

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
February 21, 2022

Call to Order: Chairman David Draisen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Jim Haning gave the invocation after which everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: The following board members were present for the meeting: Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. David Draisen, Mr. Willie Day, Mr. Jim Haning, Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio. Mr. Nakia Davis participated by phone and Mr. Mike Upton on ZOOM.

Board Members Absent: Mr. John Martin and Ms. Terri Martin.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Mike Upton seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – January 18, 2022 meeting: Mr. Jim Haning made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes and Dr. Vaughn Parfitt seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period: No one from the media or public signed up for public comment.

Renaissance Academy Report: Mr. Nimmer referenced the report in the board member's packet detailing the Renaissance Academy information as of February 4th. There are currently 78 students enrolled with four students in the approval process. This number is still significantly ahead of last year at this same time. On the back of the report you will see the students that have left the academy and the reasons why.

Dr. Vaughn Parfitt asked what happens if a student has 10 consecutive unexcused absences. Mr. Nimmer answered that the law requires they be removed from the rolls. Dr. Parfitt followed up asking what happens to these students and Mr. Nimmer said many times we just don't know. However, our attendance/dropout prevention coordinators try to find these students, and some may eventually re-enroll, some may get a GED, and some are lost.

Mr. Willie Day asked a what point are students considered dropouts? Mr. Nimmer answered legally a student can't drop out until they are 17. If a student legally dropouts, they are removed and are not part of the school. These dropouts do count against graduation rates. Prior to reaching legal age, we continue to track and try to get them back in school.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Nimmer let the board members know that Jacky Hunter, Anderson County's Auditor, has been hospitalized and very ill. Mr. Nimmer asked for well wishes, thoughts and prayers for a full recovery.

Mr. Nimmer reminded all members of the County Board that the annual Statement of Economic Interest must be completed and filed electronically by noon on March 30, 2022. Mr. David Draisen said he finished his and wanted everyone to know the process had changed and to be aware it may take them much longer to finish. Dr. Gary Burgess said he had to call to get into the system, but once he was in, it went smoothly.

Financial

A. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget: Mr. Nimmer said the collections year to date are included in the packets. We passed the first penalty date of January 16, so a bulk of the ad valorem taxes have been collected. All the districts remain at or slightly above where they were last year and on tract to meet the projected revenue collections. We will continue to receive some small amounts over the next month or so as payments are processed based on the date of the postmark. During the first two weeks of February, we still received current taxes with the postmark date of January 15th or before.

B. Assessment Totals: As was the case last month, there is no report for the assessment totals. Last month the county office was closed due to inclement weather. This month, Mr. Nimmer reported, they were closed today for President's Day and I was out of town late last week. We will have this report next month.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Lastly, Mr. Nimmer reported the Education Sales & Use Tax has collected \$2,963,233.00 since the inception of the tax. The year to date total collected is \$172,754,151.83 with collections remaining very strong. Of that total, 20% is taken off the top and posted to the sinking fund accounts for rolling back debt service millage property taxes. This has continued to be a very strong source of revenue for the county school districts.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Willie Day and was followed by a unanimous vote.

C. Committee Assignments for 2022: Chairman Draisen handed out the committee assignments for the year to the board members. If anyone has a concern, please let him know.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Draisen.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Gary Burgess, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.