

Minutes

6 p.m., November 17, 2020, Regular Monthly Meeting

Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

In attendance

Board members present-

Ken Buck, Janice Dabney (Vice-Chair), Tyrom Faulkner (Chair), Margaret Gamble, Bobby Parker (Secretary), Brad Small, and Melvin Stroble

Board members absent-

None

District personnel-

TJ Armbrust (LearnTV), Linda Blackwell (Elementary Director), Tim Bowers (Facilities), Rachel Bradley (Assistant to Superintendent), Rick Chandler (Attorney), Michelle Craig (Public Information Specialist), John Duke (Facilities), Butch Dutton (Secondary Director), Trevor Hammond (Procurement Director), Angela McCrorey (Food Services Director), Paul McKenzie, Jr. (LearnTV), Jonathan Phipps (Superintendent), Lydia Quinn (Chief Operations Officer), Ray Sapp (Security Guard), David Small (Facilities Director), Blake Stacks (IT Director), and Jennifer White (Chief Financial Officer)

Guests-

0

Press-

Mac Banks (*The Lancaster News*)

Citizens-

7

Open session

Call to order and invocation-

BABA

At 6:04 pm., board attorney, Rick Chandler, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Chandler gave the INVOCATION.

Notice to media-

BCBB

In accordance with the SC Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, Cable 2, The Herald, the Kershaw News Era, The Lancaster News, WBTV, WRHM and WSOC were notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

Election of 2021 Chair -

BBAA, BBABA

Mr. Chandler explained the process for election of officers. Mr. Chandler called for nominations for chair.

Mr. Parker **NOMINATED** Mr. Faulkner for chair. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Chandler called for a **MOTION** to close nominations.

A **MOTION** to close nominations was made by Ms. Dabney and seconded by Mr. Stroble.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Faulkner commented on his leadership as chair if elected.

A vote to **ELECT** Mr. Faulkner unanimously (7-0).

**Election of 2021 Vice Chair -
BBAA, BBABA**

Mr. Chandler called for nominations for vice chair.
Mr. Stroble **NOMINATED** Mr. Stroble for vice chair.
Mr. Faulkner **NOMINATED** Ms. Dabney for vice chair.
Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Chandler called for a **MOTION** to close nominations.

A **MOTION** to close nominations was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Small.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Stroble commented on his ability to help improve communication if elected vice chair.

Ms. Dabney commented on her goal of being a supportive role for the chair if elected.

A vote to **ELECT** Mr. Stroble did not pass (2-4-1, Ms. Gamble abstained)

A vote to **ELECT** Ms. Dabney passed (4-2-1, Ms. Gamble abstained).

**Election of 2021 Secretary -
BBAA, BBABA**

Mr. Chandler called for nominations for secretary.

Mr. Stroble **NOMINATED** Mr. Stroble for secretary.

Ms. Dabney **NOMINATED** Mr. Parker for secretary.

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Chandler called for a **MOTION** to close nominations.

A **MOTION** to close nominations was made by Mr. Faulkner and seconded Mr. Stroble.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

Mr. Stroble commented that he felt he could fill this role successfully.

Mr. Parker commented that he would do whatever was needed to fulfill this role properly.

A vote to **ELECT** Mr. Stroble did not pass (2-4-1, Ms. Gamble abstained)

A vote to **ELECT** Mr. Parker passed (4-2-1, Ms. Gamble abstained).

Executive session

**Executive session-
BCBK, GBC/D, GBO, GBN, DFN, FGB**

The chair announced the purpose for executive session was to receive resignations/retirements/terminations, 2020-21, certified and non-certified employment recommendations.

The **MOTION** to enter executive session was made and seconded. The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

**Motion to Move Discussion
Information Item-**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Buck and seconded by Mr. Stroble to move item M1, COVID-19 Update, from Discussion Information to before Public Forum.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

**Approval of meeting agenda-
BCBD**

The chair called for approval of the agenda as emailed.

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Dabney and seconded by Mr. Buck to approve the agenda as emailed.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

**Executive session action-
BCBK**

The chair noted that the board held an executive session at 6:00 p.m.

