

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**BOARD MEETING**

**June 15, 2020**

The Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 5:30 PM in the District Office Boardroom. Board members present were Chair Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Mark Nix, Secretary Mr. Matt Davis, Mr. Barry Bailey, Mr. Billy Blackwell, Mrs. Robin Harper, Mr. Kevin Phillips, and Ms. Cheryll Smith (via conference call). Administrators present were Superintendent Dr. Dana Fall, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Carl Carpenter, Executive Director of Finance Mrs. Sheri Morgan, Executive Director of Student Services Mrs. Bessie Westmoreland and Executive Director of Operations Mr. Todd Hughes.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 30-40-80(d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, and agenda of this meeting: The Cherokee Chronicle, The Gaffney Ledger, The Shelby Star, The Spartanburg Herald-Journal, Radio Stations WZZQ-AM and WFGN, WSPA-TV, WYFF-TV, and WSOC-TV.

In compliance with the mandatory COVID-19 social distancing requirements, the Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees will be conducting the monthly meeting for only essential items required to continue district operations. This meeting will not be open for public audience attendance, but will be live streamed via YouTube in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Chairman Sarratt, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and Mr. Blackwell led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Board meeting agenda, was the next item on the agenda. **Dr. Nix made the motion to approve the Board meeting agenda, seconded by Mr. Blackwell. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Approval of the Board meeting minutes dated May 19, 2020, was the next item on the agenda. **Mrs. Harper made the motion to approve Board meeting minutes dated May 19, 2020, seconded by Mr. Davis. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Approval of the Board meeting minutes dated May 27, 2020, was the next item on the agenda. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to approve Board meeting minutes dated May 27, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

SCAGO Bond Resolution Approval was the next item on agenda. **Dr. Nix made the motion to approve the SCAGO Bond Resolution, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Cherokee County School District Code of Conduct – Administrative Rules for High Schools and Middle Schools was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Gavin Fisher, Coordinator of Discipline and Attendance, gave an update on changes made to AR JICDA-R Code of Conduct – High Schools and AR JICDA-R2 Code of Conduct – Middle Schools. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

South Carolina High School League Participation Update – Mr. Terrence Scriven provided the Trustees with a South Carolina High School League Athletic update. He reviewed the safety precautions put in place so that our sports teams can move forward with summer practice. He also gave an overview of possibilities for the upcoming school year playing season. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Spartanburg Community College Land Acquisition - Board Approval Request was the next item on the agenda. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to approve the Spartanburg Community College land acquisition agreement, seconded by Mr. Davis. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

District Use Agreement for Golf Course located at 442 Cherokee National Highway Gaffney, SC 29341, and owned by Cherokee National – Board Approval Requested was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Fall, Superintendent reviewed a lease agreement between Cherokee National Golf Course and Cherokee County District. This agreement compensates Cherokee National for our usage on a yearly basis for our golf teams. For public record, Dr. Fall disclosed that he is a member of Cherokee National Golf Course. **Mr. Davis**

**made the motion to approve the lease agreement with Cherokee National Golf Course, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

CCSD Future Planning: Facilities was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Todd Hughes, Director of Operations, presented the Trustees with an updated facilities study, bringing to light the increased age of and needs of our buildings since the last study completed in 2013. Mr. Hughes outlined the district's current needs, sharing photos of the mounding issues in our school infrastructures, budget constraints, and programs that could be offered to our students. Dr. Dana Fall, Superintendent, detailed the age and cost of the Districts' school buildings and the effect of operating these facilities is having on the district academically. He specifically spoke on the lack of programs and opportunities available to our students compared to surrounding districts, the continued cost increase of our aging buildings, the number of buildings we operate compared to our student enrollment, and the lack of funding capabilities available to sustain our current school building layout across the county. Dr. Fall spoke on the possibilities available to the district and community with this referendum, specifically the benefits of providing newer and less buildings, in an effort to create better learning environments for our students and focus on progressing this district academically with the right tools in place. This referendum would allow us to better educate our students and provide our teachers with a better teaching foundation for educating our students with present-day classroom resources. Dr. Fall also reviewed the current population of the community and shared the current enrollment declines we are facing. He included the number of students that are transferring to surrounding districts, districts who provide opportunities not available in CCSD. He also provided an update on our academic standing compared to surrounding districts. Dr. Fall closed with speaking to the needs of the district and the current budget restrictions operating the number of aging buildings, the dire repairs of these facilities, and the impact these facilities are having on educating our students. Included in this discussion was an update on the Scholar's Academy and expenses and an update on the Gaffney High School Score Board.

Action Item – Action if needed from the Superintendent's CCSD Future Planning and possible school closures.  
**No action was needed.**

**Mrs. Harper made the motion that Cherokee County School District pursue the Scholars Academy and approve adding this program to our District, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

FY 2020/2021 Capital Projects Budget 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Board Approval was the next item on the agenda. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to approve the FY 2020/2021 Capital Projects Budget 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, seconded by Dr. Nix. Those voting in favor of the motion: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Blackwell, Mrs. Harper, Dr. Nix, Mr. Sarratt, Jr., and Ms. Smith. Those opposed to the motion: Mr. Phillips and Mr. Davis. The motion did pass with a majority vote.**

2020/2021 Budget Preparation – Board Approval Requested was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Fall, Superintendent, reviewed the current financial limitations of the District, highlighting the decrease in programs available to our students since 2008. He provided the Trustees with current millage increase amounts available to CCSD, a process put in place that offsets the deficit Act 388. Cherokee County School District raised the millage rate for the first time in 10 years for the in 2019/2020 budget. Dr. Fall suggested adopting a gradual, yearly millage increase, providing the District with more adequate funding. **Mr. Blackwell made the motion to table this discussion until the August Board meeting, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Executive Session – for Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Sarratt, Jr. called for a motion to go into Executive Session. **Mr. Phillips made a motion that the Board enter into Executive Session for Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters, seconded by Mr. Blackwell. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.** The Executive Session began at 7:15 PM and ended at 8:20 PM. Mr. Sarratt, Jr. said the Board had been in Executive Session for Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District, Contractual Matters. **Mrs. Harper made the motion to return to regular session, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Action as needed from Executive Session was the next item on the agenda.

**Mr. Davis made the motion to authorize the superintendent to handle the contract negotiations for the sale of Granard Middle School, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Those in favor of the motion: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Harper, Ms. Smith, Dr. Nix, and Mr. Phillips. Those opposed to the motion: Mr. Sarratt, Jr. The motion did pass with a majority vote.**


Superintendent's Report was the next item on the agenda.

Personnel Recommendations was the next item on the agenda under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Sarratt, Jr. called for a motion to approve the Personnel Recommendations. **Mrs. Harper made a motion that the Board accept the Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations, seconded by Mr. Blackwell. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

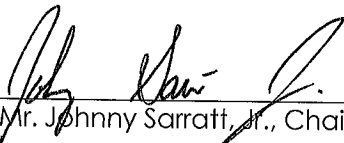
2020/2021 Monthly Board Meeting Schedule was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. A copy of the monthly Board meetings for the 2020/2021 school year was included in the Board packets. **Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.**

Board Newsletter was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Fall provided the June newsletter to each Trustee that contained valuable Board information for their review. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.**

Mr. Sarratt, Jr. called for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Harper made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

  
Mr. Matt Davis, Secretary

APPROVED BY:

  
Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Chairman