

Lexington County School District Three Board of Trustees
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Lexington County School District Three District Office
338 W. Columbia Avenue
Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29006

Minutes

Board Members Present: Billy Berry, Cheryl Burgess, Craig Caughman, Stacey Derrick, Dr. Gariane Gunter, Lancer Shull

Board Member Absent: Rev. Leon Drafts

1.0 Opening Business 7:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call To Order – Dr. Gariane Gunter, Chair
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance – Dr. Gariane Gunter, Chair
- 1.3 Prayer – Mr. Billy Berry
- 1.4 Approval of Agenda
 - Cheryl Burgess made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Second: Stacey Derrick Action: motion carried unanimously
- 1.5 Approval of minutes for June 13, 2017 Regular Board meeting and July 11, 2017 Board Work Session
 - Stacey Derrick made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 13 Regular Board meeting and the July 11 Board Work Session.
Second: Craig Caughman Action: motion carried unanimously

2.0 Consent Items

- 2.1 Financial report – Mrs. Angela Rhoden, Director of Finance
 - Cheryl Burgess asked why some of the larger amounts than usual? Is this a timing issue? Mrs. Rhoden explained yes and we are on target.
- 2.2 Superintendent's report – Dr. Randall R. Gary, Superintendent
 - Very exciting time of the year – visited all schools this week multiple times
 - Schedule pick-up / fee payment this Thursday at BLHS
 - Wonderful summer for us with Professional Development opportunities
 - Back-to-School inservice for teachers and staff will be Aug. 15 at BLMS. Ashley Fort and Andrea Derrick worked together to put out a Google document that contained descriptions of breakout sessions that teachers and staff could choose from for professional development.
 - We will be ready for the students when school starts on the 22nd.

3.0 Recognition

- 3.1 SCSBA Boardmanship Institute Recognition presented by Dr. Randall Gary to Mr. Billy Berry and Mr. Lancer Shull
 - Mr. Shull received a pin and certificate for Level 2
 - Mr. Berry received a pin and certificate for Level 3

4.0 Public Participation (15 minutes)

- Anna Long from the Twin City News: "Madame Chairman, Dr. Gary, and Board Members, According to the public official guide to compliance, the Board has not yet announced its specific purpose for which you will enter Executive Session. You must specifically disclose what will be discussed behind closed doors. Newberry County Council was recently sued for giving a non-specific reason for Executive Session and I have a copy of the FOIA and the court case for you."
- Eva Adams Smalls and husband, community members, addressed the School Board with a concern of children not being able to swim. They presented an idea of having a pool that could

be used by students during PE class and swimming be taught as part of their PE curriculum in elementary or middle school. Also, to offset the cost, it could be open to community members for a small fee. They suggested a community fundraiser to help contribute to raising the funds to build the pool.

5.0 Information Items

5.1 Instructional Highlight – Mrs. Angie Rye, Chief Academic Officer presented a video that highlights some of Lexington Three’s summer activities. Listed below are events that took place over the summer:

- BLES administrative team and Mrs. Julie Ruff present at the SCASA i3 Conference in June.
- BLPS and BLES teachers participated in 3 days of training on the Lucy Calkins units of reading.
- Over 50 participants in the Google Academy that was held at BLMS. Two trainers from Google came and led the training. Every teacher and administrator in our district that requested to attend, were able to do so at no cost to them. Two of our participants have completed the Google Certification: Ashley Fort – Level One and Paul Spence – Level Two.
- Sixteen BLMS and BLHS teachers attended the AVID Summer Institute in Orlando, FL.
- Ashley Fort and Andrea Derrick attended the International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) in San Antonio, TX.
- Fifth grade teachers had training in July for 3 days with the SDE on personalized learning.
- Administrators had a 2 day professional development for planning and team building.
- Twelve students attended the AVID Summer Bridge program held at BLHS. The curriculum used with those students was for Algebra readiness.
- Approximately 40 second and third graders attended the Summer Reading camp. The students worked with interventionists and teachers to improve their reading skills. In addition, they worked with BLHS Mechatronics students and Mrs. Amber Bouknight, BLMS Art teacher, to build and decorate a box that was presented to Town Hall. The box will be located there with free books for children that come in to the Town Hall.
- The Afterschool Program served about 60 students from BLPS and BLES as an enrichment opportunity.
- Additional administrators and teachers were trained to serve as mentors and evaluators in the upcoming school year.
- Districtwide professional development will be held Aug. 15 at BLMS.

