

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING NOTES

March 6, 2017

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Agenda notices were distributed to Spartanburg Herald Journal and was listed on the District website at spartanburg4.org/do/agenda.

Chairman Milton Smith called the meeting to order. Minutes of the February 6 meeting were approved.

The following reports were given:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Hodge gave the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for March 2017 is attached.
2. The after school ELL program for adults and students will begin on March 1. Betsy Alexander and Ebony Robinson will assist parents and students in the computer lab. They will have access to language-learning software designed to assist with speaking English. There will also be MP3 players and books for the students to take home. The lab will be open Monday through Thursday from 2:30 until 3:50.
3. Preschool (3K & 4K) enrollment for the upcoming school year will be held on Thursday, March 16 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. 3K screenings will be held on March 22 – 24. Screenings for 4K will be held May 30 through June 2. Appointments for these screenings will be scheduled at enrollment. Rising kindergartners who did not attend our preschool program may enroll for 5K on March 16. Students who currently attend WPS do not have to re-enroll.
4. To celebrate the students bringing over 350 items for the Hope Center for Children during the months of January and February, faculty members will play a game of basketball for the students on March 31 in the activity center.
5. Makayla Stark, Miss South Carolina Teen, spoke to the students on February 24 at the School Family Celebration. Our character trait for the month was “effort” and she talked about how important effort is when trying to achieve your goals.

February				
Grade Level	# on Roll	# in PS	Difference	Why
Early Head Start	8	8	0	
Family Literacy	6	6	0	
1/2 day 3K	8	8	0	
Full day 3K	62	70	-8	1 McT and 8 Moon
4k	156	158	-2	1McT and Harvey 1
5K	203	204	-1	Harvey 1
1st	199	203	-4	Harvey 4
2nd	210	212	-2	Harvey 2
Special Education	8	8	0	
	860	862	-2	2McT

March

Community Project: Woodruff Area Nursing Homes (trial size shampoo, lotion, & powder)

Character Value Emphasis: Effort

Career Focus: "On Stage!" (Arts and Communications)

1–31 – Music in Our Schools Month; Youth Art Month

Feb. 27–March 3 – Dr. Seuss Week (Read Across America Day – Mar. 2nd)

1 – Spring Picture Day (All grades)

9 – Preschool field trip to the Children's Museum in Greenville

12 – Daylight Saving Time Begins (Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour)

14 – Report Cards Issued – (PreK–2nd Grade) **Parents should be notified of need for retention by this date.*

17 – Teacher Inservice Day – No School for Students; St. Patrick's Day

29 – Kindergarten Graduation Pictures **No Make-Up Days Scheduled for These Pictures*

31 – School Family Celebration – Wear School T-Shirts

Woodruff Elementary School

Mrs. Brewton gave the following report:

Current Enrollment 3rd Grade – 200

4th Grade – 213

5th Grade – 190

Total 603

1. February 10: NAEP Math Assessment was administered to select fourth grade students. NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) is a national test that measures student performance. Schools are selected to participate on the basis of characteristics such as school location, minority enrollment, level of school achievement, and average income of geographic area. Students are randomly selected within the schools.
2. February 15-17: WES held Muffins for Moms in the cafeteria.
3. February 20: Teacher In-service was conducted in the WES media center. Topics and activities presented and discussed included SC Ready and PASS Assessment administration guidelines, mock testing administration guidelines, text-dependent analysis and math SC Ready instructional strategy preparations.
4. February 21: District 4 band director, Brian Grant, conducted a Band Recruitment presentation for rising sixth grade students. Current WMS sixth grade students demonstrated various instruments during the musical demonstration. Mr. Grant shared the procedures for and benefits of participating in the Middle School band.
5. February 21: Third, fourth, and fifth grade girls conducted their initial meeting for Girls on the Run. The purpose of Girls on the Run is to inspire girls to support others by embracing differences and be confident in their own abilities. Over a period of 10 weeks, girls will participate in the 2 day a week after-school program. Curriculum lessons encourage positive emotional, social, mental, and physical development through running. At the end of the 10 week sessions the girls will participate in a Girls on the Run 5K event as a celebratory, non-competitive experience. School sponsors include Samantha Wood, Libby Newton, Erin Patterson, Hope Harrison, and Emily Rhodes.
6. February 22: District 4 choral director, Carlla Blanton, conducted a Choral Recruitment presentation for rising sixth grade students in the cafeteria. Choral students from WMS performed at this event.
7. February 24: WES held its first Diversity Celebration. The purpose of the all-day event focused on honoring the traditions and customs that students possess as part of our school community. This event also raised the awareness of the unique diversity of students around them, while developing an appreciation for what they have in common rather than what separates them from

their peers. Teachers and community members conducted classes for students including: *Catch the Gullah Beat*, *SC Native American Games and Artifacts*, *Dances Around the World*, *Boycott Blues* and *Chinese Lanterns*. The WES Panhandlers and WE Singers also performed during this celebration.

