

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
May 20, 2024

Call to Order: Chairman Mr. Mike Upton called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Mr. Greg Balog was appointed as acting secretary for Mr. C. 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: Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, Mr. Mike Upton, Dr. Gary Burgess, Dr. Doug Atkins, Mr. Greg Balog, Mr. David Blanding, Mr. Frank Kellam, Rev. Jason Dorriety, and Mrs. Susan Binninger ex officio.

Board Members Absent: Mr. C. Nakia Davis

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Vaughn Parfitt seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – April 15, 2024, Meeting: Dr. Doug Atkins made a motion to approve the April 15th meeting minutes and Mr. Greg Balog 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 107 students currently enrolled as of May 3, 2024, seven are in the process of enrolling, which gives them 114 students. This time last year there were 98 students enrolled. On the back side of the report reasons for students leaving the academy are identified. Mrs. Binninger and Joy attended the Awards Day. One student did graduate that has been attending Renaissance Academy this year from BHP.

Administrator's Report: Mrs. Binninger stated that there is a calendar in the packet for the Budget Workshops. They are scheduled for the last week in June. Monday, June 24th will be Districts One and Five, Thursday, June 27th will be District Two, Three and Four.

An updated list of committee assignments was given to the Board Members.

Mrs. Binninger asked the Board about moving the December Board meeting and Christmas Party to Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00 to The Gray House instead of Tuckers. Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to approve the date and change of venue. Rev. Jason Dorriety seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. The School Law conference will be held on August 10th and 11th in Charleston, SC at the Marriott. Registration is now open. The room block will open on Wednesday, May 22nd. Please let Mrs. Binninger know if you are going so that she can book your room when the registration opens.

We will have a Mental Health Summer program this year. Districts 1-4 will be participating in this summer program. Counseling will be held onsite at our office or by zoom with one of the Mental Health Counselors. At this time, we have 17 students signed up to meet with one of our counselors. We may have more wanting to register, hopefully we will have a total of 20 to participate in the program before school is out for the summer.

Mrs. Binninger stated that the attendance officers have stated that the judges are now giving out sanctions to parents that are not making their children go to school. This has not happened in a long time. They are also working on a countywide policy to present to the superintendents. There have been 794 referrals, this is up by 15% since 22/23 school year.

Mental Health Counselors have 308 referrals, served 252, and have 56 dead referrals (parents did not contact counselor). This is for Districts 1-4. District 5 has their own Mental Health Counselors. Food Service Director is over District 2,3, and the Renaissance Academy. District 2 has served 404,716 meals this school year, an increase of 15%. District 3 has served 343,705 meals, that is an increase of 11%. She also serves after school snacks for District 2 and 3.

Financial

A. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget: Mrs. Binninger reported that Districts 1-5 are above 100-150% collections for April year to date. This is due to the manufacturing depression reimbursement being up this year. This was a catch up for them from previous years but will not remain the same in the future. More taxes also came in, that was more than the districts predicted. The County Board and Renaissance Academy is above 90%. The County Board will be collecting money from the School Districts in June.

B. Assessment Totals: Mrs. Binninger mentioned the new report for assessment totals county wide through the end of April 2024 is at \$1,043,950,130. value of one mill. This is a decrease of \$3.00 per mill. The value of a mill should hold steady and should remain the same for the remainder of the year.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Lastly, Mrs. Binninger reported the Education Sales & Use Tax for the month of April collected \$3,023,915.71. This is an increase from April of 2023. 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.

Unfinished Business: The Budget Committee met before the Board meeting. Mrs. Binninger did research and compared the budget to the Anderson County School Districts jobs that are the same as the Board of Education jobs. Dr. Gary Burgess asked for an approval of the new Budget for The County Board Office. After many questions, suggestions and answers, the Board approved unanimously. Mrs. Binninger will go before the Delegation on June 25th to present the new County Board Budget for approval. Mrs. Binninger stated that we have our new server installed. Our next step is to update our computers.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Mr. Greg Balog made a motion to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vaughn Parfitt and was followed by a unanimous vote.

Meeting Date: The next Board meeting will be on Monday, June 17, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Mike Upton.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Greg Balog, Acting Secretary for Mr. C. Nakia Davis Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.