

MARION COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM
719 North Main Street – Marion, South Carolina 29571
March 17, 2020

Board Members Present: Chairperson- Cynthia H. Legette, Vice-Chairperson Levant Davis, Mrs. Ogleretta White, Mr. Charles E. White and Mrs. Linda Neal.

Board Members (Virtual Screening): Mrs. Patricia Atkinson and Rev. Cynthia V. Brown

Board Members Absent: None

Call to Order & Notification of Board Meeting: The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board Chair -Legette. In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media was notified of the time, date and place of the meeting. Mrs. Hopper stated that the media was notified of the meeting and a copy of the Agenda was also provided.

Invocation: Invocation was given by Vice-Chairperson Davis.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Chairperson-Legette welcomed the staff and visitors to the March 17, 2020 meeting and stated that other Board members (Patricia Atkinson and Reverend Cynthia V. Brown) were present through virtual screening. Attorney Charles Boykin and Auditor Mr. Larry Finney also participated through virtual screening.

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

Approval of Agenda: Mrs. Neal moved, second by Mrs. O. White to approve the agenda; and the vote was unanimous. (Mr. C. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. O. White, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair-Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved request through virtual screening.

Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chairperson Davis moved, second by Mrs. Neal to approve the minutes of February 18, 2020 meeting; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chair Davis, Mrs. O. White and Chair-Legette). Mrs. Atkinson and Rev. Brown approved request through virtual screening.

Special Recognition Students / Staff: Chairperson-Legette stated that this item would be placed on the agenda at a later date due to the safety precautions for the Corvid -19 virus.

Professional Service Contract: Mr. Larry Finney through Virtual screening thanked the Board for allowing his auditing firm to serve the Marion School District. He gave a brief update and expressed his interest in serving for the 2020-2021 school term. The Board thanked Mr. Finney for his services and stated that this would be discussed in executive session.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Finance: Finance Report February 2020: Dr. Bethea informed the Board that Mrs. Duncan was not feeling well, so she went home. Chairperson Legette stated that the finance report was sent to you earlier and you've had time to review it, and if we have any questions, we can email them to Dr. Bethea and Mrs. Duncan to get the answers.

Bond Resolution: Mrs. Donna Sullivan gave a brief update on the Bond Resolution renewal. Mrs. O. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson / Vice Chairperson Davis to approve the bond resolution as presented; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Facilities/Operations Report – Mr. Leon Sturkey stated that his report would need an executive session.

Human Resources Report / Updates - Mrs. Paula Grant: Dr. Bethea stated that an executive session was needed for personnel.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Bethea stated that her report had been previously received by the Board, but at this time she would be updating the Board on procedures that are being put in place for Marion County School District in reference to the Corona Virus (Corvid -19). See Attachment Report.

Review and Action: Out-of-State Travel: Dr. Bethea presented the following Out- of State and over-night travel requests for approval. This is an incentive trip for the students. The number of chaperones needed are also listed as required.

Over-Night Travel: Academy for Careers / First Robotics team will travel to the Palmetto Regional Competition to an International STEM Event @ Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on February 26 - 29, 2020

Over-Night Travel: Academy for Careers / ACR will travel to the Skills USA Student

Competition @ John Harris Body Shop in Greer, South Carolina on March 20 - 21, 2020.

Over-Night Travel: Marion High School Varsity Wrestling will travel to 3-A Lower State Wrestling Championships @ May River High School in Bluffton, South Carolina on February 20 - 21, 2020.

Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Mr. C. White to approve this travel request with consideration of State band on travel; and the vote was unanimous (Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal, Vice-Chair Davis, Mrs. O. White and Mr. C. White). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Review and Action: Student Transfer and Release: Dr. Bethea presented the student transfer and release recommendations to the Board for approval. Mrs. O. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve the transfer request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve (Vice-Chairperson Davis, Mrs. O. White, Mr. C. White, Mrs. Neal and Chairperson Legette). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Dates - to Remember - Conference / Meeting Reminders/ Board Comments: Chair-Legette

reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings and events. If you plan to attend, contact Mrs. Hopper.

Executive Session: Chairperson-Legette asked for a motion to enter executive session for Contractual matters, Personnel and Legal updates. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mr. C. White; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Neal, Mr. C. White, Chair-Legette, Vice-Chair Davis and Mrs. O. White). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Open Session: Chairperson-Legette asked for a motion to exit executive session and re-enter open session. Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Rev. Brown; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Neal, Chair-Legette, Mrs. O. White, Vice-Chair Davis and Mr. C. White). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

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

Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Vice-Chairperson to accept the proposal from Trane to look at the facilities; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Mrs. O. White moved, seconded by Mr. C. White to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for a three (3) year contract retroactive back to January 1, 2020; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Mrs. Neal moved, seconded by Mr. C. White to renew the Auditor's contract for three (3) years; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Mrs. O. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to grant the District authority to remove items of value from the buildings that are being sold and auction those items prior to the buildings being sold; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Vice-Chairperson Davis moved, seconded by Mrs. O. White to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for personnel approval; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Mrs. O. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.

Adjournment: Chairperson-Legette asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. O. White moved, seconded by Mr. C. White; and the vote was unanimous (Mr. C. White, Chair-Legette, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. O. White and Vice-Chair Davis). Rev. Brown and Mrs. Atkinson approved the request through virtual screening.