

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
March 18, 2024

Call to Order: Chairman Mr. Mike Upton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Greg Balog was appointed as acting secretary for Mr. Nakia Davis for this evening's Board meeting.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Rev. Jason Dorriety 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, Dr. Doug Atkins, Mr. Greg Balog, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Frank Kellam, Rev. Jason Dorriety, and Mrs. Susan Binninger ex officio.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, Mr. Nakia Davis, and Mr. David Blanding

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

Approval of Minutes – February 20, 2024, Meeting: Rev. Jason Dorriety made a motion to approve the February 20th meeting minutes and Dr. Doug Atkins seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period:

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 94 students currently enrolled as of March 4, 2024, nine are in the process of enrolling, which gives them 103 students. This time last year there were 77 students enrolled. On the back side of the report reasons for students leaving the academy are identified.

Administrator's Report: Mrs. Binninger stated that all Board members will need to file their statement of Economic Interest electronically by March 30th at noon.

Any Board member that would like to attend School Board Day at the Capital in Columbia on April 10th, please let Mrs. Binninger know so she can register you for the event. Early registration ends on April 3rd. Currently the Board Member's that we have attending are Mr. Balog, Rev. Dorriety, and Mr. Davis. If anyone else would like to attend, please let Mrs. Binninger know so that she can get you registered.

Mrs. Binninger stated that the new server for the Board of Education office has been ordered. The new server should be arriving in 2 weeks. We are very thankful that all of the school districts helped us out with purchasing the new server.

Thank you notes have been received from Tri County Technical College for the donation made in honor of Dr. Rufus Mitchell.

Financial

- A. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget:** Mrs. Binninger reported that Districts 1-5 are above 100% collections for February year to date. The County Board is at 84% and the Renaissance Academy is at 75%. This is due to the collection of taxes.

B. Assessment Totals: Mrs. Binninger mentioned the new report for assessment totals county wide through the end of February 2024 is at \$1,043,678. value of one mill. This is a decline due to the appeals that are being processed. It is a decrease of \$775.00 per mill. The value of a mill is starting to settle in since the appeals should be finished.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Lastly, Mrs. Binninger reported the Education Sales & Use Tax for the month of February collected \$3,571,932.12. 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. This is the first time that it has dropped over the year before. This time last year we were at \$3.6 million and this year it is at \$3.571; this is about a \$60,000 decrease. Mrs. Binninger still projects us to be over last year's amount for the year.

Unfinished Business: Mrs. Binninger reminded everyone to look over the Personnel Manual that was handed out at the last Board meeting. Mrs. Binninger emailed the board members the information on changing the probation period of new hires for the Board of Education office. She will also email them the school district policies on leave time referenced on handout. The Personnel Committee will meet in April after the next Board Meeting to discuss these changes. The changes will be voted on at a later date by all Board Members.

New Business: The Board Policy Manual was handed out to the Board members. Mrs. Binninger stated that the last time the manual was revised was in 2010. Mr. Balog mentioned that the manual states that all 5 districts should be part of the alternative school. It also states the mill should be at 5 mills max, and the schools have been asking for more than 5 mills. This could be due to inflation and changed by the Delegation. Also states that students who receive free lunch should not be charged school fees. There are students that are being charged school fees in some districts that qualifies for free lunch. Mr. Balog also mentioned that Chromebooks used to not have to have internet access and now students need access to the internet. This may be a problem for parents that do not have internet access. The Board Policy Manual will be discussed later this year.

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 Dr. Doug Atkins and was followed by a unanimous vote.

Meeting Date: The next Board meeting will be on Monday, April 15, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Mike Upton.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Greg Balog, Acting Secretary for Mr. Nakia Davis Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education

This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.