



Florence County School District Three

Board of Trustees

Board Minutes

District Office Board Room
Thursday, April 18, 2013
6:30 PM

In Attendance: Julia Mims, Lane Floyd, Amy McLean, Paula Morris, Barbara Bryant, John Graham, Dianne C. Smith, and Terrie Bryant.

Absent: Patsy McCutcheon.

Call to Order

Board Chair Dr. Julia Mims, called the April 18, 2013 regular monthly meeting of the Florence County School District Three Board of Trustees to order. In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: Lake City News & Post and Lake City News and Shopper. This agenda is also posted on the Florence County School District Three website. A moment of silence was observed after which Chair Mims led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Callicutt asked to amend tonight's agenda by moving item #2.C.I. (New Tech High School) to the front of the agenda due to individuals giving this presentation having to leave to catch a plane back home. The board agreed by consensus. Paula Morris made the motion to accept tonight's April 18, 2013 agenda as amended. Lane Floyd provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the April 18, 2013 agenda passed 8-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda

John Graham made the motion to accept tonight's consent agenda which includes A) March 21, 2013 regular monthly Board Meeting Minutes, B) Certified Personnel Report, C) District is seeking input from public for use of federal funds for SY 2013-2014 announcement, and D) Student Transfer Requests. Barbara Bryant provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the April 18, 2013 consent agenda passed 8-0.

Communications to the Board

A. Board Chair Report

I. Report of Any Meetings Attended

Terrie Bryant, Barbara Bryant, and Julia Mims attended the District Strategic Planning Session. These board members were joined with approximately 106 other community members, parents, staff, and business leaders from the FCSD3 area to help Laura Hickson and the District Instructional Team (DIT) update the District Strategic Plan for the 2013-2014 SY.

II. Requests to Attend Any Meetings

None to report

B. Public Participation – No one signed for public participation.

C. Staff Reports

I. **New Tech High School** – *Laura Hickson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction*

Before introducing Dr. Kristin Cuilla, Director, New School Development, New Tech Network and Chris Stinson, Principal of Anson New Tech High School, Ms. Hickson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, shared with board members and individuals present for tonight's board meeting that during the April 9th District Strategic Planning Session, the question asked of the group was 'Are our students ready?' and what should be done to get our students ready? One of the resounding responses from the stakeholders was 'Project-Based Learning'. Guests at tonight's meeting are witnesses of this initiative in session. Ms. Hickson ended her introduction for the presentation of implementation of a New Tech High School with the anonymous quote "Tell me and I forget; Show me and I remember; Involve me and I understand."

Dr. Cuilla and Mr. Stinson presented the results from the implementation of the 'project-based learning' style in the Anson New Tech High School. In summary, this style of learning is Education Transformation – using 3 defining principals: Culture that empowers, Teaching that Engages, and Technology that Enables. Results from this school: 1st year-no data, 100% graduation rate 2 years in a row, 100% post secondary acceptance 2 years in a row, 98% attendance rate, rise in proficiency ranking (mid 40% to low 90%) in English I 3 years in a row. Students have to go through an application process to attend this high school. The demographics of the population for this high school are matched to the demographics of the community. Principal Stinson commented that the greatest challenges the 1st year were "getting the parents to realize that education was different now and the students realizing that they could do it."

II. **Finance Report** – *Donna Sullivan, Director of Finance*

The transparency reports are available on the website, www.florence3.k12.sc.us, under the Finance section. These reports, as well as all other financial reports, are up-to-date through March 31, 2013. Board payroll checks will be processed on April 26, 2013. A couple of documents are still needed from board members in order to process this payroll. For those who have provided all of the information, including Direct Deposit information, the pay amount should be in your accounts on April 26th.

D. Superintendent's Report – *Dr. V. Keith Callicutt, Superintendent*

I. **Legislative Update**

- *House Bill – 3265 – would exempt from property tax 42.75% of manufacturing and business property from the tax base, and these exemptions would be phased in over a four-year period. This would create a local revenue shortfall statewide of \$192 million with no replacement of state funding. This would force cities, counties, and school boards to raise millage to make-up the difference or make proportionate cuts on top of all the cuts made since 2008. (Sequestration)*
- *Senate – The Senate Finance Committee met this past Tuesday to begin budget deliberations: On Thursday the Finance Special Subcommittee chaired by Senator Wes Hayes began deliberations on Senate Bill 279 (known as School Choice Bill). This bill would provide tax credits and deductions for home school, private school, and public school transfer students.*

The committee received a summary of the bill and then agreed to conduct hearings around the state to receive input regarding the bill. The last day of session will be June 6th.

II. Comments on District Strategic Planning Session

Dr. Callicutt again thanked Laura Hickson and Barbara Woodbury on a very successful meeting on April 9th at the Nanya Banquet Hall. Dr. Callicutt commented he had never worked in a district where 106 individuals worked together on a Strategic Plan, however, this is the type of activity that gets people involved and listening to what is going on in our schools. The district is very appreciative of this effort and how it relates to looking at the future and involving our community in this process.

III. District Facilities Assessment

Jim Britton with Cumming presented to Dr. Callicutt and the FCSD3 Board of Trustees the 2013 Facility Assessment booklet. Mr. Britton defined this assessment as a 'review of all the present facilities' and, by using historical data, possible implementation of future renovations and/or additional facilities.

Cumming "reviewed the student enrollment historical data and prepared a projection, and interviewed Facility and District level administration; all in order to develop a clear understanding of the needs and facility enhancements for the district." Mr. Britton suggested to use this vast amount of information as a baseline, or starting point, and develop a committee, consisting of District and Community stakeholders to discuss and begin the process to develop a comprehensive Long Range Facility Needs Plan to be implemented. Cumming would act as moderators of these committee meetings to collect all data and organize it into a publication that includes options for the District.

IV. Report on 1st Public Forum on General Fund Budget for SY 2013-2014.

As required by local law, the first Public Forum on the FCSD3 General Fund Budget for SY 2013-2014 was presented on Tuesday, April 16, 2013. Other than staff and board members that attended, one community member attended. Dr. Callicutt did comment that he will be talking with the media to try to be sure the word is out that these meetings are available to the public, and also, that the district wants stakeholders to attend to be 'informed' and 'involved' concerning the use of tax dollars being used for our school district.

Action Items

- I. District and School Renewal Plan Updates – Barbara Woodbury, Director for Instruction and Curriculum**
Mrs. Woodbury presented to the Board of Trustees the recommendations for 'Update 3' of the 5-Year Plan (2010-2015) for the District and School Strategic Plan to be submitted to the SC Department of Education. Amy McLean made the motion to approve the recommendations as presented. Terrie Bryant provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the recommendations for 'Update 3' of the 5-Year Plan (2010-2015) for the District and School Strategic Plan to be submitted to the SC Department of Education passed 8-0.

- II. **Contract Recommendations for SY 2013-2014** – *Angelia Scott, Director for Human Resources*
Mrs. Scott presented to the Board of Trustees the contract recommendations given to Certified Personnel for SY 2013-2014. Paula Morris made the motion to accept these contract recommendations as presented. Barbara Bryant provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to accept the contract recommendations given to Certified personnel for SY 2013-2014 passed 8-0.

Public Comment – *To comment on items that appeared on the agenda – None*

FYI comment from Dr. Callicutt – *Dr. Callicutt wanted to give Kasey Feagin, Principal of Lake City High School, and her staff a special congratulations on receiving a Palmetto Gold Award for the 3rd consecutive year.*

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Barbara Bryant made the motion to adjourn. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn passed 8-0.

Date approved

Julia Mims, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Dianne C. Smith, Secretary