

Minutes of the Marion County Board of Education was held March 20, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the Marion School District Conference Room.

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Cynthia H. Legette, Chairperson
Mr. Levant Davis, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Ritta Hennecy
Mrs. Linda Neal
Mr. Charles E. White
Mrs. Ogleretta White

Board Members Absent:

Rev. Cynthia V. Brown

Call to Order: Vice-Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order due to late arrival of Chairperson Legette.

Invocation: Invocation was given by Mr. Charles White.

Notification of Board Meeting: Vice-Chairperson Davis verified that in accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media were notified of the time, date and place of the meeting. Mrs. Dianne Hopper stated that the media was notified of the date, time and place of the meeting and a copy of the Agenda was also provided.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Vice-Chairperson Davis welcomed the staff and Visitors to the March 20, 2018 meeting.

Establishment of Quorum: Vice-Chairperson Davis verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda and Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chairperson Davis asked for a motion to approve the agenda for March 20, 2018. Mrs. Hennecy moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. White, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. White).

Vice-Chairperson Davis asked for a motion to approve the regular minutes for February 20, 2018. Mrs. Hennecy moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. White, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. White).

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Curriculum and Instruction: Mrs. Andrea Jackson presented the Diploma of Excellence proposal. She stated that it is designed to encourage students to strive for more than the minimum requirements to complete high school. The requirements for the Diploma of Excellence are as follows:

1. Minimum of 29 units
2. Minimum of 4 math units and 4 science units
3. Overall Grade Point Average of B with no individual course average of less than c.

Any behavior that result in expulsion during the four-year period in High School prohibits a student from being considered for the Diplomas of Excellence. Beginning with the class of 2018, in accordance with the guidelines below the Office of Curriculum and Instruction is asking for your consideration for implementing the Marion County School District Diploma of Excellence. Previously, Marion High School has offered such an honor, with the indicated guidelines; and it is the desire of current district administration, high school administration, and high school guidance personnel to make this a district-wide opportunity.

2018-2019 Textbook Selections: Mrs. Jackson provided a list of selected textbooks for the 2018-2019 school year to be used district-wide. Representative from several schools were sent to a caravan to hear textbook consultants discuss the merits of all the textbooks available. These titles were submitted and reviewed by a District Selection Team. We are seeking Board approval of these selections. Vice-Chairperson Davis asked for a motion to approve the list of selected textbooks as presented. Mr. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Hennecy, Mr. White and Mrs. White).

Finance: Finance Report February 2018: Mr. Russell Causey was absent due to illness. Mrs. Diane Hughes gave a brief update on the Finance Report for February 2018. She stated that the year to date revenue was \$22,654,225 and the year to date expenditures were \$20,642,908. The amount of revenue under the expenditures are (\$2,011,317). The Board was also presented with a copy of the Budget timeline. After a brief review of the finance report, the Board thanked Mrs. Hughes for filling in for Mr. Causey. Dr. Bethea stated that if the Board had any questions concerning the finance report, they could contact Mr. Causey. Chairperson Legette arrived during presentation.

Facilities/Operations Report: Mr. Sturkey stated that the Request for Proposal for painting was published February 12, 2018 on the South Carolina Business Opportunities (SCBO) website. The Mandatory Pre-Bid meeting was held February 22, 2018, and the Bid opening was March 13, 2018. Five of eight potential bidders submitted bids with bids ranging by each location as follows:

- Britton's Neck Elementary Hallways: \$6,750 to \$32,362
- Johnakin Middle School: \$70,200 to \$213,513
- Mullins High School: \$82,600 to \$247,817
- Easterling Primary School kindergarten Bldg. 1 \$6,590 to \$12,400

Mr. Sturkey gave an update for the Adult Ed Phase II at the Marion County Academy of Careers and Technology: FBI construction installed the ADA required signage in the building March 13th.

District Safety Team Meeting: Mr. Sturkey stated that the District Safety Team March 6, 2018 at 3:45 to map out Cr roll-out. CrisisGo, is an electronic copy of the current emergency management guide flip charts that are used by the district.

Transportation - Bus Bulletin: Bus driver appreciation will be held March 19th through March 23rd. We appreciate our bus drivers. They take on the awesome responsibility of ensuring that our students to and from school safely each day.

Security camera and door scan cards: A3 Communications is working to install the

cameras. They are currently on schedule with the project. Once the cameras are installed, they will begin work on the door.

Columbus Williams Track: The County Administrator Tim Harper wants the district approval prior to the County Attorney completing the agreement to transfer the property to the County. The discussion was continued in executive session.

Rains Centenary: The RCE school building is currently being used as a storage facility for MCSD. It was once used as a hub for the IT Department's network connectivity to Area 7, but that has since been relocated. Cheryl Woodward of Full Potential Real Estate in Horry County is working in behalf of her client who is interested in purchasing the RCE property and is presently renovating the Hanes building for office space. It is approximately 7.69 acres based on the county line mapping program and includes the former MSD7 district office. Her client is hoping to solidify things within 8 to 12 months and is affiliated with the 1212 Development Corp and Summit Logistics Group (a trucking company). The District has plans in progress to renovate the former MSD7 into living quarters (a teacherage) and received a grant to renovate the cost of the renovation. Ms. Woodward's client has her sight set on purchasing an adjacent property owned by the Rains Freewill Baptist Church which encompasses roughly 40 acres.

