

Minutes

6 p.m., December 8, 2020, Regular Monthly Meeting

Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

In attendance

Board members present-

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

Board members absent-

Tyrom Faulkner (Chair)

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), Quinton Harris (LearnTV), Angela McCrorey (Food Services Director), 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-

Carson Bise (TischlerBise), Harris Darver (DarverKelly)

Press-

Mac Banks (*The Lancaster News*)

Citizens-

2

Open session

Call to order and invocation- BABA

At 7:00 pm., chair, Ms. Dabney called the meeting to order.

Ms. Dabney 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, WBTW, WRHM and WSOC were notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

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 employment recommendations.

The MOTION to enter executive session was made and seconded. The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0). Mr. Faulkner was absent.

Approval of meeting agenda- BCBD

The chair called for approval of the agenda as emailed.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Stroble to approve the agenda as emailed.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0). Mr. Faulkner was absent.

**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. Small to accept resignations/retirements/terminations.

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

Mr. Faulkner was absent.

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

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

Mr. Faulkner was absent.

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

**Public forum-
BCBI**

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

One member of the public came forward. Jose Luis spoke about concerns regarding virtual learning, the hybrid schedule, the mental and emotional health of students, and student grades for this year in comparison to last year.

**Approval of consent action items-
BCBD**

The chair called for approval of consent action items below.

- Minutes of **November 13** planning meeting and **November 17** regular 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 (6-0).

Mr. Faulkner was absent.

**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. **FY 2020-21** 45-day average daily membership
2. Early Head Start/Head Start director's monthly **report**
3. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly Nov. 17 Policy Council **minutes**
4. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly federal **progress summary**

Impact Fee Update -

- 5. Early Head Start/Head Start monthly **enrollment & attendance**
- 6. South Carolina School Boards Association **information**

Dr. Phipps recognized Ms. White, who introduced Mr. Bise. Mr. Bise gave a presentation and update on impact fees. He explained the process and gave an analysis of Lancaster County's need in the coming years for more schools in the Indian Land area.

Receipt of 2019-20 external audit -

Dr. Phipps recognized Ms. White, who introduced Mr. Darver. He reviewed the audit and stated the district received a good audit with one deficiency, that an asset didn't get posted.

He thanked the accounting staff for its cooperation and commended the district for its financial program. The report will be presented for approval during the January 19 meeting.

Elementary Instruction update - Arts -

Dr. Phipps recognized Dr. Blackwell who introduced Ms. Knox, the district's Arts and Science Specialist, who gave a presentation on the district becoming an arts focus district. She explained what students are currently doing in the arts and the programs in place at each school. She also discussed how the district can improve its arts programs and the goal to have every school in the district have arts classes and programs.

Dr. Blackwell also gave a presentation to the board on the what the classroom setup looks like for the elementary students who have returned to 4 days of face-to-face class instruction. She discussed the issues with students being unable to hear or see the teacher or smartboard properly through the protective shields.

Secondary Instruction update -

Dr. Phipps recognized Mr. Dutton who gave an update on instruction for the middle and high school students. He spoke about teachers and principals working daily to help make sure all students, especially seniors, have the credits and courses they need going into second semester. Mr. Dutton also discussed how the change in weight of end of course testing will help provide students with some relief.

COVID-19 update -

Dr. Phipps recognized Ms. Quinn who gave a presentation on the district COVID-19 cases as of December 8th. Ms. Quinn discussed the rise in cases and that there might be more complex situations coming up with flu season starting. She also discussed with the board what information has been released regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and where teachers and educational staff might fall in the categories of workers who will be able to get the vaccine first.

Facilities Update -
EBI

Dr. Phipps recognized David Small, John Duke, and Tim Bowers who updated the board on the new Indian Land High. Mr. Duke showed the board a **slideshow** of arial shots of the new Indian Land High School and discussed the inspection dates and final parts of the project.

With no other business before the board, the vice-chair adjourned the meeting at 9:44p.m.

Adjournment-
BCBF
Respectfully submitted,

Approved: _____

Robert W. Parker, Secretary

Tyrom Faulkner, Chair