

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting

March 16, 2021

Board Members Present: Chairperson- Ogleretta White, Vice Chairperson-Patricia Atkinson, Levant Davis, Mrs. Susan Pridgen, Mrs. Foxworth and Mrs. Linda Neal.

Board Members Virtual: Rev. Cynthia V. Brown (Zoom).

Call to Order & Notification of Board Workshop: The Board meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairperson-White. 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: A Moment of Silence.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Chairperson-White welcomed the staff to the March 16, 2021 meeting.

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

Approval of Agenda: Chairperson White asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Davis moved, seconded by Mrs. Pridgen to approve the March 16, 2021 agenda; and the vote was unanimous. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Pridgen, Rev. Brown, Vice-Chairperson-Atkinson, Chairperson-White, Mrs. Neal and Mr. Davis).

Approval of Minutes: Chairperson White asked that the minutes the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2021, Policy Workshop minutes, February 23, 2021 and minutes of the Budget Workshop March 2, 2021 be approved. Mrs. Foxworth moved, seconded by Mr. Davis to approve these minutes; and the vote was unanimous. (Vice Chairperson-Atkinson, Mrs. Neal, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Pridgen, Rev. Brown, Chairperson-White and Mrs. Foxworth).

SCSBA Board Recognition: Dr. Bethea, along with Chairperson-White presented certificates from the SCSBA recognizing Mrs. Nadine Foxworth and Mrs. Pridgen for completing New Board Member Orientation. Rev. Brown was presented a plaque and pin for reaching Level 6 (Highest Level) for the South Carolina School Board Association.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Curriculum and Instruction Report/Updates 2021-2022 Calendar: Ms. Melonie Gordon presented the calendar for the 2021-2022 school year for the Board's approval. It had previously been voted on and chosen by the Marion School District. Ms. Gordon made the Board aware that there maybe some changes pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic and weather conditions. After a brief discussion, Chairperson White asked for a motion to approve the 2021-2022 calendar for the upcoming school year. Motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Rev. Brown; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request with the knowledge that it may be revised later. (Rev. Brown, Chairperson-White, Vice Chairperson- Atkinson, Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Pridgen and Mr. Davis). The Board thanked Ms. Gordon for her report.

Finance Report December 2020: Mr. Lane presented the Finance Report for the month of February. After Mr. Lane's presentation, the Board thanked him for the report.

Facilities/Operations Report: Mr. Sturkey presented the Operation's report for the month. He also briefly discussed the Fox Field and minor repairs that may be done by the District.

See Attached.

Contractual Services for 2021-2022 School Year (RFP): Mr. Sturkey stated that he would need Board approval for the RFP for the Lawn maintenance, pest control and custodial supplies for 2021-2022. After a brief discussion, Chairperson White asked for a motion to approve the RFP for 2021-2022. Vice Chairperson-Atkinson moved, seconded by Mrs. Neal to approve the RFP as recommended by the Superintendent; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (, Mrs. Foxworth, Rev. Brown, Chairperson-White, Vice Chairperson- Atkinson, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Pridgen and Mr. Davis). The Board thanked Mr. Sturkey for his report.

Human Resources Report / Updates – Mrs. Paula Grant presented the personnel actions for Board approval. Chairperson White asked for a motion to approve the personnel actions. After a brief discussion in reference to resignations during the middle of the school year, motion was made by Mrs. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Foxworth to approve the personnel actions as recommended by the Superintendent; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (Rev. Brown, Chairperson-White, Vice Chairperson- Atkinson, Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Pridgen and Mr. Davis). The Board thanked Mrs. Grant for her report.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Bethea presented the Board with an update of her report. (See attached report).

Public Participation: None

Amended Agenda to Add Drafted Resolution: Chairperson White asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add the drafted resolution for review. Mrs. Foxworth moved,

seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the amended agenda to add the drafted resolution; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (Mrs. Pridgen, Mrs. Neal, Mr. Deal, Mrs. Foxworth, Rev. Brown, Chairperson-White and Vice Chairperson-Atkinson).

Drafted Resolution: Chairperson White asked for a motion to approve the Drafted Resolution for the late Ritta Hennecy and to be given to her family at a later Board meeting. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mrs. Pridgen to approve the drafted resolution; and the Board voted unanimously to approve this request. (Vice Chairperson- Atkinson, Mrs. Pridgen, Mrs. Neal, Mr. Deal, Mrs. Foxworth, Rev. Brown and Chairperson-White).

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

Chairperson White reminded members of the upcoming meetings and events. She stated that immediately after the Strategic Planning Workshop on March 30th @ 6:00 pm, the Board would begin the process of debriefing some of the selected policies and will continue during Phase II of the Budget Workshop on April 13, 2021 @ 6:00 pm.