- In open session, a **MOTION** was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Parker to accept resignations/retirements/terminations.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

- In open session, a **MOTION** was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Buck to accept the superintendent's certified employment recommendations for the 2020-21 school year.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0).

- In open session, a **MOTION** was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Buck to accept the superintendent's recommendation to extend the following contracts for services for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Online Student Enrollment Services:

PowerSchool

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (7-0)

The chair reported the board had completed its executive session business.

COVID-19 update -

Dr. Phipps recognized Ms. Quinn who gave a presentation on the district COVID-19 cases. Dr. Phipps and Ms. Quinn then updated the board on the plans to return elementary school students to 4 days of in person instruction. Dr. Phipps announced that elementary students on the hybrid A & B days will begin 4 day in person instruction on December 7th. The flex day will move from Wednesday to Friday for all students and staff. Dr. Phipps discussed with the board that the desk shields that were provided by the State Department will be used in the elementary schools until correct plexiglass shields, that meet DHEC guidelines, can be ordered and installed. Dr. Phipps also stated that middle and high school students will start back at a later date.

**Public forum-
BCBI**

The chair outlined the procedures for addressing the board and invited any member of the audience to come forward.

6 members of the public came forward. Charlene Hunter spoke about her desire for students to return to more face-to-face instruction days and about her child's struggle with the current hybrid schedule. Courtney Green spoke about her appreciation of the decision to transition into 4 day face-to-face instruction. Kysha Frazier came forward to speak about making updates to board policies to include racial harrassment. Mark Griffith spoke in support of the teachers, staff, and district personel for their hard work and tough decisions during this time. Matt Sistare spoke about his concerns regarding the

**Approval of consent action items-
BCBD**

safety of students and staff when returning to more face-to-face instruction days. Ruthanne Effren spoke about her concerns in regards to middle schoolers who are struggling during first semester and how to help them before second semester begins.

The chair called for approval of consent action items below.

- Minutes of **October 20** regular meeting and **October 29** called meeting(BCBH)
- **Early Head Start** monthly financial report (DC, IDDH)
- **Head Start** monthly financial report (DC, IDDH)

**Recommendation to approve regular
monthly financial report-
DCH**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Ms. White, who reported expenditures and revenues were in line with the budget.

A MOTION to approve the report was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Small.

The motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**Recommendation to approve
the change in weight of Final Exams –
IDAB**

Dr. Phipps recognized Mr. Dutton, who discussed the waiver offered by the State Department to reduce the weight of final exams.

Dr. Phipps recommended the board approve the change in weight of final exams.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Small to approve the document.

The motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**Recommendation to approve
courses for the Course Guide –
memo
IDAB**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to the handout and recognized Mr. Dutton, who reviewed courses for the course guide.

Dr. Phipps recommended the board approve the courses for the course guide.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Buck to approve the document.

The motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**Affirmation of board policies
for 2021 -
BDE**

Dr. Phipps stated the board needed to affirm its policies and the board could change the policies during the year as allowed by policy.

A MOTION to affirm policies was made by Mr. Buck and seconded by Mr. Small.

The motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**Statement of 2021 regular meet-
ing dates and times -
BCAA, BCAB**

Dr. Phipps stated the board meetings would be on the third Tuesday, except for June and December. He also noted the board would set its spring and fall board superintendent planning meetings later.

A MOTION to set the board meeting dates and times was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Ms. Dabney

The motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**Receipt of consent
information items-
BCBD**

The board agreed to receive without discussion the reports below as consent information items. The reports were emailed to board members before the meeting.

1. 2019-2020 **Audit update**
2. 2020 College **Application Day**
3. Parent/teacher **conferences**
4. Early Head Start/Head Start director's monthly **report**
5. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly October 28 Policy Council **minutes**
6. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly federal **progress summary**
7. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly **enrollment & attendance**
8. South Carolina School Boards Association **information**

**Facilities Update -
EBI**

Dr. Phipps recognized David Small, John Duke, and Tim Bowers who updated the board on the new Indian Land High School and the plan for the needed repairs and renovations in the old Indian Land High school.

Adjournment-

With no other business before the board, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: _____

Robert W. Parker, Secretary

Tyrom Faulkner, Chair