8. February 27: Students began Spring Mock Testing. Results will be analyzed to determine individual student progress.
9. February 28: Students and staff members participated in Spring Pictures.
10. Dr. Liston announced that Mrs. Brewton has been selected to participate on a nation-wide committee through the Spartanburg Academic Movement. This is an honor for Mrs. Brewton and District Four.

Woodruff Middle School

Mrs. Brown gave the following report:

1. Current enrollment figures:
 - 6th – 212
 - 7th – 194
 - 8th – 202
2. Third nine weeks report cards go home Wednesday, March 15.
3. Spring MAP testing is underway. All students participate in reading and math assessments. A spring writing benchmark will be administered the week of March 13.
4. Youth Art Month will be celebrated at Chapman Cultural Center February 29-April 9. A reception honoring students with works in the show will be held Thursday, March 9th at 5:30 pm at the center. Woodruff Middle School congratulates Aubrey Carroll, Jena Daniels, Grace Cooper, Joanna Jones and Landon Tucker for having works selected for the show.
5. In February, Woodruff Middle School received *Kindness Certification* for participating in the “Great Kindness Challenge” as part of the Random Acts of Kindness week February 13-17. Students in Mrs. Linder and Mrs. Hiott’s classrooms led efforts to collect supplies for the Spartanburg Humane Society as part of the school’s kindness activities. Student delivered the donations February 23 and toured the facility.
6. 8th grader Gracie Anderson won the school Geography Bee held at WMS on February 3. She also met the qualifying score on her individual written assessment to qualify for the state competition which will be held March 31, 2017 in Columbia, SC.
7. The Lady Cubs defeated Blacksburg Middle School February 7 to capture the tournament title and complete the season as Division I and Foothills Conference Tournament Champions. This is the 4th straight year the Lady Cubs have earned the championship. This season’s record is 16-1.
8. The Foothills Conference has voted to accept High Point Academy into the conference. High Point Academy is a charter school located in Spartanburg County near I-26 in the old Restoration Church location. Currently, High Point will compete in volleyball and basketball.
9. There are 86 middle schoolers participating in spring sports opportunities in the district.
10. The Winter Sports Banquet was held February 21. 62 student athletes from basketball, wrestling, and Pom Squad were recognized. 89% of student athletes earned All-Academic honors. Students with the highest average on each winter sports team were recognized: Cole Taylor, wrestling; Joanna Jones, pom squad; Chase Turner, boys basketball; and Emily Brown and Lillie Rhodes, girls basketball. In Boys Basketball, the *Hustle Award* was presented to Tae Goggins; *Most Improved*, Jonathan Sexton; *Coach’s Award*, Trey Howard. Girls Basketball, *Hustle Award*, Sarah Chiffon; *Most Improved*, Yazmine Moates; *Sportsmanship*, Rachel Patterson; in Pom Squad, *Best All Around*, A’Sydney Robinson; *Showmanship*, Kham Pollock; *Most Improved*, Skylar O’Shields. In Wrestling, the *Hustle Award*, Alejandro Quezada; *Most Improved*, Cole Taylor; *Sportsmanship*, Bryson Summers; *Most Outstanding Wrestler*, Brandon Rosales; State Qualifiers, Gabe Ellison, Brandon Rosales. *All Conference* players include Brooke Bailey, Maddie Grace Runyans, Zy Scott, and Chase Turner.

Calendar of Events:

March 14	Gifted Music Recital, 5 pm, Band Room, w/ reception to follow
March 15	Report Cards go home
March 14-15-16	Spring Writing benchmarks
March 29	Concert Festival, Liberty High School
April 11-13	Field testing for SCReady
April 17	SC Ready: 8 th math
April 18	SC Ready: 7 th math
April 19	SC Ready: 6 th math
April 19	Interim Reports go home
April 20	SC Ready: 8 th ELA day #1
April 21	SC Ready: 7 th ELA day #1
April 24	SC Ready: 6 th ELA day #1
April 25	SC Ready: 8 th ELA day #2
April 26	SC Ready: 7 th ELA day #2
April 27	SC Ready: 6 th ELA day #2
April 28	SC PASS: 8 th social studies
April 29	Carowinds Choral Festival
May 1	SC PASS: 7 th social studies
May 2	SC PASS: 6 th social studies Rotary Choral Program, 7 pm, Activity Center
May 3	SC PASS: 8 th science
May 4	SC PASS: 7 th science Rotary Band Program, 7 pm, Activity Center
May 5	SC PASS: 6 th science
May 9	EOC English
May 10	EOC Algebra 1
May 11	EOC Writing
May 15	7 th gr field trip: Biltmore House
May 17	5 th gr Tour of WMS
May 24	Exams, 6 th gr Awards Day
May 25	Exams, 7 th gr Awards Day
May 26	Exams, 8 th gr Awards Day

