

Williston School District 29 Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
February 20, 2018
7:00 p.m.
District Board Room
12255 Main Street
Williston, South Carolina 29853

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Ferlecia A. Cuthbertson called the February 20, 2018, regular board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Board Chair Ferlecia A. Cuthbertson, Vice-Chair Michael L. Hutto, Secretary Doris B. Young, and Member Russell J. Overton.

Members absent: None

Noting a quorum was present.

Media: Jonathan Vickery, *The People Sentinel*

Administration present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Everette M. Dean, Jr., Director of Finance Rose Anderson, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Accountability Debra McCord, Director of Student and Special Services Dr. Tasha Louis-Nance, Director of Transportation/Medicaid Clerk Chantane Tobin, Coordinator of Human Resources Stephanie Alford, District Technology Coordinator Amy Nix, Maintenance Supervisor Ronnie Neville, Food Service Coordinator Eugenia Johnson, Principals Nakeisha Baxley, Herman Thompson, and Alison Brady, and guests.

2. Invocation/Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag

The invocation was given by Mrs. Young, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Cuthbertson asked that the agenda be approved as written.

MOTION: Mr. Overton SECOND: Mrs. Young

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Cuthbertson asked that the minutes of the January 16, 2018, regular monthly Board meeting, be approved as written.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

5. Public Participation

No one presented at this time.

6. Achievements & Recognitions

Mrs. Brady recognized the following students for their recent achievements.

January Students of the Month:

- LeNorris Edwards
- Pate Lawson
- Haley Moski
- Sara McCutcheon
- Kaylyn Myers
- Evan Overton
- Brandon Richardson
- Javier Rudolph
- Karlen Waymyers

February Students of the Month:

- DeMarkiis Doe
- Jaliyah Collins
- Zakiya Wiggins
- Will Sineath

February Rotary Student of the Month:

- Betheny Maxwell

De'Markiis Doe: Signing to play football at South Carolina State University

Mrs. Linda Alsept and Cast: Production of "Into the Woods"

7. Survey/Focus Group Summary Report

South Carolina School Boards Association Executive Director Scott Price and Executive Assistant Judy LeGrand gave an overview of some things they learned from the focus groups that Mrs. LeGrand conducted on February 12, 2018. Mr. Price informed the Board that they also had information from the 141 surveys that had been submitted. Some of the viewpoints expressed at the focus groups were as follows:

The new superintendent should:

- Be Visible
- Be Transparent
- Have Honest Communication
- Not Micromanage
- Know the Community
- Be a part of the Community
- Be Familiar with South Carolina Laws
- Conduct Teacher Evaluations
- Know South Carolina Policy
- Be a Team Player
- Have Strong Instructional Focus
- Be Small Community Focused
- Have Classroom and Principal Experience
- Be Experienced with Cultural Diversity
- Be Accountable
- Not Be Afraid to make Tough Decisions
- Build Bridges in the Community
- Help to Build Trust
- Participate in the Community
- Have Small District Experience

Mrs. LeGrand reported that 141 had participated in filling out the survey which included 33 teachers, 9 administrators, 4 support staff, 44 parents, 37 community members, and 17 others. On the survey the participants were asked to rank the 10 items presented in the order of most important from 1 to 10 with 1 being most important.

The top four items are listed below.

1. Demonstrated a strong background in curriculum and instruction
2. Commitment to insuring strong accountability measures for principals and teachers toward student achievement results
3. Skilled Communicator (both internal and external)
4. Experience in district budget development and management

Mrs. LeGrand also reported that the least importance was as follows:

9. Demonstrated involvement within the community, civic clubs, churches, etc.
10. Demonstrated commitment to athletics and other extracurricular activities

Mr. Price asked the Board to put together 3 to 5 priorities for a model candidate, something the candidate must have.

There was discussion about the special called Board meeting to be held Monday, February 26, 2018, to go over the applications submitted, in executive session, with the meeting starting at 7:00 pm.