5.2 Construction update – Dr. Randall Gary, Superintendent presented construction updates:

- BLPS – We had trees thinned along the roadside for visibility purposes and a new secure entrance is in the process of being installed.
- BLES – A new secure entrance is being installed and the playground will be fenced in.
- BLMS – A new secure entrance is being installed.
- Old High School site – Demolition has started and is expected to take approximately 3 weeks.

Our next steps:

- Construct a new baseball practice field on property between BLMS and BLES. We have three (Varsity, JV, and middle school) teams and one field. Currently, the one field is being shared for practices and games. This causes scheduling issues. It is expected to be completed before baseball season begins.
- Access control is the brains behind the locking system at the schools' entrances. This is what controls the locks and cameras to buzz people in to the school. This part will not be completed by the first day of school. There is still a bidding process that is going on for this and they will be installed as the year progresses. It will not pose any problems with school starting. Mr. Shull asked, "Is that at all four sites?" Dr. Gary explained it is at BLES, BLMS, and very limited at BLPS.
- We looked at some roofing surveys previously and the price was not what we wanted. We are getting some more roofing surveys so we will have more comparisons. Hopefully, by next meeting, we will have information on roofing surveys, and a well and irrigation system at our high school softball field. It is the only athletic field that currently does not have irrigation. This should be completed in time for softball season. Commended Mr. Robby Leaphart for all his efforts in following these projects.
- Mr. Shull asked, "Has there been any questions or concerns about student flow, specifically in the the morning, with additional doors, being communicated from the principals? I mean any concerns if there are any?" Dr. Gary explained that they have not communicated concerns about traffic flow with students. The doors will remain open during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal times. Once the school day begins, the doors are closed and will remain locked until dismissal time.

5.3 SAVE Act Plan- Ms. Oren Scurry-Meetze, District Nurse explained that through this plan our district nurses are able to administer the Epinephrine to a student in the event of a reaction due to an allergy. There is legislation and a board policy in place to protect the school district. Dr. Gurdon Counts, our prescribing physician for the EPI pen, retired in May. This prescription is good until December. Ms. Scurry-Meetze said they are in the process of finding a new doctor to oversee this prescription. Mr. Shull asked if the State was funding this for us. Ms. Scurry-Meetze explained that they do not, but we do have access to free EPI pens. Currently, the company we receive the pens from will provide them to our district for free as long as we have this plan and a doctor's prescription in place.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Amend general fund budget for Fine Arts Center & BLHS Media Center furniture – Angela Rhoden asked that the Board approve an amendment to the approved general fund budget by adding \$40,000.00 to the approved general fund budget in the areas of educational media (\$20,000) and the Fine Arts Center (\$20,000). Mr. Berry asked if someone would explain why we need this amendment. Dr. Gary explained that the BLHS Media Center's furniture is outdated. Most of it is the original furniture from when the school was built. Learning has changed over the years. The new furniture will contain areas where students can plug in and charge their devices and it will make the area more inviting for students. The Fine Arts Center needs new stage curtains because the originals were recently damaged due to the age of the curtains. The curtains have been there since the Fine Arts Center was built around 17 years ago. Mr. Shull asked if insurance would cover the damaged curtain. Dr. Gary replied that probably not due to depreciation, but we will have Mr. Schmidt check into that to see if it is an option.