Woodruff High School

Dr. Aaron Fulmer reported the following:

1. Registration for 2017-2018 continues: selection of courses, entering requests, feedback to departments, coordination between WMS/WHS, and course tallies. These are the initial phases of building our Master Schedule. This process will continue according to our timeline.
2. The Miss Woodruff High Pageant was held on February 25, 2017. Caroline Chandler was named Miss Woodruff High 2017, and Tobi West was first runner-up. Other finalists included Kaydee Culbertson, Morgan Barnett and Bethany Davis.
3. On February 28, all third year high school students participated in state wide ACT testing. In accordance with state regulations, students tested online and testing proceeded smoothly.
4. On February 22, 2017, Woodruff High School was presented a portrait of George Washington by the Bethel Masonic Lodge. The portrait hangs in the main office.
5. On February 13, 2017, WHS welcomed Duke Assistant Football Coach Derek Jones to speak to the student body on character and leadership. Coach Jones did an outstanding job communicating the importance of integrity and hard work to success in life
6. WHS held the Beta Club induction ceremony on February 21, 2017. Fifty-seven students were inducted into the Beta Club for the 2016-2017 school year.

7. Fifteen WHS students garner twenty-three all Southern State Regional at Large Scholastic Awards. WHS is proud of their accomplishments and appreciates all the hard work of Ms. Brown, Ms. Olencki and all the art students.
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| Saira Martinez | 3 Silver Keys |
| Mon'eric Davis | 1 Gold Key |
| | 1 Honorable Mention |
| Scarlett Hinton | 3 Honorable Mentions |
| May Schiele | 1 Silver Key |
| Mia Johnson | 1 Gold Key |
| Skylar Straub | 1 Gold Key |
| Olivia Bennett | 1 Gold Key |
| | 2 Honorable Mentions |
| Silas Newton | 1 Silver Key |
| Brooke Flatford | 1 Silver Key |
| Mary Kitchens | 1 Honorable Mention |
| Jeremiah Stewart | 1 Honorable Mention |
| Katelyn Thompson | 1 Honorable Mention |
| Amanda Brown | 2 Silver Keys |
| Catherine Ramey | 1 Honorable Mention |
| Lindsey Woodie | 1 Honorable Mention |

Instructional Reports

Ms. Karen Neal reported the following:

1. Registration dates for the 17-18 school year have been set. All schools will register on July 27. Our first planning meeting with community leaders regarding Great Start will be held on Monday, March 13.
2. Fresh Start and Project H.E.L.P. are fully functioning at the Workman Center. Current enrollment at HELP is 12, and Fresh Start has a current enrollment of 13. Students in these programs will participate in appropriate state tests. On Wolverine Express student has completed his diploma requirements.
3. District administration continues to observe all programs in all schools on a rotational basis. In addition, formal teacher evaluations for second semester have resumed.
4. Woodruff Middle School had 17 eighth graders to be named as Junior Scholars who were recognized at Converse on March 2.
5. Pre-School enrollment for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds has been scheduled for March 16 at the District 4 Activity Center. A plan to communicate with area residents has been developed and distributed to all administrators for implementation.
6. School and district staffs continue to review revised testing procedures and guidelines. The testing timeline was provided. Several webinars and workshops have been attended by School Test Coordinators and District Test Coordinators regarding SCReady, SCPASS, WIDA, ACT and WorkKeys.
7. The Technology Readiness Survey has been completed, and the final report is being prepared by the vendor. They indicated we had the necessary resources to proceed with online testing. WIDA testing is proceeding online efficiently, and the WHS testing of juniors online on February 28 went very well
8. Spartanburg 4 participated in An Educator Career Fair held at Upstate on March 4.
9. Schools are in the process of selecting new textbooks for 17-18 and have submitted pre-orders as appropriate.
10. Spring MAP testing is proceeding on schedule.

