



# Minutes

6:00 p.m. Regular Session, October 25, 2022 District Board Room

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**Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting  
(Live-Streamed)**

In accordance with the SC Code of Laws 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d), as amended, The Press and Banner and The Index-Journal were notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

**Board Members:** Mr. David Brooks, Ms. Glynda Bryson, Mr. Joe Bryson, Mr. Brad Evans, Mr. Keith Dunn, Mr. Marvin Peoples, Mr. Adam Rich, Mr. James B. Tisdale, Jr. Absent: Mr. Tim Rhodes

**Essential Staff:** Dr. Mason Gary, Dr. Lori Brewton, Dr. Skip Hopkins, Mr. Adam Cann, Ms. Jennifer Maxwell, Ms. Elizabeth Crocker, Ms. Dione Ashley, Mr. Ryan Norris, Mr. Randall Connor, Mr. Mike Reepe, Ms. Kathy Bernard

**Media:** Mr. Henry Green (**The Press and Banner**) Lindsey Hodges (**Index Journal**)

**Legal:** Ms. Ashley Story (**White & Story, LLC**) via internet

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## **Regular Open Session :**

At 6:00 p.m., Mr. Evans called the meeting to order.

Mr. Evans welcomed all, led in the pledge of allegiance, and prayer.

## **Agenda Approval:**

Mr. Bryson made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was properly 2nd and carried unanimously.

**Public Input:** No Public Input

## **Consent Action Item:**

Mr. Dunn made a motion to approve September 27th Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Bryson 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed with 7 approved and 1 abstained. Ms. Brooks abstained due to being absent for the meeting.

## **Gold Star Highlights:**

Mr. Epps and students from the Abbeville County Career Center Culinary Arts Program provided a presentation of their first Kids Cooking Camp that took place during the fall intersession. The camp was a success with full enrollment. Another camp with full enrollment, as well as a waiting list, has been planned for the spring intersession.

Dr. Gary and Board Chair, Mr. Evans joined Dr. Brewton to congratulate and recognize the following schools for their overall rating of excellence on the school report card:

**Dixie High School, Diamond Hill Elementary, Cherokee Trail Elementary**

Dr. Gary and Dr. Brewton recognized and thanked the following board members for their four years of service:  
**Brad Evans, Mr. Marvin Peoples, Mr. Adam Rich, Mr. James B. Tisdale, and Mr. Tim Rhodes**

**Comments from the Board were shared, celebrating each of the Gold Star Highlights!**

## **Discussion Information Items:**

### **(Superintendent's Report):**

#### **CIP:**

Dr. Gary provided the Capital Projects/Building Fund expenditures report as well as an updated CIP report. That report includes items scheduled and completed since July of 2020. Eight-seven projects have been completed to date with five more added that will include playground equipment. Dr. Gary was asked about the costs of re-plumbing the school. He stated one bid has been secured, he is trying to have a minimum of three bids, but five would be ideal. Mr. Dunn asked about the progress of Dixie's field house. Dr. Gary explained that all material has been offloaded, they are waiting on permits, and everything is still on track for December. Mr. Brooks questions why permits have not already been issued when the building was approved in April. Dr. Gary explained the process after approval and also stated that with students occupying the building during this time, we are now on OSF's schedule, but confirmed nothing will stop the construction of the building.

#### **School Board Redistricting:**

Mr. Will Roberts and Mr. Breeden John from the South Carolina Senate staff presented the Board with maps and walked them through their process of redistricting. They also submitted statistics to show the shift in numbers from 2010-2020.

#### **Maintenance Update:**

Mr. Reepe provided a maintenance report update for the packet. He updated the Board about the bid meeting that took place October 20th. Eight businesses were represented. The committee was discussed and it was decided that the five member committee would include: Mr. Reepe, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Cann, a principal, and a district office staff member. The bid will start at 2pm on November 10th.

#### **Financial Update:**

Mr. Cann provided an updated revenue and expenditure report and ESSER Report as well as capital project report. Mr. Dunn asked if the 8% money was the new money from the resolution in July. Mr. Cann confirmed and also informed the Board that he was working with LS3P and Mr. Mike Gallagher to get the numbers should the Board choose option two, the acquisition bond, to cover the remaining funds needed for the building project. Mr. Cann and Dr. Gary stated those numbers would be finalized and presented to the Board for the November meeting. Mr. Cann suggested the Board choose option three which is the referendum with no tax increase.

