

Williston School District 29 Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
September 18, 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 September 18, 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 Members Ronald J. Brown and Annette W. Burnette.

Members absent: None

Noting a quorum was present.

Media: Laura McKenzie, *The People Sentinel*

Administration present: Superintendent Dr. Marcella Heyward, Director of Human Resources Dr. LaToya Thomas-Dixon, Director of Finance Rose Anderson, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Accountability Debra McCord, Director of Transportation/Medicaid Clerk Chantane Tobin, Director of Special Services Kathy Griffin, Athletic Director Derek Youngblood, Principals Nakeisha Baxley, Tammy Briggs, and John Bradley, Recording Secretary Debbie McNeil and seven guests.

2. Invocation/Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag

The invocation was given by Mr. Hutto, 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: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Cuthbertson asked that the following Board minutes be approved as written.

- August 7, 2018: Regular Monthly Board Meeting

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mrs. Burnette

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

5. Awards and Recognitions

Superintendent Dr. Marcella Heyward recognized high school student, Keshawn Toney, for his commitment to the University of South Carolina, starting in January. Athletic Director Derek Youngblood explained to the Board that Mr. Toney will be graduating from Williston School District 29 in December and will start classes at USC-Columbia in January 2019, and will be participating in spring practice with the Gamecocks.

6. **Public Participation**

No one presented at this time.

7. **Superintendent's Update**

- Community Eligibility Resolution

Dr. Heyward informed the Board that there was a new proviso that directs local school boards of districts participating in the Federal Community Eligibility Program, in which all schools are eligible to receive the federal reimbursement rate for free school breakfasts and lunches, to adopt a resolution indicating that they are participating. Dr. Heyward had included in the Board packets a sample resolution for the Board's consideration. Mrs. Cuthbertson asked for a motion to approve the following resolution regarding the Community Eligibility Provision for Williston School District 29.

WHEREAS, the Board, recognizes the need to increase access to free school meals for students living in poverty.

WHEREAS, the Board, participates in the Nation School Lunch and Breakfast programs.

WHEREAS, The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 includes the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), 42 U.S.C.A. §1759(a), allowing qualifying districts to serve all students free meals without the burden of collecting household applications, saving time and money for district and schools.

WHEREAS, the Board, has determined that all schools in the district meet the minimum qualifying percentage of 40 percent of identified students for free meals in the preceding school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board hereby elects to participate in the Community Eligibility Program pending approval by the South Carolina Department of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board agrees to comply with the terms of CEP participation and agrees to serve free lunches and breakfasts to all students in participating schools, not to collect free and reduced-price applications from households in participating schools, and to absorb any costs of providing free meals to all students in participating schools above amounts provided in Federal assistance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on SEPTMEBER 18, 2018.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Brown

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

- 2018 Enrollment Update

Dr. Heyward had included in the Board packet a comparison enrollment chart, dating back to the year 2000-2001. This was presented as information only.

8. **Continuing Business**

- Department of Curriculum, Instruction & Accountability
 - Computer Science Standards/Implementation Plan

Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Accountability Debra McCord told the Board that for this school year, the District was tasked with incorporating new computer science and literacy standards into the K-8 content courses, embedding them into everyday lessons. Mrs. McCord went on to explain that the instructional coach will be meeting with each grade level to review the State Department Overlay document and will hold discussions, giving examples of the standards and how to embed them into the lessons. She also informed the Board that the Stated Department had provided \$15,000 to fund the training and to purchase supplies for this program. This was presented as information only.

- 2018 Assessment Data

Mrs. McCord presented to the Board the 2018 Assessment Data results for the 2017-18 school year. She told the Board that while the state saw a slight increase in the percentage of third and fourth graders passing the SC Ready test, it also saw growth in the percentage of students at every grade level earning the lowest possible score, "Does

not meet.” She reminded the Board that the 2017-18 school year was the first year with complete online testing in every subject area. Mrs. McCord reported that 3rd grade ELA increased by 12% in meets/exceeds, 7th grade ELA increased 12% in meets/exceeds, and 4th grade Math decreased 10% in does not meet. She also told the Board that the highest percentage of students failing in “Does not meet” fell within the writing strand in ELA. On a brighter note, Mrs. McCord said, elementary students increased in Social Studies by 17.9% in meets/exceeds and middle school students increased by 19.2% in meets/exceeds. Some questions were asked.

➤ Local Approval for Special Education Courses

Director of Special Services Kathy Griffin presented to the Board the following local special education courses for Board approval. She went on to explain to the Board that these classes were in line with Williston School District employability credentials. She said that these courses were required courses for students who are enrolled in the employability program.

- Employment English
- Employment Math
- Career Preparation
- Life Skills Science

Mrs. Cuthbertson asked for a motion to approve the above courses for the 2018-19 school year.

MOTION: Mrs. Burnette SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

- Department of Finance
 - Monthly Financial Update

Director of Finance Mrs. Rose Anderson presented the monthly financial update for the month of August as information only. Mrs. Anderson also informed the Board that the District’s auditors would be in the District on Wednesday, to begin the audit process for the 2017-18 school year. Mrs. Anderson informed the Board that she had received an email from the District’s architect stating that the South Carolina Office of Facilities will be issuing a permit to Williston School District 29 to begin the bidding process for the Abbeville fund projects.

- Department of Human Resources
 - Substitute Process

Director of Human Resources, Dr. LaToya Thomas-Dixon, gave an overview of the substitute process for the 2018-19 school year. Dr. Thomas-Dixon reported that she had trained 49 applicants, with 38 being cleared to sub, ten who were incomplete, and one who was either incomplete or not cleared.

➤ Nurses Salary

Dr. Heyward presented to the Board a nurse substitute pay rate schedule for Board approval. She asked that the Board approve a daily pay rate of \$65.00 for a substitute nurse to cover one work site and \$130.00 a day to cover the entire district.

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: Mrs. Burnette

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

- Board Policies

The following Board policies were presented for Board approval.

- IKFC/IKFC-R: Employability Credential: 2nd of 2 readings
- IKADD/IKADD-R: Content and Credit Recovery: 2nd of 2 readings

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

9. New Business

- Overnight Field Trip Request
KEES TAG: Camp Leopold-Pinewood, SC
October 10-11, 2018

Dr. Heyward presented the above overnight field trip request for Board approval.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mrs. Burnette

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Executive Session: Employment and Student Matters

At 8:07 pm, Mrs. Young made a motion that the Board enter executive session for the discussion of employment and student matters. Mr. Hutto seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

At 9:02 pm, Mrs. Young made a motion to adjourn executive session. Mr. Hutto seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

OPEN SESSION

11. Action on matters discussed in Executive Session

- Employment Matters

Mrs. Young made a motion that the Board approve the administration's recommendation to report a breach of contract on a teacher at Kelly Edwards Elementary School.

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

- Student Matters

Dr. Heyward recommended the Board accept approval of students "A" and "B" into Williston School District 29, pending release from Aiken County School District.

MOTION: Mrs. Young SECOND: Mr. Hutto

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

12. Adjournment

At 9:05 pm, Mrs. Young made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: _____

Ferlecia A. Cuthbertson, Board Chair

Debra W. McNeil, Recording Secretary