Dr. Kim McAbee provided the following report:

1. Teachers at each school completed the Read to Succeed Exemplary Literacy Reflection Tool (survey) during the February inservice day. Teachers rated themselves on their use of exemplary literacy practices. School Literacy Teams will utilize this information in developing school goals. These results will be submitted to the SCDE along with the annual updates to the School Renewal Plans. In addition, the District Literacy Leadership Team will submit a District Literacy Plan, which will include literacy goals for the 2017-18 school year. All updates and goals must be submitted by April 30.
2. English Language Learners (ELLs) at Woodruff Middle School and Woodruff High School have completed WIDA ACCESS assessments. ELLs at Woodruff Elementary School began testing on March 2. All assessments will be completed by March 23. Dr. Christin Smith administers all assessments for students in the ESOL program.
3. A Language Lab for parents whose primary language is not English began on March 1. It will be held on Monday – Thursday at Woodruff Primary School. Parents will utilize the Rosetta Stone program to increase their English proficiency. This program is funded through the federal Title III grant.
4. The Performance Task Assessments (PTA) are being administered by Ms. Dana Grant and Mrs. Sarah Little through March 9. There are 104 students in grades 2 – 5 scheduled to be tested. These assessments will provide another opportunity for students to qualify for the gifted and talented program.
5. Youth Art Month (YAM) will be held at Chapman Cultural Center from February 28^t– April 9. A reception will be held on Thursday, March 9 from 5:30 – 7:30pm. Selections for the William L. Howell Art Purchase Awards will be available to judge on March 28, 29, and 30 (Tuesday – Thursday).
6. The planning session for “Great Start Woodruff” will be held on Monday, March 13 at the District Office. Churches and community organizations will meet to assign roles and responsibilities. Schools have submitted the 2017-18 School Supply Lists to assist with planning.
7. The Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Celebration on March 2 at the Marriott Hotel in Spartanburg. The 2016 Teachers of the Year were recognized. Mrs. Nikki Culbertson, District Four’s Teacher of the Year, received a plaque for this honor. Mrs. Culbertson teaches 5th Grade ELA at Woodruff Elementary School.
8. The Adult Education Program is currently serving 58 students. The morning session serves 25 students in the GED program and 8 students in the diploma program. The evening session serves 25 students in the GED program. Thirteen students have earned their GEDs with an additional three students scheduled to test this month. Twenty-eight students have earned their Career Readiness Certificates (WorkKeys) this year.

Mrs. Mary Johnson provided the following report:

1. Indicator 14 submitted February 27. Indicator 14 provides the Department of Special Education the names, addresses, names of parents, and the reason Special Education Students left school during or at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. The State Department uses this information to contact families in order to generate a report showing the percent of students who are currently attending college or technical school or working. This information is one of the factors in the District Profile used to assess the effectiveness of the school district’s Special Education Program.
2. Special Education Teachers Meetings-February 20 and March 17 We met on February 20 to discuss potential enrollment totals for the 2017-2018 school year, in order to decide whether or not new personnel is needed. We also discussed standardized testing and the penalties for providing accommodation that are not warranted based on state standards. We will meet on

March 17 to discuss transition plans and materials needed for the upcoming school year.

3. Alternative Testing March 13 - Satellite students in grades 3-8 at McCarthy Teszler and Abner Creek will take the SC Alternate and NCSC tests, substituted for SC Ready and SC Pass beginning on March 13. When the material is delivered to the district I will unpack the test material, take an inventory, sort the material, repackage the material by school and deliver them to McCarthy Teszler and Abner Creek. Once testing is over I will pick up the test material, take an inventory, package it by the school the students would attend if they were served in our district, and mail it to the South Carolina Department of Education Assessment Team.

Facilities

Board members received a printed update of facilities projects.

Superintendent

1. Gave an overview of the State Budget.
2. Reminded board members that Statement of Economic Interest forms are due by March 30.
3. Teachers-of-the-year will be recognized in April.
4. Dr. William L. Howell Art Purchase Award winners will be recognized in May.
5. Non-certified intent forms have been distributed.
6. Retirees will be recognized in June.
7. Gave an update on the 2017-18 school calendar. Hope to present an amended version at the April meeting.
8. Discussed \$100,000,000 the House Ways & Means Committee has placed in the House version of the State Budget that currently bases distribution on poverty level. Working with legislators to have District Four included in the distribution of the funds. Distribution should be based on tax-paying ability rather than poverty.

BOARD ACTION

1. \$1,200,000 Bond Anticipation Note.
2. Approved contracts for Paige Fowler at Woodruff Elementary School, Britt McKinney as Director of Federal and State Programs, and Jennifer Turner as Director of Testing and Accountability for the 2017-18 school year.