vaccine Update. He said as of today, April 26, 2021, the District has 53.3% of faculty that has had at least one shot.

Mr. Kiernan updated the Board regarding the COVID-19 Status by School. He said the District currently has 2 quarantined students and 1 quarantined staff member. He added that the District has zero positive students or staff at this time.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy IA – Instructional Goals and Learning Objective for 1st Reading/Amendment and approval.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve Policy IA – Instructional Goals and Learning Objective for 1st Reading/Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Kiernan presented Policy IB – Academic Freedom for 1st Reading/Amendment and approval.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve Policy IB – Academic Freedom for 1st Reading/Amendment. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Wilson presented the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar 3.0 for approval. He said there were 135 responses in total. Dr. Wilson said that Calendar 3.0 received 62% votes and Calendar 3.1 received 37.2 votes.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

Dr. Wilson shared with the Board a Memorandum from the S.C. Department of Education regarding the Calhoun County School District Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Subrecipient Risk Assessment. He said that the District’s overall risk score was “9” which is considered low risk. He said the low risk assessment score in the District is due to the hard work of the principals, cabinet and teachers.

11. **Executive Session:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to go into Executive Session to consider Personnel, Recommendation(s) and Resignation(s) and then return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Mr. Jenkins announced that the Board was back in open session.

12. **Board Action(s):** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Ms. Fredrick, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations for employment and resignations. Passed unanimously.
13. **Adjournment:** Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Board of Trustees Secretary

Date of Approval

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Kennedy, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