Marion County Sheriff's Office: After our conversation on March 7, 2018, Sheriff Wallace would like an agreement to continue to use our Northside Avenue building. Until the end of the year. Their plans to relocate has been delayed.

Pest Control Survey: There was a survey done by each school on the performance of our new pest control company, Eastland Pest Control of Lake City. Each said they were satisfied with the company and rated the company 4 out of 5 for each question.

Human Resources Report / Updates - Mrs. Paula Grant: Mrs. Paula Grant gave a brief update. Dr. Bethea asked that personnel action be discussed in executive session.

Special Services Report – South Carolina Credential Policy: Mrs. Amanda Dale gave a brief presentation on the South Carolina Credential Policy for Board approval. She stated that roughly 100,000 students with disabilities serviced under the Individuals with Disabilities Education ACT (IDEA) of which the majority are able to earn a State high school diploma. Given the varying levels of student achievement, some students are unable to complete this required high school coursework. As a result, there is a need to provide an alternative option for students with disabilities to demonstrate their ability to transition into the work community. The uniform, state-recognized SC High School Credential will be aligned to a newly created course of study for these students with disabilities whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) team determines this course of study is appropriate. The SC High School Credential will provide a course of study designed to equip students with the skills, knowledge and work ethic needed to succeed in today's job market. Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve the South Carolina Credential Policy. Mr. Davis moved, seconded by Mrs. Hennecy to give first reading approval to the policy; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mr. White, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. White).

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Bethea presented her monthly updates to the Board. During the presentation Dr. Bethea was asked about the salary scale, but the Board agreed to table until next month. See Attachment.

Review and Action: Out-of-State Travel: Dr. Bethea presented the following Out-of-State travel request for approval. She stated that it would be no cost to the district and the amount of chaperones needed were also listed as required.

- (1) Overnight Travel: ACT/Cosmetology / Nail Tech State Board Exam Columbia, South Carolina May 13 – 14, 2018.
- (2) Out-of-State Travel: Johnakin Middle School 8th Grade Social Studies Washington, D.C. April 2 – 6, 2018
- (3) Out –of State Travel: Marion High School Senior Field Trip Tampa, Florida May 11 – 13, 2018
- (4) Out –of State Travel: Mullins High School Senior Field Trip Atlanta, Georgia April 13- 15, 2018

Dr. Bethea stated that Mullins High School had previously been approved for an out of state trip to Florida earlier, but due to participation being few, they will not be able to attend. So the participants who did raise their funds are asking to get approved for Atlanta, Georgia. They have already raised their money for this trip. We are looking at the possibility of merging a trip to Florida if Marion High Seniors raise their funds for their senior trip. The Board reviewed the request for travel briefly and Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Mrs. Linda Neal, seconded by Mrs. White to approve the Out-of-County and Over-Night travel request with the stipulation that the funds needed are raised with no cost to the District and the Board voted unanimously to approve (Mrs. Hennecy, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Public Participation: None.

Dates to Remember: Conference / meeting Reminders: Chairperson Legette reminded the Board of the upcoming events and meetings.

- MCBOE Tour of Schools – Former School District #7 3/27/2018
- MCBOE Election 4/10/2018
- MCBOE Monthly Board Meeting.

Chairperson Legette, along with the other board members began by thanking Mrs. Hennecy for her services as a board member and the contributions she has made to the educational system. She responded by saying that it has been an experience and she has enjoyed serving.

The Board members expressed their concerns about different issues. Mrs. Neal had concerns about the gym floor for Palmetto Junior. Mrs. Neal stated that the floor was getting worst and something needed to be done about it. At one time it was said that the heating and cooling replacement would be fix the problem, but it has not. Some repairs or changes needed to be done. The Board asked Mr. Sturkey to check into

this situation and get back with a cost. Vice-Chairperson Davis asked about whether the cosmetic repairs had been done at Britton's Neck Elementary.

Executive Session: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to go into executive session. Motion by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Hennecy to go into executive session for personnel, contractual matters and legal briefing; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. C. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Hennecy).

Out of Executive Session: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Motion by Mrs. Hennecy, seconded by Mr. White; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (Vice-Chairman Davis, Mr. C. White, Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White and Chairperson Legette).

Chairperson Legette stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Motion made by Vice-Chairperson Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hennecy to deed the Columbus Williams Track to the County and when not in use it will revert back to the School District; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Motion made by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Neal accept the Superintendent's professional staff recommendations and regular personnel action of addendum including submitting the previously mentioned teacher to the State Department for breach of contract; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Neal and Mr. C. White

Motion made by Mr. White, seconded by Mrs. Neal to accept the bid of Paint design from Conway for Easterling Primary School and Britton's Neck Elementary School; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Chairperson Legette, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Motion made by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Mrs. White to accept the bid of Taylor Made Contracting Company from Camden for Johnakin Middle School and Mullins High School; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this recommendation (Mrs. Hennecy, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chairman Davis, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White and Chairperson Legette).

Adjournment: Chairperson Legette asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Mrs. Hennecy, seconded by Mrs. White; and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. (Mrs. Hennecy, Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White, and Chairperson Legette). Adjourned at 8:13 p.m.