#### **Curriculum Update:**

Ms. Dione Ashley and Ms. Elizabeth Crocker provided a curriculum update. They shared the ratings from the new State Report Card. ACSD was awarded the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant.

#### **Technology Update:**

Mr. Matt Kimsey was absent but submitted an update of the technology report. Mr. Ryan Norris and Mr. Randall Connor filled in for Mr. Matt Kimsey. Mr. Dunn inquired about the unpaid damage/loss chrome book invoices. Discussion and inquiries about unpaid invoices included payment plans, insurance, loaner chrome books, grants, fundraisers, etc. It was explained that ultimately the responsibility falls on the schools to collect the money.

Special Services Update:

Ms. Bernard provided clarification on the updated numbers in the packet.

Food Service Update:

Ms. Jennifer Maxwell presented a slideshow of events and prizes given during National School Lunch Week which was celebrated across our District.

Student Services/Federal Programs Update:

Dr. Hopkins provided information for the FY23 Title I Project.

Discussion Action Items:

**1st reading of the 2023-24 School Calendar:**

Dr. Brewton presented the results from a survey sent to faculty and staff as well as parents about the first intersession. Teacher responses were favorable with more than 90% for both questions. The parent survey showed favorable results with more than 70% for three of the questions and 67% on the other.

**Mr. Bryson made a motion to approve the 2023-24 modified year round school calendar. Motion was seconded by Mr. Tisdale.**

Mr. Evans asked if anyone wanted to discuss the calendar. Discussion held:

Mr. Dunn asked if the verbage would be changed to "Year Round Modified School Calendar" per policy.

Dr. Brewton explains it is not year round, that school is only starting two weeks earlier.

Mr. Dunn responds stating "policy says won't start before the third Monday unless we're operating on a year around modified calendar. We had that discussion back in February very extensively. I think a lot of us, in our dismay, that was a point of issue. An amendment was made to the motion to add those words which lined up with our policy and with state law."

Dr. Brewton asked Mr. Dunn if he was stating that he wanted the wording to say Year Round Modified Calendar. Mr. Dunn replied, "The policy says Modified Year Round Calendar, it doesn't say modified school calendar. This was a stickler point for us last time. That's why I was asking".

Dr. Brewton suggested the Board can call the calendar year round.

Mr. Brooks interjected to say "Well no, it ain't what we're going to call it, it's what's been proposed. In the wording, doesn't say year round, it doesn't say that. Alright? But our policy does and this is the very same discussion we had. Plus we discussed following board policy just a week ago in our workshop, right? So either we're going to follow our board policy or not. And so at this point, you know what, I'm going to call the point of order right here, Mr. Chairman. The point of order means you get to make a ruling, you as Chairman. Is this Board going to follow our board policy word for word? Yes or no it's that simple."

Mr. Evans stated he firmly believed that yes, the Board will follow policy.

Mr. Brooks replied, "Then you can't vote on this. You can fix the wording as written. You gotta know what you're writing when you write it."

Mr. Evans then asked if they wanted to change the wording since they had a motion.

Mr. Brooks responded, "You can't do it tonight because you're very much aware of what Freedom of Information Act is. You can't vote, you can't take action on an item within 24 hours if it doesn't say it when it's presented, 24 hours you can't take action on them."

Dr. Gary stated they would bring it back.

Mr. Dunn then turned the discussion to the survey regarding intersession. He requested that moving forward there be a comment/question section added to the surveys for more parent input.

Dr. Gary agreed moving forward, that was certainly possible.

**Mr. Bryson withdrew his motion. Mr. Tisdale withdrew his 2nd.**

Mr. Evans stated they would deal with the calendar at the next meeting once the wording was corrected.

**2nd Reading on Policies:**

**IMDA- Patriotic Exercises - Motion to approve Policy IMDA was made by Mr.Dunn and properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**IMBD- Flag/Motto Display - Motion to approve Policy IMBD was made by Mr. Brooks and properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**JJI- Interscholastic Athletics - Motion to approve Policy JJI was made by Mr. Brooks and properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

***REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:***

Dr. Gary provided an organizational chart for the District Office staff per the Boards request at the workshop on October 18th. He also provided a copy of the Wright Middle School newsletter.

Dr. Gary reminded the Board that the next Board Meeting would be **November 15th @ 6pm.**

**Adjournment:** At 7:04 p.m., Mr. Bryson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dunn 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned.

***Submitted by: Holli Yates***