

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
January 16, 2024

Swearing in of Newly Appointed Member of the Anderson County Board of Education: Mr. David E. Blanding was sworn in for Seat 9 by Dr. Gary Burgess.

Call to Order: Vice Chairman Dr. Gary Burgess called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Frank Kellam 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 at the meeting: Mr. Mike Upton by zoom, Mr. Nakia Davis, Dr. Doug Atkins, Mr. Greg Balog by phone, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Frank Kellam, Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, Mr. David Blanding and Mrs. Susan Binninger ex officio.

Board Members Absent: Rev. Jason Dorriety

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Nakia Davis made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Frank Kellam seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Election of Board Officers for Calendar Year 2024: Mrs. Binninger opened the floor for nomination for the Board officer's election. Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to elect Mr. Mike Upton as Chairman, Dr. Vaughn Parfitt seconded the motion. Five Board members were in favor with one opposing, Mr. Frank Kellam. Dr. Doug Atkins made a motion to elect Dr. Gary Burgess Vice-Chairman, Mr. Nakia Davis seconded the motion. All Board Members approved unanimously. Mr. Mike Upton made a motion to elect Mr. Nakia Davis as Secretary, Dr. Gary Burgess seconded the motion. All Board Members approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2023 Meeting: Dr. Vaughn Parfitt made a motion to approve the December 11th meeting minutes and Mr. Mike Upton seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period: None

Consideration of Resolution from Anderson School District Four: Dee Christopher, District Four School Superintendent, and Cristy Jablonski, Chief Financial Officer, brought forth the Resolution asking for \$115,000,000 to build a new Pendleton high school and move Riverside Middle to where the high school is now. They will also have work done at the other schools to ensure that there is adequate room for the growth of the schools. Following a period of questions and answers, Dr. Burgess called for the question. Dr. Doug Atkins made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Nakia Davis seconded the motion. The request was approved unanimously.

Renaissance Academy Report: Mrs. Binninger provided the board members with the monthly report on enrollment information for the academy. Mrs. Binninger stated that there are 82 students currently enrolled as of January 5, 2024, six are in the process of enrolling, which gives them 88 students. This time last year there were 71 students enrolled. On the back side of the report reasons for students leaving the academy are identified.

Administrator's Report: Dr. Gary Burgess stated that Rev. Rufus Mitchell, 2005-2015 former board member, passed away. Mrs. Binninger suggested that a memorial be made in his honor to Morris College, where he attended college, towards a scholarship. Dr. Burgess suggested that the memorial be made to Tri County Technical College, since Rev. Mitchell was a former faculty member. The Board Members agreed on Tri County Technical College.

Board members that are going to the SC School Boards Association Convention, your rooms are reserved. The agenda was handed out and reservation numbers will be given out later. All Board members will need to file their statement of Economic Interest electronically by March 30th at noon.

Mrs. Binninger handed out a copy of possible logos to revamp the Board of Education's logo.

Financial

A. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget: Mrs. Binninger reported that everyone is above 50% collections for December year to date. This is an increase, and the numbers will continue to grow with our property tax collection. Property tax collections ended January 15, 2024. Any property tax collected now will have a late fee.

B. Assessment Totals: Mrs. Binninger mentioned the new report for assessment totals county wide through the end of December 2023 is at \$1,049,283,838 value of one mil. This is down slightly due to the appeals that are being processed. It is a decrease of \$2,596.00 per mil. The value of a mil should start being steady.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Lastly, Mrs. Binninger reported the Education Sales & Use Tax for the month of December collected \$3,113,678.55. Mrs. Binninger reminded everyone that 20% of these funds are posted to the sinking fund accounts of the districts to rollback debt service millage. The remaining 80% goes to capital projects.

Old Business: Committee appointments was passed out from 2023. If you would still like to serve on these committees, please let Mrs. Binninger know so she can update the list for 2024. Mrs. Binninger presented a Schedule of County Board Meetings for 2024. Mr. Greg Balog made a motion to approve the schedule of meetings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Upton.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Dr. Doug Atkins made a motion to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Frank Kellam and was followed by a unanimous vote.

C. Meeting Date: The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Gary Burgess.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Nakia Davis Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.