8. Lower Savannah Workforce Development/Concerns

Mrs. Cuthbertson introduced Workforce Administrator Mr. Andre' Anderson and Area Manager Ms. Melinda Hernandez. Mrs. Hernandez shared with the Board a handout with information about Eckerd Connect. She informed the Board that their organization serves an average of 34,000 young adults and their families each year. She also gave the Board information about the SC Work Center. She said this program serves youth 16 to 24, who are out of school, and adults and dislocated workers. She also reported to the Board that Williston School District was one district that participated last year in the Summer Jump Program.

9. Interim Superintendent's Update

Dr. Dean updated the Board on the following items.

- a. Safety of the schools: number one priority, conducting a hard lockdown drill in the next couple of weeks
- b. Personnel: Interview for middle school principal, job descriptions, intent forms from certified staff, actively recruiting and interviewing
- c. 2018-2019 Budget planning
- d. Facilities: Architects are working hard, walking through the facilities and drawing up plans
- e. Beginning date for the 2018-2019 school year

10. Continuing Business

9.1 Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

• Curriculum Update

Mrs. McCord presented policy IKE-R, Promotion and Retention of Students, with revisions for Board approval.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

Mrs. McCord brought to the Board's attention some state board updates which included the replacement of WorkKeys, career readiness assessment. She informed the Board that this would now be WIN, Worldwide Interactive Network. Mrs. McCord went on to explain that this new replacement still had the same three sub-test as WorkKeys as well as a fourth sub-test, soft skills assessment.

Mrs. McCord also informed the Board that there will be changes made to the End of Course testing. Mrs. McCord explained these changes to the Board. Questions were asked.

9.2 Finance Department

• Monthly Budget Report

Rose Anderson, Director of Finance, presented the January 2018 monthly budget report for Board review. Some questions were asked.

• Approval to Sell Spring Bonds

Mrs. Anderson reminded the Board that at last month's regular monthly board meeting the Board members were presented the Spring bond projects. Mrs. Anderson asked for Board approval to the selling of the spring bonds with

a resolution stating that the amount not exceed \$455,000. Mrs. Anderson said this would cover the cost of the projects plus any cost to the selling of these bonds.

MOTION: Mr. Hutto SECOND: Mrs. Young

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

11. New Business

11.1 Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests

- WE Band: North Charleston, SC
February 22-24, 2018

MOTION: Mr. Hutto SECOND: Mr. Overton

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

- WE Band: Savannah, Georgia
March 16-17, 2018

MOTION: Mr. Hutto SECOND: Mr. Overton

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

- Denmark Technical College Engineering Students: Atlanta, Georgia
March 15, 2018

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

11.2 2018-2019 Proposed New School Calendar

Dr. Dean told the Board that the proposed new calendar for the 2018-2019 school year is in line with Barnwell School District 45 and the Barnwell County Career Center. He went on to explain that the difference with Williston School District 29 and Blackville's school calendar was the timing of Spring Break. Blackville will be having their Spring Break the week after Easter and Williston, Barnwell, and the Career Center will have Spring Break the week before.

MOTION: Mr. Hutto SECOND: Mr. Overton

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

12. CLOSED SESSION

Executive Session: Discussion of Student and Employment Matters

At 7:59 pm, Mrs. Young made a motion that the Board enter executive session for the discussion of student and employment matters. Mr. Hutto seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

At 8:51 pm, Mrs. Young made a motion that the Board adjourn executive session. Mr. Hutto seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

OPEN SESSION

13. Action on matters discussed in Executive Session

- **Employment Matters**

Dr. Dean recommended the Board accept out of district student "A" to be permitted to attend Williston School District 29.

MOTION: Mr. Hutto SECOND: Mrs. Young

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

Dr. Dean recommended to the Board that out of district student "B" not be allowed to attend Williston School District 29.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Overton

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

14. Adjournment

At 8:53 pm, Mr. Overton made a motion for adjournment.

SECOND: Mrs. Young ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Ferlecia A. Cuthbertson, Board Chair

Debra W. McNeil, Recording Secretary