NSBA Online Experience 2021- April 8-10, 2021: Chairperson White, along with other members of the Board expressed financial concerns in reference to becoming a member and also attending the National School Board Association at this time. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed not to attend this year, but look into the cost of being a member.

Mr. Davis informed the Board of a former graduate Mr. Franklin Davis from the Southern part of the County, who is now working with the Biden's Administration.

Executive Session: Chairperson-White stated that no executive session was needed

Adjournment: Chairperson White asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairperson – Atkinson moved, seconded by Mrs. Foxworth to approve this request; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Pridgen, Mr. Davis and Chairperson-White). Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Marion County Board of Education

Operations Report

March 2021

Facilities/Operations Report

Facilities Study

The district is in the beginning stage of a facilities study. It is our goal to have the following evaluated in the study: comfort, security, accessibility, illumination, ventilation, aesthetics, mechanical system, plumbing, electrical systems, telecommunications, fire suppression, athletic facilities, playgrounds, and parking lots. The RFQ was issued on February 26, 2021. Bids will be opened on March 15th at 10:00 am.

Mullins High School Fire Alarm Panel

The South Carolina Department of Education Office of School Facilities, has given approval for the district to replace the Mullins High School fire alarm panel. The bid was published on March 4, 2021, and will be received until April 1, 2021 at 9:30 am.

Contractual Services for the 2021-2022 Schools

Staff is asking to issue RFP's for the following services:

- Lawn maintenance
- Pest Control
- Custodial Supplies

Deferred maintenance projects

Staff is currently reviewing budget requests for deferred maintenance requests from schools. A list of priority projects will be presented at the April board meeting.

Spring Athletics

Copies of spring schedules are attached.

Marion High Spring Sports Schedules 2021

Date	Baseball	Softball	Boy's Soccer	Girl's Soccer
March 5	Carver's Bay 6pm	March 2 Carver's Bay #Scrimmage		
March 6	@Conway 1pm	March 6 @Dillon #Scrimmage		
March 8-10	Tourney-TBD			
March 15	@South Florence#DH 6pm			
March 18	@Loris 6pm	March 23 @Andrews*	March 1 Darlington	March 1 Darlington
March 23	@Andrews*	March 26 Andrews*	March 9 @Conway	March 9 @Conway 6pm
March 26	Andrews*	April 1 Kingstree* #DH 6pm	March 17 Pee Dee Academy	March 12 Conway 8pm
April 1	Kingstree* #DH 6pm	April 12 Marlboro County	March 23 Andrews*	March 17 Pee Dee Academy 5pm
April 6-9	Spring Break	April 13 @Lee Central*	March 31 @Aynor	March 23 Andrews*
April 13	@Lee Central*	April 15 @Marlboro County	April 15 @Andrews*	March 31 @Aynor
April 16	Lee Central*	April 16 Lee Central*	April 19 Loris	April 15 @Andrews
April 20	Latta*	April 20 Latta*	April 22 @Pee Dee Academy	April 19 Loris
April 23	@Latta*	April 23 @Latta*	April 26 @Loris	April 22 @Pee Dee Academy 5pm
April 27	@Mullins*	April 27 @Mullins*	May 3 First Round Playoffs	April 26 @Loris
April 30	Mullins*	April 30 Mullins*		May 3 First Round Playoffs
May 6	Loris	May 3 Conway		
		May 6 Loris		
		May 7 @Loris		
		May 11 @Conway		
May 15	First Round Districts	May 15 First Round Districts		
Region Games	Start @8pm	*Region Games* Start @6pm	*Region Games* Start @7pm unless noted	*Region Games* Start @5:30pm unless noted

[illegible]

Color Codes: Blue=Not Wake Up, Yellow=Rescheduled Pares or Sins, Green=Rain Out

2021 BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL SCHEDULES

(Due on or before February 1, 2021)

SCHOOL Mullins High School

INSTRUCTIONS: THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED. Also, send a copy of this form to the Directors in your district that book **baseball and softball**.

Coach Name Chad Palowski

Coach Name Brooke Kirkland

BASEBALL			
Date	Time	Opponent	H/A
3-15	5:30	Lake View	H
3-17	6:00	Green Sea Floyds	H
3-19	5:30	Lake View	A
3-22	6:00	Loris	H
3-23	6:00	Lee Central	A
3-25	6:00	Loris	A
3-26	6:00	Lee Central	H
3-29	6:00	Andrews	H
4-1	6:00	Andrews	A
4-12	6:00	Green Sea Floyds	A
4-13	6:00	Latta (DH)	H
4-20	6:00	Kingstree	A
4-23	6:00	Kingstree	H
4-27	6:00	Marion	H
4-30	6:00	Marion	A

SOFTBALL			
Date	Time	Opponent	H/A
3-15	5:30	Lake View	H
3-17	6:00	Green Sea Floyds	H
3-19	5:30	Lake View	A
3-23	6:00	Lee Central	A
3-24	6:00	Loris	H
3-25	6:00	Loris	A
3-26	6:00	Lee Central	H
3-29	6:00	Andrews	H
4-1	6:00	Andrews	A
3-12	6:00	Green Sea Floyds	A
4-13	6:00	Latta (DH)	H
4-20	6:00	Kingstree	A
4-23	6:00	Kingstree	H
4-27	6:00	Marion	H
4-30	6:00	Marion	A

Region Boys Tennis Schedule

March 16

HP @ GSF

Marion @ Mullins

March 18

GSF @ HP

Mullins @ Marion

March 23

Marion @ HP

GSF @ Mullins

March 25

HP @ Marion

Mullins @ GSF

March 30

HP @ Mullins

Marion @ GSF

April 1

Mullins @ HP

GSF @ Marion



Superintendent's Monthly Update to the Board

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

We Are Marion County! Educate • Prepare • Inspire

General Administrative Reminders/Updates from the Office of Superintendent:

5 Day Face-to-Face: Week 1

Our primary and elementary school faculty, staff and students did a phenomenal job this week! It was nice visiting schools seeing our students safely interacting with peers! We can't wait for the full return of our middle and high school students!

Board One-on-One Sessions:

Individual sessions with Board members have started and I wish to thank each of you for taking time to engage in a dialogue with me, as we collaborate and share ideas, challenges, and bright spots with a goal of making decisions that will benefit our students.

Marion County Sale of Blumenthal:

A special "Thank You" to Marion County Administration for presenting the district with an unexpected check that was made possible due to the sale of Blumenthal Mills (for ½ of taxes generated - \$201,901.24).

Upcoming Student Outreach Initiatives:

In an effort to reconnect with students that have withdrawn during the pandemic, the district will be sending a postcard to each student who still lives in the County. The postcards will have a special message from me, letting the students know that we miss them and we look forward to having them back in our schools soon!

We are also having Door Hangers made to personally connect with students that are having attendance or truancy issues. The goal will be for a school official to visit the homes of students that are on the path to truancy. The door hanger will be a friendly reminder that they need to reconnect with schools.

Both of these projects will be in effect after Spring Break!

Human Resources:

February was an exciting month as we continued to host our weekly virtual recruitment fairs and also attended virtual fairs hosted by colleges and universities. These activities will continue throughout March as well. We have met with all Principals to begin the personnel needs assessment for staffing for 2021-2022 and the Teacher of the Year selection process is underway.

Student Services:

The district's Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) team, composed of 20 district administrators, principals, lead teachers and counselors meets monthly to create a system of support in all MCSD schools as it relates to attendance, social-emotional learning, behavior and academics. The State Department of Education, as well as the Behavioral Alliance of South Carolina, provides external support to the leadership efforts of our district's MTSS team. A vision has been developed and the team's focus is on strengthening MTSS leadership at the district and school level.

Technology:

Technology is working on a plan for the collection of the student devices as well as a plan to reimage and repair those devices. We are also continuing to respond to helpdesk calls and emails though we are not manning the desk at this time due to a tremendous drop in call volume. Calls are now going straight to voicemail after 8:30 and are being returned by a technician.



Superintendent's Monthly Update to the Board

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

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Federal Programs:

- We are in preparation for a Title III Monitoring Visit and are conducting an internal personnel audit of positions.
- RBHS (Medicaid Program) is being restructured.
- We are brainstorming ways to address SPED student academic loss.
- The finance departments (Title I, Title III, Title IV, Title V, and IDEA) of Federal Programs are preparing to closeout funding that ends June 30, 2021.

Teaching & Learning:

- Sixty percent of the 235 survey respondents would like their children to attend Virtual Academy in the 2021-2022.
- Planning for Spring Testing.
- Continuing the Strategic Planning process.
- Planning summer PD for teachers, planning summer programs for students (enrichment and intervention)
- Pacing and planning sessions have now been held for all "tested areas" core subjects.
- Spring writing prompts were administered to all students in grades Kindergarten - English 2. Teachers are in the process of scoring the writing prompts and planning next steps.
- Read Across America Week was celebrated March 1 - 5, 2021. Each day schools participated in planned activities and a guest reader read a Dr. Seuss book.